



For details, art or photos about FLICKERS media releases, contact Tsutomu Brelsford, tbrelsford@film-festival.org • 401/861.4445

FLICKERS RI INTERNATIONAL HORROR FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES FILM AWARDS FOR 15TH SEASON

69 films from 19 countries vied for adjudicated genre awards

PROVIDENCE, RI (October 26, 2014) – The eerie, macabre and bizarre in the world of cinema were given their due with the wrap of the **15th Annual Flickers RI International Horror Film Festival** through adjudicated awards. From an entry base of over 600 submissions featuring work from 19 countries, including the United Kingdom, Australia, Belgium, New Zealand, Sweden, Canada, Germany, Poland, Spain, Japan, Hungary, Israel, France, Brazil, and the United States. 69 films were screened during the cinematic symphony of horror, October 20-26th at Roger Williams University, the Paff Theatre at the URI Feinstein College of Continuing Education, the Bell Street Chapel Theatre, the Metcalf Auditorium at the RISD Museum, the Jamestown Arts Center, and the Providence Public Library.

“New benchmarks were set with this year’s programming,” said **Shawn Quirk**, Program Director of the Rhode Island International Film Festival, which produces the Horror Festival sidebar. “From our expanded children’s sci-fi and fantasy programs, ongoing educational outreach with the University of Rhode Island and Roger Williams University that tied the event to film and marketing classes, to a master class on writing the horror film, to a Forum on film production within the Ocean State, this year’s Rhode Island International Horror Film Festival has empowered genre filmmaking at large and set a new standard for years to come.

“Given the growth of the Festival and its evolution, I am pleased to announce our rebrand for the Festival. Starting next year, the Festival will be called the **Flickers: Vortex Sci-Fi, Fantasy & Horror Film Festival**, or simply “**Vortex.**” **Vortex** will be Flickers’ salute to vanguard genre filmmaking, and serve as an international platform for Sci-Fi, Fantasy & Horror films, which are all too often marginalized in today’s mainstream Film Festivals.

“*Writing The Horror Film*” featured Rhode Island screenwriter and director, **Chris Sparling**. Chris wrote the 2010 film “**Buried**” starring Ryan Reynolds, for which he won “Best Original Screenplay” from the National Board of Review of Motion Pictures, as well as a Spanish Academy Award in the same category. His “Black List” script, *ATM*, was produced by Gold Circle Films and released by IFC Films in 2012. Chris’s feature directing debut, the supernatural thriller “**The Atticus Institute**,” will be released in early 2015. His most recent script, “**Sea of Trees**,” is slated to be released in 2015, starring Matthew McConaughey and directed by Gus Van Sant. He is currently adapting author Jo Nesbo’s bestselling crime novel “**Blood on Snow**” for Warner Brothers and Leonardo DiCaprio. He has also sold TV projects to F/X, Universal Television, and Fox Television.

“*Behind the Camera Lens*,” showcased **Steven Feinberg** (“Fortress,” “Peter York,” “Pell Grants: A Passion for Education,”) Executive Director of the Rhode Island Film & Television Office, the man

behind the state's high profile within the industry, and filmmaking professionals who have successfully made careers within the industry: Panelists were **Justin White**, "Unearthed and Untold: The Path to Pet Sematary," **Erik Latek**, "Alice D.," **Tommy Denucci** from Woodhaven Productions and "Almost Mercy", **Shawn Quirk**, RIFF's Programming Director and **Nick Palermo**, President of RWU Film Production Club.

"We made a concerted effort this year to expand our programming to include a dynamic mix of the Horror, Fantasy, and Sci-Fi genres," noted Shawn Quirk. "These films represent the vanguard of genre filmmaking from across the globe, and showcase a rising generation of filmmakers, who are redefining genre films for the next generation of cinephiles. These filmmakers are leaders of tomorrow's entertainment industry, and it's our mission to empower them and help them move forward in their respective careers through showcasing their work."

"From the expanded two-day H.P. Lovecraft Walking Tour to extensive collaborative efforts with Rhode Island Universities, we are proud to see that this sidebar to RIFF has become an important cultural event for the State." Quirk added.

Plans are already in development for an expansion of the Festival and a greater college and student presence in 2015.

WINNERS OF TOP PRIZES FOR THE 2014 FESTIVAL:

BEST SHORT

"The King & Queen of Halloween" – directed by Anna Maguire, United Kingdom

VORTEX SCI-FI AWARD, BEST SCI-FI FILM

Grand Prize: "Time Lapse" – Directed by Bradley King, USA

First Prize: "Worm Free Society" – Directed by Rajah Samaroo, USA

BEST FANTASY FILM

"We Wanted More" - Directed by: Stephen Dunn, Canada

BEST DIRECTOR

"The Landing" – Directed by Josh Tanner, Australia

BEST EDITING

Grand: "Scary Larry" – Directed by Greg Ivan Smith, USA

First Prize: "Smutne Potwory" – Directed by Justyna Tafel, Poland

BEST EXPERIMENTAL

Grand Prize: "Mia" – Directed by Wouter Bongaerts, Belgium, Netherlands

BEST DOCUMENTARY

"Unearthed and Untold: The Path to Pet Sematary" – Directed by John Campopiano & Justin White, USA

BEST FEATURE

Grand Prize: "Alice D." – directed by Jessica Sonneborn, USA

First Prize: "Another World" – Directed by Eitan Reuven, Israel

PROVIDENCE UNDER GROUND FILM FESTIVAL Best Horror Film,

Grand Prize: "A Drop of Water" – Directed by Dan Lovetere, USA

First Prize: "It Had to Be Done" – Directed by Donald Burton, USA

DIRECTORIAL DISCOVERY AWARD

"Insane" – Directed by Adam O'Brien, Canada

The FLICKERS: RI International Horror Film Festival is sponsored by *The Rhode Island Film & Television Office, Amtrak, RISCA, Cox on Demand, Diabolique Magazine, Eurochannel, Tourisme Québec, The Harrington School of Communications and Media at the University of Rhode Island, The URI College of Arts & Sciences, The Film Media Program, and the URI Feinstein College of Continuing Education, Roger Williams University and the RWU Film Production Club.*

The next edition of the **Flickers Vortex Sci-Fi, Fantasy & Horror Festival** will take place **October 19-25, 2015**.

ABOUT THE RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL:

The **FLICKERS: Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF)**, 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, RIIFF is also a qualifying festival for the Short Film Academy Award through its affiliation with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences. There are 19 film festivals worldwide which share this distinction and RIIFF is the only festival in New England. The Festival takes place every August. For more information about RIIFF, please visit www.rifilmfest.org.

For more information about the **FLICKERS: Rhode Island International Film Festival**, running **August 4-9, 2015** at **The Vets** (formerly Veterans Memorial Auditorium), please visit our website at www.RIFilmFest.org or call **401.861.4445**.

--30--