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H.P. LOVECRAFT WALKING TOUR

Popular Annual Tour Returns to Explore Lovecraft's Favorite Providence Haunts

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – For the past nine years, Providence native and cult horror writer **H.P. Lovecraft** has been the subject of a popular annual walking tour and film series conducted by the RI Historical Society presented as part of the **Flickers' Vortex Sci-Fi, Fantasy Horror Film Festival (Vortex)**. This year's Festival runs October 17-23, 2016 and the Lovecraft Tour returns for two very special days.

The life and work of Providence's best-known fantasy and horror author, **Howard Phillips Lovecraft**, will provide the backdrop for the tour, which will be led by the **Rhode Island Historical Society**. Lovecraft's "Providence stories" (written between 1924 and 1935) are the inspiration behind the walk. Lovecraft wrote eloquently, and in great detail, about such landmarks as Prospect Terrace, the First Baptist Church, and Benefit Street houses. Participants will see the site of his former home, as well as locales mentioned in *The Case of Charles Dexter Ward*, *The Haunter of the Dark*, *The Shunned House*, and *The Call of Cthulhu*.

The tour will be offered on **Saturday, October 22nd** and **Sunday, October 23rd**, at 12:00 Noon. Following the 90-minute tour, participants will be treated to a ticket to see premiere films inspired by Lovecraft.

Screenings on both days will take place at 2:00 p.m. at the Providence Public Library Theater, 150 Empire Street, Providence.

Tickets for the walking tour are \$19 per person, can be purchased online at <http://www.film-festival.org/HPLovecraft16.php>, and includes a ticket to the film screenings. The HP Lovecraft Walking Tour can also be purchased in advance by calling the RIFF offices at 401.861.4445.

"Lovecraft's horror writing continues to resonate with audiences today and provides inspiration for some of the most chilling and terrifying stories in the genre," commented Shawn Quirk, the Horror Festival Program Director. "His work has become part of our popular culture and a major source of academic study."

This year's Festival is sponsored in part by the Rhode Island Film & Television Office.

EVENT DETAILS:

• **H.P. LOVECRAFT WALKING TOUR, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22ND AND SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23RD AT 12:00 NOON.**

The life and work of Providence's best-known fantasy and horror author, Howard Phillips Lovecraft, provide the backdrop for this walking tour. The tour lasts 90 minutes.

The tour departs from the John Brown House at 52 Power Street, Providence.

Cost: Tickets are \$19 per person, include a ticket to the Horror Festival and can be purchased online. The HP Lovecraft Walking Tour can be purchased in advance by calling the RIFF offices at 401.861.4445 or ordered directly online at <http://www.film-festival.org/HPLovecraft16.php>

ABOUT THE RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL:

The **Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIFF)**, has secured its place in the global community as the portal for the best in international independent cinema, earning the respect of domestic and foreign filmmakers, filmgoers and trend watchers. This confluence of art and commerce brought together world-class celebrities, award-winning filmmakers, new talent and audience members in record numbers last year. Ranked as one of the top 10 Festivals in the United States, RIFF is a qualifying festival for the Live Action, Animation and Documentary Short Film Academy Awards through its affiliation with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences, the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) and the Canadian Screen Awards. There are only 6 film festivals worldwide that share this distinction and RIFF is the only festival in New England. The Festival takes place every August.

For more information about the **Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival**, running **August 8-13, 2017** at The **Providence Performing Arts Center** (PPAC) and **The Vets** (formerly Veterans Memorial Auditorium), please visit our website at www.RIFilmFest.org or call **401.861.4445**.

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