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## H.P. LOVECRAFT WALKING TOUR RETURNS

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

### EVENT DETAILS:

• **H.P. LOVECRAFT WALKING TOUR TIMES FOUR: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17<sup>TH</sup>, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18<sup>TH</sup>, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24<sup>TH</sup> AND SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25<sup>TH</sup> ALL 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 \$22 per person**, includes a virtual ticket to the Horror Festival and can be purchased online. The 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/HPLovecraft.php>

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – For the past 13 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 hybrid Festival runs **October 17-25, 2020**.

With the popularity of HBO's "Lovecraft Country," the seasonal return of the **H.P. Lovecraft Walking Tour** could not be timelier. 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 take place over four afternoons this year, on **Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>**. All tours will begin at Noon and follow Rhode Island Department of Health and CDC guidelines. Attendees are expected to maintain social distancing from their guide during the tour, as well as wear masks while on the street and in public. Following the tour, which lasts for approximately 90 minutes, participants will be treated to a virtual ticket to see premiere films inspired by Lovecraft.

Tickets for the walking tour are \$22 per person, can be purchased in advance online at <http://www.film-festival.org/HPLovecraft.php>, and includes a virtual ticket to the film screenings.

"This walking tour is a wonderful opportunity for fans of H.P. Lovecraft to connect with the man behind the writer, and for others to discover his genius," said **Shawn Drywa**, Vortex Program Director.

"Lovecraft's horror writing continues to resonate with audiences from across the globe and provide inspiration for some of the most chilling and terrifying stories in the sci-fi, fantasy and horror genres," commented **Shawn Quirk**, RIIFF Program Director. "His work has become the corner stone in weird fiction and has influenced countless writers and artists in today's popular culture. His frightfully uncanny literature set right here in Providence serves as our essential historical link between Edgar Allen Poe and Steven King."

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

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#### **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 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 10 film festivals worldwide that share this distinction and RIIFF 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 9-15 2021** at **The Vets** (formerly Veterans Memorial Auditorium), please visit our website at **[www.RIFilmFest.org](http://www.RIFilmFest.org)** or call **401.861.4445**.

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