

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## **NecronomiCon Providence 2022: A Return to the Capital of Weird**

Passes now available – Guests of Honor announced – Schedule of events taking shape

PROVIDENCE, RI (March 23) - NecronomiCon Providence, the legendary four-day convention returns to the Creative Capital this August 18-21. The biennial event celebrates the creative arts that lurk in the spaces between horror, science fiction, and fantasy—a genre known as “the weird.” With over two thousand guests and attendees from over twenty countries, NecronomiCon truly is the International Festival of Weird Fiction, Art, and Academia.

After a hiatus due to the Covid pandemic, the convention returns for its fifth iteration since 2013. Over the years, the conference and festival has been a celebrated, vibrant blend of academics, literature, art, film, gaming, and fandom of all things Weird. In previous years, NecronomiCon has been a convention built around the globally renowned cosmic horror writing of Providence-born author, Howard Phillips Lovecraft (its name is taken directly from *The Necronomicon*, a fictional book of arcane knowledge that appears in several of Lovecraft’s stories). Lovecraft’s work inspired a host of creative minds, most notably Stephen King, who declared him “the greatest horror writer of the twentieth century,” as well as Guillermo del Toro, Neil Gaiman, Jorge Luis Borges, and Metallica.

A more recent growing awareness of some of the deep flaws of Lovecraft as a person, particularly his odious xenophobic views of many of the same people who have admired his writing, has opened up important discussions which are often included in our programming. Overall, now the event more fully focuses on all aspects of weird fiction and art, and welcomes and celebrates the myriad creators and contributors who’ve actively expanded the genre into remarkable and imaginative new directions. The literary works of the early voices of weird fiction, including Lovecraft, is only the starting point to create something that is open to modern voices and visions from around the globe.

The convention takes place at multiple sites across the city center of beautiful Providence, and includes discussion panels, academic talks, author readings, theater performances, gaming, film screenings, and a month-long art exhibition, all events that center around weird fiction, cosmic horror, dark fantasy, and science fiction. This year’s Guests of Honor list includes a who’s who of established and rising stars across the genre – of multiple media and from around the globe – including editor Ann Vandermeer, Argentine artist Santiago Caruso, writers Gemma Files and Cassandra Khaw, game designer Oscar Rios, Canadian filmmaker and critic Kier-La Janisse, British podcaster Jonathan Sims, and our own poet laureate Bryan Thao Worra. In addition, hundreds of other authors, artists, publishers, game designers, and academics, join over two thousand attendees from around the world for a memorable celebration of the global weird fiction renaissance.

To view the developing full schedule and to purchase convention passes via credit card or PayPal, visit [necronomicon-providence.com](https://necronomicon-providence.com).

NecronomiCon Providence is presented by the Lovecraft Arts & Sciences Council, an educational nonprofit organization that serves as a networking center for scholars, writers, and fans of weird fiction. Along with academics and enthusiasts, the organization upholds a critical review of related research, literature, art, and the cultural impact of weird fiction. The Lovecraft Arts & Sciences Council operates a bookstore and information bureau of the same name, located in the historic Arcade in downtown Providence at 130 Westminster Street. Visit [weirdprovidence.org](http://weirdprovidence.org) for more information.

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