



# SCARY MOVIES **XI**

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AUGUST 17-23 • TICKETS: [FILMLINC.ORG](http://FILMLINC.ORG)

# NEW YORK'S TOP HORROR FESTIVAL

Bringing you the genre's best from around the globe, Scary Movies is back for another wicked week of hair-raising premieres and rediscoveries, guest appearances and giveaways. The 11th edition launches with the delightful yet blood-soaked holiday-set high-school musical *Anna and the Apocalypse*, followed by a Zombie Christmas Party, before turning darker with another yuletide end-of-days offering, *Await Further Instructions*. This year's lineup also includes a trio of creepy Latin American offerings featuring possessions, dark fairy tales, and haunted hospitals; a selection of new indie horror at its most promising, *Hurt*, *Boogeyman Pop*, *Blood Paradise*, and *The Witch in the Window*; the retrospective sidebar "Tainted Waters," featuring a quartet of 35mm titles whose horrors take place above or below the surface, or sometimes come creeping onto the land; and a brand new edition of Glass Eye Pix's acclaimed live radio-play series *Tales from Beyond the Pale*, brought to you by the dynamic duo of Glenn McQuaid and Larry Fessenden. Plus, last year's fast-working closing-night director Colin Minihan returns with *What Keeps You Alive*, and we conclude with Jonas Åkerlund's harrowing black-metal tragedy *Lords of Chaos*.

**Programmed by Laura Kern and Rufus de Rham**

**Sponsored by IFC Midnight**



A close-up photograph of a young woman with long, dark, wavy hair. Her face is pale and has several streaks of red, resembling blood, running down her forehead and cheek. She is looking slightly to the left with a serious expression. In the foreground, a large, red and white striped candy cane is visible, held in a way that it appears to be part of her face or a prop. The background is dark and out of focus.

# OPENING NIGHT

FOLLOWED BY A  
ZOMBIE CHRISTMAS PARTY!

## NEW YORK PREMIERE

### ANNA AND THE APOCALYPSE

John McPhail, UK/USA, 2017, 92m

As Anna (Ella Hunt) nears the end of high school, an unexplained plague begins spreading in her tiny Scottish town before Christmas break, and she and her classmates must battle hordes of zombies in order to make it to graduation. Oh and they sing and dance, too... A highly accomplished musical, full of infectious songs and performance setpieces, and, like one of its clear inspirations *Shaun of the Dead*, *Anna and the Apocalypse* features merriment and menace in perfect balance. An Orion Pictures release.

***Ticket holders are invited to our post-screening Zombie Christmas Party, with booze & food. Come in costume!***

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**Friday, August 17 7:30pm**

*Q&A with John McPhail*



### NEW YORK PREMIERE

## AWAIT FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS

**Johnny Kevorkian, UK, 2018, 91m**

Nick brings his girlfriend Annji home for the holidays after three years of avoiding his massively dysfunctional family. They attempt to leave early Christmas morning only to discover that a metallic substance has surrounded the house and there is no way out. The only clues to what's happening come through the television, which, in the first of many cryptic messages, tells them to "STAY INDOORS AND AWAIT FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS." Familial tensions and paranoia escalate into blood-soaked chaos in this ever-relevant chiller that contemplates the state of today's technology-ruled world. A Dark Sky Films release.

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**Monday, August 20 7:00pm**



### WORLD PREMIERE

## BLOOD PARADISE

**Patrick von Barkenberg, USA/Sweden, 2018, 82m, with some subtitles**

Reeling after her latest novel flops, best-selling crime writer Robin Richards (Andréa Winter) is sent by her publisher to the Swedish countryside to regain inspiration. There alone, she comes across an assortment of peculiar characters, including her driver and most obsessive fan, his explosively jealous wife, and the progressively more unhinged man who owns the farm that's hosting her. Totally out of place in her new surroundings, Robin discovers just how dangerous these oddballs may be. The unpredictable debut feature by Patrick von Barkenberg (who also appears as Robin's boyfriend) is bathed in dreamy atmospherics and streaked with offbeat humor, but remains grounded throughout by Winter, who holds your attention rapt.

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**Saturday, August 18 9:30pm**

*Q&A with Patrick von Barkenberg and Andréa Winter*



### NEW YORK PREMIERE

## BOOGEYMAN POP

**Brad Michael Elmore, USA, 2018, 90m**

Tony dreams of escaping his small town but finds release in drugs—until a friend gives him a pill called Wendigo and he can't remember what he did the night before. Meanwhile, Danielle, who likes Tony, spends her night taking care of her drugged-out friends at a punk club and getting tied up with the town dealer, who is trading in something much darker and more sinister than pills. And three kids from Danielle's neighborhood have a run-in with a bat-wielding, black Cadillac-driving, masked killer. This trio of perspective-shifting stories intersect in a maelstrom of murder, adolescent angst, sex, drugs, and black magic. Set over the course of one summer weekend, this indie film has punk-rock energy to spare and a distinct cinematic vision that transcends its budget.

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**Sunday, August 19 7:00pm**

*Q&A with Brad Michael Elmore, actresses Dominique Booth and Alix von Renner, and producer Joshua Petersen*

### NEW YORK PREMIERE

## HURT

**Sonny Mallhi, USA, 2018, 93m**

Halloween in New Caney, Texas, is slow and quiet. Rose (Emily van Raay, in a striking debut performance) is having trouble connecting with her husband, Tommy, who recently returned from military deployment and is struggling with PTSD. Rose's sister and her husband urge them to head to the town's haunted hayride to relive old traditions and maybe try to rekindle their relationship. The fairgrounds are filled with masked monsters and fake blood and death. Tommy runs off and the night gradually descends into chaos. Sonny Mallhi's exquisitely realized third feature digs up the violence bubbling under the modern American experience and serves up a smart treatise on trauma. This truly gruesome and terrifying slasher flick reminds us that death is very real, and it's not only the monstrous villains who wear masks.

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**Saturday, August 18 7:30pm**



### NEW YORK PREMIERE

## IMPOSSIBLE HORROR

Justin Decloux, Canada, 2017, 75m

Following a bad breakup, an aspiring filmmaker, Lily (Haley Walker), struggles with a crippling creative block. Unable to sleep, she begins hearing a sinister scream outside her window every evening. Convinced she needs to help, she heads out into the dark night and meets Hannah (Creedance Wright), a veteran scream hunter obsessed with stopping the creepy occurrence. The two women team up to try and locate the source before they become the scream's next victims. As much a horror movie as a movie about the horror of creation, Justin Decloux's ultra-indie second feature references everything from Asian horror to *giallo*, and the film's DIY spirit and eerie underlying dread secures its place as a small but mighty genre discovery.

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**Sunday, August 19 9:30pm**

*Q&A with Justin Decloux and producer/  
composer Emily Milling*

### NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

## THE INHABITANT

Guillermo Amoedo, Mexico/Chile, 2017,  
92m, with subtitles

In an attempt to secure some quick cash, three sisters break into the home of a super-wealthy family—and get a whole lot more than they bargained for. If this sounds tediously familiar, have no fear: *The Inhabitant* is no simple take on the old home-invasion-gone-wrong scenario. The film has serious political undertones—the house the women target belongs to a high-profile, and highly corrupt, senator—and its action opens up to also make room for a child possession tale like no other. Uruguayan-born, Chile-based filmmaker Guillermo Amoedo has made a name for himself working on screenplays for Eli Roth projects (*The Green Inferno*, *Knock Knock*, *Aftershock*), but this one outshines them all, featuring genuine chills and higher-gloss production values than usually found within such confined spaces. A Pantelion release.

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**Monday, August 20 9:00pm**

# SCHEDULE

## FRIDAY, AUGUST 17

### Opening Night

7:30 🗨 Anna and the Apocalypse  
*Followed by a Zombie Christmas Party!*

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## SATURDAY, AUGUST 18

1:00 Shock Waves  
3:00 Alligator  
3:00 🗨 Free Talk: Soundscape of Fear  
(Elinor Bunin Munroe Film Center)  
5:00 🗨 What Keeps You Alive  
7:30 Hurt  
9:30 🗨 Blood Paradise

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## SUNDAY, AUGUST 19

1:00 Dagon  
3:00 Dead Calm  
5:00 🗨 The Witch in the Window  
7:00 🗨 Boogeyman Pop  
9:30 🗨 Impossible Horror

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## MONDAY, AUGUST 20

7:00 Await Further Instructions  
9:00 The Inhabitant

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## TUESDAY, AUGUST 21

7:00 Tigers Are Not Afraid  
9:00 The Trace We Leave Behind

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## WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22

7:30 🗨 Tales from Beyond the Pale  
(Live Audio Show)

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## THURSDAY, AUGUST 23

### Closing Night

7:00 Lords of Chaos

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🗨 IN-PERSON APPEARANCE

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*The Trace We Leave Behind*



### NEW YORK PREMIERE

## TIGERS ARE NOT AFRAID

Issa López, Mexico, 2017, 83m, with subtitles

In the midst of a world plagued by gang violence, 10-year-old Estrella (Paolo Lara) is left to her own devices after her mom disappears. As a protection measure—or is it a stroke of the supernatural?—Estrella believes to have been granted three wishes, and she uses one to bring her mom back, failing to mention that she wanted her alive. Haunted by the dead shell of her mother, she leaves home and ends up taking up camp with a group of local orphan boys in their small Mexican village. A fantastical tale steeped in hard-bitten realities, Issa López's alternately heart-wrenching and chilling film inevitably elicits Guillermo del Toro comparisons, mostly for its ability to extract believable performances from its young cast, but stands firmly on its own as inspired cinema. A Shudder release.

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**Tuesday, August 21 7:00pm**

### NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

## THE TRACE WE LEAVE BEHIND

J.C. Feyer, Brazil, 2017, 96m, with subtitles

João (a commanding Rafael Cardoso) is a doctor coordinating the removal of patients from a Rio de Janeiro public hospital that, despite protests from the community, is scheduled to close due to Brazil's recession. On the night of the transfer, a 10-year-old girl disappears without a trace and João must find her, even if just to prove to his pregnant wife, Leila, that he can be a dependable father. The more he searches, the deeper he is drawn into a world he wishes he never entered. Long-kept secrets are unearthed and João struggles against the darkness that is closing in around him. Is the hospital haunted? Is he losing his mind? The feature debut by J.C. Feyer—a strong case for the resurgence of Brazilian horror—is relentless in both its dedication to scaring the pants off the audience and to shining a light on the country's social unrest.

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**Tuesday, August 21 9:00pm**



### NEW YORK PREMIERE

## WHAT KEEPS YOU ALIVE

Colin Minihan, Canada, 2018, 98m

The follow-up to Colin Minihan's *It Stains the Sands Red*, a closing-night selection of last year's Scary Movies, offers another twisty thrill ride starring the always compelling Brittany Allen. Here, she plays Jules, who heads to a lakeside cabin with her wife, Jackie (Hannah Emily Anderson), to celebrate their one-year anniversary. The tranquil setting—the nearest neighbors are Jackie's childhood friend and her husband across the lake—quickly turns terrifying, but to say anything more would spoil the surprises. Audacious and unsparring, the film veers into pitch-black comedy to keep the bloodletting and betrayal fun and boasts impressive cinematography that captures both the beauty and isolation of its remote environment and the ferocious violence that unfurls within. An IFC Midnight release.

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**Saturday, August 18 5:00pm**

*Q&A with Colin Minihan and  
Brittany Allen*

### U.S. PREMIERE

## THE WITCH IN THE WINDOW

Andy Mitton, USA, 2018, 77m

A divorced dad (Alex Draper) takes his 12-year-old son (Charlie Tacker) to the farmhouse he's purchased to flip in middle-of-nowhere Vermont. It was cheap—and for a reason: there is an old witch haunting the premises, mainly planted in a chair by an upstairs window. At first her presence seems harmless, but as the renovations continue, it becomes more apparent that she, the previous owner, has no interest in sharing her home. As in the two prior features he co-directed, *YellowBrickRoad* and *We Go On*, Andy Mitton's solo directorial debut proves that big scares can come in small packages, and his latest, refreshingly character-driven film, which sees a father desperately trying to protect a child he wants to reconnect with and the house he has always fantasized about, has more on its mind than it initially lets on. A Shudder release.

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**Sunday, August 19 5:00pm**

*Q&A with Andy Mitton, Alex Draper,  
and Charlie Tacker*

# "TAINTED WATERS" RETROSPECTIVE SIDEBAR



## ALLIGATOR

**Lewis Teague, USA, 1981, 35mm, 91m**

Twelve years after a little girl's alligator is flushed down the toilet by her father, body parts start showing up at the local sewage treatment plant. David Madison (Robert Forster) is the detective (haunted by his past, of course) assigned to the case, who must contend with his captain, city hall, the tabloids, an unscrupulous pharmaceutical company, and male pattern baldness, all while a giant gator is picking off cops and sewer workers, and starting to chomp its way up the socioeconomic ladder. David teams up with herpetologist Marisa Kendall (Robin Riker)—the girl who bought the alligator now all grown up—to try and stop the rampaging reptile. Featuring notable character actors (Henry Silva chewing his way through the scenery as the big-game hunter brought in to handle the beast is a particular highlight) and a script from John Sayles that's smarter than it has any right to be, this is one of the all-time creature-feature classics.

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**Saturday, August 18 3:00pm**

## DAGON

**Stuart Gordon, Spain, 2001, 35mm, 98m, with some subtitles**

Horror master Stuart Gordon has often looked to H.P. Lovecraft as an inspiration, and this adaptation of "The Shadow Over Innsmouth" ranks as his second finest—following the inimitable *Re-Animator*—even if it never received a proper U.S. theatrical release. The modern-day set *Dagon* sees two couples' sailing getaway descend into hell. Their boat hits stormy waters and in the process of finding help on shore, Paul (Ezra Godden) is mysteriously separated from his travel mates. Alone, he learns that the Spanish island, infested with fishermen, is under the worship of Dagon, who demands blood sacrifices and women to procreate with in return for the town's prosperity, and makes the acquaintance of Uxia (the great Macarena Gómez of past Scary Movies selections *Sexykiller* and *Shrew's Nest*), a mermaid who has appeared in his dreams—which increasingly become a terrifying reality.

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**Sunday, August 19 1:00pm**



## DEAD CALM

**Phillip Noyce, Australia, 1989, 35mm, 96m**

Mourning the tragic loss of their young son, Rae and John Ingram (Nicole Kidman and Sam Neill) take to the open seas with their dog for some peace and healing. Aboard their yacht mid-Pacific, they cross paths with the *Orpheus*, a sinking schooner whose sole survivor, Hughie (Billy Zane), takes refuge with them. Loosely based on Charles Williams's crackerjack 1963 novel—also the source of Orson Welles's unfinished film *The Deep*—*Dead Calm* is the ultimate in edge-of-your-seat suspense, as John becomes trapped on the submerging vessel while investigating Hughie's suspect account of the his crew's demise, as his wife is left alone with a man who becomes progressively more unhinged. Featuring spectacular direction, cinematography (by the Oscar-winning DP Dean Semler), and performances, particularly a gorgeously natural Kidman in an early breakthrough role, the film is a true terror treat, not to be missed on the big screen.

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**Sunday, August 19 3:00pm**

## SHOCK WAVES

**Ken Wiederhorn, USA, 1977, 35mm, 85m**

The same year he appeared as Grand Moff Tarkin in *Star Wars*, Peter Cushing also played another grand villain in *Shock Waves*: a former SS commander involved in the creation of aquatic Nazi zombies as secret weapons. The “Death Corps” project was a failed endeavor to say the least, and now, after their boat begins to sink, a group of tourists find themselves stuck on the island where the reclusive, aging commander and the water-based menaces still reside. With a cast that also includes Brooke Adams and Jack Halpin as two of the shipwrecked vacationers and John Carradine as the acerbic captain, this odd, atmospheric little shocker by writer-director Ken Wiederhorn (who dabbled again with the walking dead for 1988's *Return of the Living Dead Part II*), started a long tradition of Nazi zombie flicks, and it still remains the finest.

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**Saturday, August 18 1:00pm**

CLOSING NIGHT



SPECIAL LIVE EVENT



**NEW YORK PREMIERE**

**LORDS OF CHAOS**

**Jonas Åkerlund, UK/Sweden, 2018, 112m**

Norwegian black-metal band Mayhem experienced a rise and fall so notorious that it's provided the subject of multiple books and documentaries. And now a dramatization of their tragic tale makes it to the screen courtesy of Swedish music video and film director extraordinaire Jonas Åkerlund. It's a devastating portrait of youth mixed with power in dangerous doses, yet it humanizes its antiheroes in unexpected ways, in part due to memorable performances from Rory Culkin as Euronymous, Mayhem co-founder and a key black metal figure; Emory Cohen as Varg Vikernes, his bandmate and eventual murderer; and Jack Kilmer as Mayhem's ultra-melancholic first lead singer known as Dead. Like the best of Åkerlund's videos and his dynamite 2002 film *Spun*, *Lords of Chaos* is profoundly disturbing but with a macabre, comic touch.

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**Thursday, August 23 7:00pm**

**TALES FROM BEYOND  
THE PALE**

Larry Fessenden and Glenn McQuaid's "Tales from Beyond the Pale" returns to the Film Society of Lincoln Center for a double bill of contemporary audio dramas. Now in its eighth year, the primarily spooky show, produced by Glass Eye Pix, has taken cues from the likes of Inner Sanctum Theatre and the Mercury Theatre Company while putting its own rich spin on the format. Observations both personal and political are often deeply entangled with whatever creature, creep, or ghoul Fessenden and McQuaid conjure up. Two new "Tales" will be performed live with actors, foley artists, sound designers, and musicians; it's quite a sight, and if you dare to close your eyes, quite a listen! Previous shows have featured the vocal talents of Ron Perlman, Michael Cerveris, Lance Reddick, Doug Jones, Vincent D'Onofrio, Sean Young, and Alison Wright... so you never know who might show up.

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**Wednesday, August 22 7:30pm**

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# WHAT KEEPS YOU ALIVE

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SCARY MOVIES FREE TALK

## SOUNDSCAPE OF FEAR

SPONSORED BY IFC MIDNIGHT

August 18, 3:00pm

Brittany Allen (*What Keeps You Alive*), Emily Milling (*Impossible Horror*), and Andréa Winter (*Blood Paradise*) weren't just musical composers for their films—they also served as, variously, actors, producers, writers, and editors. Here, they discuss being multi-hyphenate talents in the challenging landscape of independent genre filmmaking and how they've used their experiences to craft aural experiences of anxiety and dread.

UPCOMING FILM COMMENT TALKS

SPONSORED BY IFCFilms

ETHAN HAWKE (*BLAZE*)

September 6

PAUL DANO (*WILDLIFE*)

October 18

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This project is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts,  
New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

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