

39th Torino Film Festival (November 26 – December 4, 2021)

The 39th TFF once again hosts "Le stanze di Rol" the section dedicated to mystery, the unknown, enigmas, and the bizarre

curated by Pier Maria Bocchi

"Le stanze di Rol" is more than just a section of genre cinema; it is a free port with just one creed: cinema – the freest, the most untamed, the boldest – is a sign of life and thus, by its very nature, it rejects all forms of obscurantism. "Le stanze di Rol" sidesteps stereotypes and predictable choices; its goal is to pursue excellence and offer an unconventional image of the genre.

This year, the section's Media partner is Rai 4. Each screening will be preceded by a teaser edited by Rai Creative Direction for Rai 4 and two episodes of the TV program Wonderland will be specifically dedicated to the section.

After a reflection on "images of the genre" through the selection in last year's edition, this year the choice has fallen on more straightforward and "direct" films because, as **Pier Maria Bocchi**, the section's curator, notes, "It seemed to me that the 'naked and pure' genre is enjoying extraordinarily good health. But at the same time, I also searched for traces of genres in movies that, at first glance, are hard to label as such because I am convinced that genres can influence other genres, pollute them, and transform them. This means power, freedom, and research; I have always thought that the section should take its form, its features, and its goal from these three 'movements.'"

"There is a secret passage that leads from 'Wonderland' into the rooms of 'Le stanze di Rol," says **Leopoldo Santovincenzo**, the author of the TV magazine Wonderland. "Today, Rai 4 and its magazine Wonderland, and this section of the Torino Film Festival begin an ideal dialogue, in light of their shared company with imagery that accepts neither labels nor fences and is open to the most unexpected adventures, on both the big and the small screen. We will offer a first taste of this collaboration on Monday, November 29, on Rai 4, with two World Premieres that are part of the 2020 selection of 'Le Stanze di Rol:' Lucky by Natasha Kermani and The Dark and the Wicked by Bryan Bertino".

"For the second time, the figure and the actions of Gustavo Adolfo Rol have inspired the section dedicated to unreleased works by filmmakers who explore parallel worlds of the psyche, space, and time," declares **Stefano Francia di Celle**, director of the Torino Film Festival. "To welcome an illuminated cinema that offers a dizzying cross-section of the aspirations, dreams, and anxieties of contemporary mankind. 'Le stanze di Rol' is a fundamental element of the Torino Film Festival's overall lineup because it represents a subtle or a deafening countermelody to the other forms of narration and interpretations of reality in the other sections. I am very happy that Rai 4 is with us this year as we venture along the cinematographic path of amazement and bewilderment."

The scheduled films:

Coming Home in the Dark by James Ashcroft, New Zealand, 2021; Italian distribution Koch | Italian preview. Opening film of the section.

Bull by Paul Andrew Williams UK, 2021 | Italian preview.

Extraneous Matter - Complete Edition by Kenichi Ugana, Japan, 2021 |

Inmersión by Nic Postiglione, Chile, 2021 | World preview.

Mlungu wam - Good Madam by Jenna Cato Bass, South Africa, 2021 | European preview.

Offseason by Mickey Keating, USA, 2021 | Italian preview.

Los plebes by Eduardo Giralt, Emmanuel Massu, Mexico, 2021 | International preview.

Raging Fire by Benny Chan, Hong Kong-China 2021; Italian distribution Koch Media, in collaboration with FEFF – Far East Film Festival |Italian preview.

Ste. Anne by Rhayne Vermette, Canada, 2021 | Italian preview.

The Strings by Ryan Glover, USA, 2020 | Italian preview.

What Josiah Saw by Vincent Grashaw, USA, 2021 | European preview.

L'angelo dei muri by Lorenzo Bianchini, Italy, 2021; Italian distribution Tucker Film | World preview. Closing film of the section.

