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• PHOTOS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST OR DOWNLOAD: <http://www.film-festival.org/Photos.php>

## FLICKERS' VORTEX SCI-FI, FANTASY, AND HORROR FILM FESTIVAL LAUNCHES ITS 18<sup>TH</sup> GENRE-FILLED YEAR

**52 Films, 17 Countries, 7 Running Days, 12 Statewide Locations, Free High School and Library Screenings, Sci-Fi, Fantasy and Animation Programming, doubleFEATURE showcase on RI PBS, Expanded College Connection Screenings, and the Popular H.P. Lovecraft Walking Tour**

**PROVIDENCE, R.I.** (October 13, 2017) — A phantasmagoric symphony of international films blasts its way across the big screen as the Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival launches its **18<sup>th</sup> Annual Flickers' Vortex Sci-Fi, Fantasy, and Horror Film Festival (VORTEX), October 16-22<sup>nd</sup>**. In addition to its traditional spooky film fare, Vortex will showcase a wide-array of Sci-Fi and Fantasy cinema. This year's Festival includes a return of its popular *H.P. Lovecraft Walking Tour* over a two-day period presented in collaboration with the RI Historical Society, free in-school programs, an expanded *Campus Connections* program that brings free Festival programming to area Colleges and Universities, and two free Forums that look behind-the-scenes at creating genre films in the Ocean State. The Forums will feature an exclusive conversation with Executive Director of the Rhode Island Film & Television Office, **Steven Feinberg** and actor, **Robert Capron ("Diary of a Wimpy Kid")**. All screenings are free except those at The Vets on Friday and Saturday.

The full schedule for this year's Festival can be found here: <http://www.rifilmfest.org> and <http://www.film-festival.org/Vortex.php>

The 2017 festival will include screenings in Providence at The Vets, the Providence Public Library, Providence College, Rhode Island College, Johnson and Wales University, the Rhode Island Historical Society, along with satellite programming at the University of Rhode Island in Kingston, the Tiverton Public Library, Warwick Public Library and Roger Williams University in Bristol, RI. Special screenings, not open to the public, will take place at Westerly High School and the Beacon School in Woonsocket.

The **Flickers' Vortex Sci-Fi, Fantasy, and Horror Film Festival** celebrates and showcases imagination and creativity in filmmaking and will include a bevy of World and U.S. Premieres. In all, 80 films have been selected from over 3,000 genre submissions. They represent 20 countries including the United Kingdom, Australia, South Korea, Ireland, Canada, Germany, China, Spain, France, Iceland, Switzerland, Poland, and the United States. Many of the filmmakers will be in attendance, so audience members will have a chance to meet, ask questions, and even network with the next generation of genre filmmakers.

General Admission for screenings at The Vets is \$10.00 per person. Festival 5-packs available at \$40 (good year round and at any RIIF film event) can be purchased online: <http://www.film->

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[festival.org/FivePack17.php](http://festival.org/FivePack17.php). Group Discounts can be arranged in advance by calling the Festival office at 401/861.4445.

## **VORTEX SPECIAL PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS:**

### **Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>**

The programming continues on **Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 3:30 p.m.** at Roger Williams University, Global Heritage Hall, Room 01 with a special filmmaker conversation called "**BEHIND THE CAMERA LENS: A Conversation with...**"

The afternoon program features **Steven Feinberg**, Executive Director of the Rhode Island Film & Television Office. Along with his work with the Film Office, Steven is an accomplished writer, director and television host. For this special program, he shares a behind-the-scenes look at a recent interview with actress, **Karen Allen** for the PBS series, "**doubleFEATURE.**"

**Steven Feinberg** is a life-long filmmaker and a proud Rhode Island native who spent 22 years as a Hollywood writer, director and producer. He sold original screenplays to the major studios including 20th Century Fox, Universal, Warner Brothers, Dimension and Sony and had international success with the sci-fi features FORTRESS and its sequel FORTRESS 2. In 2004, Steven brought his considerable talent, energy and wealth of industry contacts home to assume the new position of Executive Director of the Rhode Island Film & Television Office. Over a span of one decade, Mr. Feinberg aggressively promoted Rhode Island as a "film-friendly" location. He initiated ground-breaking tax incentive legislation, which became law in June 2005, developed infrastructure for film and television production, supports media education from the elementary level to college graduates, as well as co-sponsors local film festivals and has launched the comprehensive Film Office's website, [www.film.ri.gov](http://www.film.ri.gov)

Most recently, Steven has lured highly prestigious projects such as the upcoming thriller, THE DISCOVERY; with Robert Redford and Rooney Mara, the Martin Scorsese' production BLEED FOR THIS, Jack Black in THE POLKA KING and many other outstanding films including Wes Anderson's MOONRISE KINGDOM; Woody Allen's IRRATIONAL MAN and the Golden Globe nominated INFINITELY POLAR BEAR starring Mark Ruffalo.

To date, Steven Feinberg has brought well over \$400 million of film and television production into Rhode Island's economy and provided \$700 million of overall activity into Rhode Island's economy as well as thousands of jobs for local talent and crew. This success in Rhode Island has reverberated across New England, and now the Ocean State's neighbors are also prospering in the film/television industry. He has also created several promotional films for the State of Rhode Island Film & TV Office and wrote-directed-produced the award-winning documentary, PELL. [www.rifilm.com](http://www.rifilm.com).

This program is presented by the **RWU Film Production Collaborative** and is a *free event*.

### **Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup>**

**10:00 p.m.**

**doubleFEATURE** on **WSBE - RI PBS**, Broadcast: Channel 36 (Cox 08 / 1008HD, Verizon FiOS (RI) 08 / 508HD / (MA) 18 / 518 HD, Full Channel 08 Comcast in Southern MA \*Various / 819 HD, DirecTV 36 | DISH Network 36), the Festival premieres an episode of the weekly television magazine, "**doubleFEATURE,**" with a Sci-Fi/Fantasy theme. The 60 min. series provides a showcase for the art of film and the artists who create them.

EPISODE GUEST: **Mauro Colangelo**, film music composer

A 60 min. weekly series, television magazine "doubleFEATURE," a showcase for the art of film and the artists who create them.

Each week, "doubleFEATURE" presents award-winning short films that have premiered at the Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival over the past 20 years. Ranked as one of the top 10 Festivals in

the United States, RIFF is also a qualifying festival for the Live Action, Documentary and Animation Short Film Academy Awards through its affiliation with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences. It is also a BAFTA (British Academy of Film and Television Arts) and Canadian Screen Awards (Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television)-qualifying Festival. There are only 6 film festivals worldwide that share this distinction.

Steven Feinberg, Executive Director of the RI Film and Television, and an accomplished writer/director, will introduce audiences to the filmmakers who work behind the camera lens through incisive and revealing interviews.

"doubleFEATURE" promises a voyage of discovery where viewers learn about the talented artists from Rhode Island and beyond who work in the industry or aspire to create their career. From seasoned professionals, college and high school students, to those whose passion and creativity are their drivers, "doubleFEATURE" shines a spotlight. Writers, directors, producers, cinematographers, talent, costume, set and sound designers, gaffers, grips and production assistants share their inspiration.

### Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup>

On **Friday** afternoon at **3:30 p.m.** film and television fans will want to be at the Global Heritage Hall, Room 01, **Roger Williams University** in Bristol. The Forum, "**The Singularity of Imagination ... ROBERT CAPRON.**"

The program will be moderated by **George T. Marshall**, the Executive Director of Flickers.

#### **ABOUT TODAY'S GUEST:**

For fans of the "Diary of a Wimpy Kid" series, he was Rowley Jefferson. Now he's a full time student at Brown University and has an ongoing role in the ABC series "Elementary."

Learn how a kid from Rhode Island gained national prominence in an iconic role that defined a generation and lived to tell about it. Discover what it takes to work in the entertainment industry as a child actor and transition to adult roles.

Starting out with parts in productions at a local theater company while still attending elementary school in his native Rhode Island, young actor **Robert Capron** began appearing on the big screen in his tween years. After minor parts in the feature comedy "Bride Wars" and the canine-centric drama "Hachiko: A Dog's Story," both released during 2009, Capron made a huge career leap when he was cast as Rowley Jefferson, the best friend of awkward main character Greg Heffley in the Hollywood movie version of Jeff Kinney's best-selling children's book "Diary of a Wimpy Kid."

Capron's performance as the endearingly immature Rowley garnered him considerable attention, and the youthful actor soon appeared in the big-budget fantasy film "The Sorcerer's Apprentice," starring Nicolas Cage and Jay Baruchel. In 2011, Capron reprised his role as Rowley in the well-received sequel "Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules" and turned up in an episode of the horror-themed TV show "R.L. Stine's The Haunting Hour" as a boy obsessed with tracking down a phantom ice-cream truck. Given the success of the "Diary of a Wimpy Kid" movies, Capron subsequently signed on to the third installment in the series, "Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days." Robert currently has a recurring role as Mason on the CBS series, "Elementary."

This program is presented by the **RWU Film Production Collaborative** and is a *free event*.

### Saturday & Sunday, October 21 – 22<sup>nd</sup>

#### **H.P. LOVECRAFT LITERARY WALKING TOUR**

For the past ten (10) 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 16-22, 2017** 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 21<sup>st</sup>** at 12:00 Noon and **Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>**, also at Noon. Following the tour, which lasts for approximately 90 minutes, participants will be treated to a ticket to see premiere films inspired by Lovecraft.

- On Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, the H.P. Lovecraft Walking Tour concludes with a screening of a short film collection inspired by H.P. Lovecraft. The location is The Vets Cinemathèque, 83 Park Street, and Providence with the screening to take place at 2:00 p.m.
- On Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, the screening will take place at the Providence Public Library Theater, 150 Empire Street, Providence at 2:00 p.m.

Tickets for the walking tour are \$19 per person, can be purchased online at <http://www.film-festival.org/HPLovecraft17.php>, and includes a ticket to the film screenings. The Walking Tour can also be purchased in advance by calling the RIFF offices at 401.861.4445.

The full schedule for this year's Festival can be found here: <http://www.rifilmfest.org>

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#### **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 and the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA). 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 7-12 2018** 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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