



August 8, 2019

MEDIA RELEASE

IMPRESSIVE GENRE DEBUTS AND VETERAN FILMMAKERS COMPRISE THIS YEAR'S ECCENTRIC MIDNIGHT MADNESS LINEUP

Including World Premieres of Richard Stanley's *Color Out of Space* and Rose Glass's *Saint Maud*, and Joko Anwar's Indonesian superhero adaptation *Gundala*

TORONTO – The Toronto International Film Festival® has announced the 10 eclectic films that will make up this year's Midnight Madness lineup. This year's programme ushers in a new generation of formidable genre filmmakers amidst veteran Midnight mavericks, who collectively push the envelope with both experimental and quintessential genre thrills that are guaranteed to keep the loyal late-night audience rapt and wired.

"This year's selections challenge the traditional parameters of genre and shock cinema, but – most excitingly – half of the lineup's wicked provocations are courtesy of filmmakers making their feature-film debut," said Peter Kuplowsky, Lead Programmer for Midnight Madness. "I'm delighted to welcome midnight movie institutions like Takashi Miike and Richard Stanley back to the section, and even more ecstatic to have the privilege to introduce so many transgressive, innovative, and galvanizing new voices. The tide is high, and be it a Mi'gmaq reserve, a Hassidic neighborhood, or a Ugandan village, more communities are getting opportunities to share their myths and monsters. I know this year's lineup will exhilarate Midnight audiences come September."

Midnight Madness welcomes new genre filmmakers with remarkable debuts, including Galder Gaztelu-Urrutia's dystopian sci-fi film ***The Platform***; Rose Glass's unnerving psychological thriller ***Saint Maud***, starring Morfydd Clark (*Love & Friendship*) and Jennifer Ehle (*Zero Dark Thirty*); Andrew Patterson's paranormal period piece ***The Vast of Night***, which won the audience award for Best Narrative Feature at Slamdance and features breakout performances by Jake Horowitz and Sierra McCormick; and Keith Thomas's supernatural horror film ***The Vigil***.

Other highlights from this year's selection include Richard Stanley's H.P. Lovecraft adaptation ***Color Out of Space***, which stars Nicolas Cage and signals the director's return to the Midnight Madness lineup after 29 years; Joko Anwar's ***Gundala***, based on the Indonesian superhero comic books by Harya "Hasmi" Suraminata; and Takashi Miike's Japanese action-comedy ***First Love***. The programme will close with the World Premiere of the international version of Isaac Nabwana's gonzo action flick ***Crazy World***, a celebration of the Ugandan film movement Wakaliwood.

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The 44th Toronto International Film Festival runs September 5–15, 2019.

Films screening as part of the Midnight Madness programme include:

Midnight Madness Opening Film

Blood Quantum Jeff Barnaby | Canada
World Premiere

Color Out of Space Richard Stanley | USA
World Premiere

Midnight Madness Closing Film

Crazy World Isaac Nabwana | Uganda
World Premiere

First Love (Hatsukoi) Takashi Miike | Japan/United Kingdom
North American Premiere

Gundala Joko Anwar | Indonesia
International Premiere

The Platform (El Hoyo) Galder Gaztelu-Urrutia | Spain
World Premiere

Saint Maud Rose Glass | United Kingdom
World Premiere

The Twentieth Century Matthew Rankin | Canada
World Premiere

The Vast of Night Andrew Patterson | USA
Canadian Premiere

The Vigil Keith Thomas | USA
World Premiere

Previously announced Midnight Madness films include Jeff Barnaby's ***Blood Quantum***, Matthew Rankin's ***The Twentieth Century***.

For film synopses, cast lists, images, and more information, see tiff.net/midnightmadness

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Festival ticket packages start at \$110. See all the Midnight Madness films using your 10-ticket regular flex pack. Purchase packages online at tiff.net/tickets, by phone (416.599.2033 or 1.888.599.8433), or in person at TIFF Bell Lightbox until August 11 while quantities last.

TIFF prefers Visa.

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TIFF is a not-for-profit cultural organization whose mission is to transform the way people see the world through film. An international leader in film culture, TIFF projects include the annual Toronto International Film Festival in September; TIFF Bell Lightbox, which features five cinemas, major exhibitions, and learning and entertainment facilities; and innovative national distribution program Film Circuit. The organization generates an annual economic impact of \$189 million CAD. TIFF Bell Lightbox is generously supported by contributors including Founding Sponsor Bell, the Province of Ontario, the Government of Canada, the City of Toronto, the Reitman family (Ivan Reitman, Agi Mandel and Susan Michaels), The Daniels Corporation and RBC. For more information, visit tiff.net.

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These films are eligible for the Grolsch People's Choice Midnight Madness Award. Vote for your favourite films at tiff.net/vote.

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For images, visit the media site at tiff.net/press.

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