



20th edition | Trieste, October 29 – November 3, 2020

TRIESTE SCIENCE+FICTION FESTIVAL
ANNOUNCES PARTNERSHIP WITH MYMOVIES AND
FIRST COMPETITION NATIONAL PREMIERES

The most relevant Italian science fiction festival prepares for its 20th edition taking place from October 29 to November 3 in an original hybrid format with screenings partly online partly live in 3 different theatres: the Ariston and the Miela theatres in Trieste and, for the first time, the virtual theatre of MYmovies.

The Trieste Science+Fiction Festival also announces the first 5 competition titles of the 2020 edition, 5 national premieres ranging from science fiction to horror.

Trieste Science+Fiction Festival, the most relevant event in Italy exploring science fiction and the future, will take place from October 29 to November 3 for the first time both live and online in three different theatres, the Ariston and Miela theatres in Trieste and the virtual theatre of the leading film website in Italy, Mymovies.

The Trieste Science+Fiction Festival also announces the first 5 titles of the official competition section Neon 2020: 5 national premieres ranging from science fiction to horror which will be screened both live and online.

SKYLIN3S by Liam O'Donnell (UK / Spain / Lithuania, 2020) – ITALIAN PREMIERE

Third chapter of the sci-fi saga which started with *Skyline* (2010) by the Strause brothers, followed by *Beyond Skyline* (2017), directed by Liam O'Donnell. The new episode will be screened in Italy for the first time in competition in collaboration with Blue Swan Entertainment and will once again see O'Donnell behind the camera. Captain **Rose Corley** (Lindsey Morgan), a human with extraterrestrial powers, is the only hope to fight alien invaders, but she needs repeated blood transfusions to stop her speedy ageing process. A long-time fighter against invaders, Rose is now on the run, but she will be tracked in her hiding location by the military and drafted again. Alien-hybrids - now the majority of the Earth population – are about to fall under alien domination. Rose, on an undercover mission on the alien mothership, only has 72 hours to save mankind.

JUMBO by Zoé Wittock (France / Luxembourg / Belgium, 2020) - ITALIAN PREMIERE

Written and directed by Zoé Wittock, here at her debut as a director, the movie is an Italian premiere, after the Sundance and Generation 14plus Berlinale screenings. Jeanne (Noémie Merlant, protagonist of *Portrait de la jeune fille en feu/Portrait of a Lady on Fire*), a young, introverted woman working as a night guard in an amusement park and still living with her mother, the exuberant Margarete. There does not seem to be room for a man in her life, but she starts to develop weird

romantic feelings for Jumbo, one of the park's carousels... A metaphor, the irresistible, kaleidoscopic tale of a **sweet, surreal, obsession**.

LAPSI by Noah Hutton (USA, 2020) - **ITALIAN PREMIERE**

Noah Hutton directs a brilliant **political satire about the gig economy**, taking place in a too recognizable near future. In a parallel present, delivery man Ray Tincelli is struggling to support himself and his ailing younger brother. After a series of two-bit hustles and unsuccessful swindles, Ray takes a job in a strange new realm of the gig economy: trekking deep into the forest, pulling cable over miles of terrain to connect large, metal cubes that link together the new quantum trading market. As he gets pulled deeper into the zone, he encounters growing hostility and the threat of robot cablers, and must choose to either help his fellow workers or to get rich and get out.

Noah Hutton has directed, edited and written the award-winning documentaries *Deep Time* (SXSW 2015) and *Crude Independence* (SXSW2009) and is currently post-producing a documentary he's been working on for ten years about the research on computer simulation of the human brain.

MORTAL by André Øvredal (Norway, 2020) - **ITALIAN PREMIERE**

André Øvredal – director of *Troll Hunter*, *Autopsy* and *Scary stories to tell in the dark* (produced by Guillermo del Toro) – presents *Mortal*, a **superheroes tale** subverting the rules of the genre, the **European challenge to Marvel e DC productions**. *Mortal* is the fantasy adventure about a young man, Eric, discovering he has God-like powers based on ancient Norwegian mythology.

While hiding in the wilderness of western Norway, Eric accidentally kills a teenager in an inexplicable way and is subsequently arrested. On the run, Eric finally discovers who, or what, he really is.

POST MORTEM by Péter Bergendy (Hungary, 2020) - **ITALIAN PREMIERE**

An evocative **ghost story** set in Hungary, devastated by the First World War and the Spanish Flu: behind the camera, Hungarian director Péter Bergendy, presenting the **Italian premiere** in Trieste. Tomás, a young man who works doing **post-mortem photography**, ends up in a small Hungarian village in the icy winter of 1918, after meeting young orphan Anna. The strange nocturnal sounds, the mysterious deaths and the somber figures that appear in his photographs all urge him to leave as soon as possible. After the initial uncertainty, Tomás decides to investigate the ghosts' intentions and find a way to get rid of them, with the help of little Anna.

TRIESTE SCIENCE+FICTION FESTIVAL CELEBRATES ITS FIRST 20 YEARS

The Trieste Science+Fiction festival is preparing a **special edition, both live and online**, to celebrate its twentieth anniversary. The 20th edition will be held in an experimental format with a selection of online screenings, a programme of live screenings and a few special events.

Trieste Science+Fiction Festival is the most relevant science fiction event in Italy, where movies, television, new media, literature, comics and graphic novels, visual and performative art all concur to the exploration of the fantastic genre. Founded in Trieste in 2000, the Festival picks up the legacy of the **Trieste International Science Fiction Festival which took place from 1963 to 1982**: the first genre film event in Italy and one of the first in Europe, the first international film festival to be organized in the Friuli Venezia Giulia region, which during the years saw the participation of illustrious guests such as Forrest J. Ackerman, Arthur C. Clarke, Roger Corman, Umberto Eco, Lotte Eisner, Riccardo Freda, Frederik Pohl.

The Trieste Science+Fiction Festival is organized by **La Cappella Underground**, Trieste film club founded in 1969.

Trieste Science+Fiction Festival has had the privilege of counting among its guests in past editions, among others, Terry Gilliam, Roger Corman, Alejandro Jodorowsky, Joe Dante, Dario Argento, Jean "Moebius" Giraud, Neil Gaiman, Ray Harryhausen, Rutger Hauer, John Landis, Christopher Lee, Carlo Rambaldi, George A. Romero, Joe R. Lansdale, Richard K. Morgan, Douglas Trumbull and Phil Tippett.

The **Trieste Science+Fiction Festival** official selection runs across **three international competition sections**: the ***Asteroide Award*** for the best science fiction film by an emerging director and the two **European Fantastic Film Festivals Federation *Méliès d'argent* awards** for the best European fantastic genre feature film and short film. The **Spazio Italia** section features the best and the underground features of the fantastic genre Italian productions. Aside from the **Neon** official competition section, an important role will be played this year by the **Fantastic Film Forum** meetings and workshops with production and distribution professionals, the **Education Program** workshops, matinées and masterclasses and **MONDO FUTURO**, a new multidisciplinary macro section with countless possibilities to investigate the many aspects of the genre and the short circuits between science and science fiction. In the tradition of the Futurology Meetings, **MONDO FUTURO** is also a new podcast curated by the Trieste Science+Fiction Festival, featuring talks with scientists, artists and personalities from the world of **science(fiction)**. The project, created and developed by La Cappella Underground and the Trieste Science+Fiction Festival, is promoted by SISSA - Scuola Internazionale Superiore di Studi Avanzati, Area Science Park and EuroScience Open Forum - ESOF2020 Trieste.

Trieste Science+Fiction Festival is organized by the film and audiovisual research and experimentation Centre La Cappella Underground with the support and collaboration of: **MiBACT – Italian Film General Direction, Regione Autonoma Friuli Venezia Giulia, Trieste Municipality, Trieste University, CRTrieste Foundation, Kathleen Foreman Casali Charity Foundation, ARPA FVG - LaREA.**

The festival is also an official board member of the **Méliès International Festivals Federation** and of **AFIC – Association of Italian Film Festivals**. It is among the Friuli Venezia Giulia regional authority three-year projects of international scope in the field of cinema. The festival is promoted by the main local scientific institutions: AREA Science Park, ICGEB, ICTP, INAF – Trieste Astronomical Observatory, IS *Immaginario Scientifico* – Science Centre, OGS, SISSA.

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