



CINE-EXCESS 2026

LEGENDS NEVER DIE

2026 FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL AND CONFERENCE

19–24 OCTOBER 2026

PROGRAMME & SCREENING SCHEDULE

MONDAY 19 OCTOBER 2026

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

3.00pm - 5.00pm BST

Panel One

Bodies That Splatter: Redefining Heroes, Villains and Victims in Cult Horror

CHAIR (TBC)

Tuğçe Kutlu (Independent Scholar, TR)

Undying Girls: Ageing, Survival and the Afterlives of the Final Girl in Cult Horror

Ethan Jones (University of Warwick, UK)

Welcome to Prime Time: Freddy Krueger and Jason Voorhees as Horror Movie Supervillains

K. Hall (Elizabeth City State University, US)

Body by Design: Creating Cult Objects Out of Bodies in *Hellraiser* (1987), *Beetlejuice* (1988), and *Batman* (1989)

OPENING NIGHT SCREENING

8.00pm - 10.00pm

Skeleton Park

(Dan Sacco, Max Boer, Canada 2026)

IN PERSON

Odeon, Birmingham New Street

Pre-recorded Filmmaker Q&A

18 Cert (BCC)

EUROPEAN THEATRICAL PREMIERE

ONLINE

8pm-10pm BST on the Cine-Excess

Vimeo Showcase

Available to view for 24 hours

Age verification required

STREAMED PREMIERE



During a routine night shift, two city cops are stalked by a malevolent presence. Folk horror meets the police procedural in this innovative new Canadian thriller.

10.00pm CLOSE

TUESDAY 20 OCTOBER 2026

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

10.00am – 12.00pm BST

Panel Two

Unhappy Families: Disrupting the Symbolic Order in Cult Horror

Chair (TBC)

Leonardo Magnante (University of Rome Tor Vergata, IT)

Once Upon a Time a Haunted House: Urban Legend, Parapsychology, and the Collapse of Patriarchal Order

Zerui Wei (Beijing Normal-Hong Kong Baptist University, CN)

The Vessel Made Visible: A Hauntological Critique of Gender, Secularization, and the Failure of Imitation in *The Omen* (1976) and *The First Omen* (2024)

Berkay Minkara (Charles University, CZ)

The Horror of Becoming: Parenthood, Anxiety, and the Body in *Eraserhead* and *Kotoko*

1.00pm – 3.00pm BST

Panel Three

From Classical Hollywood to Classic Exploitation: Style and Form in American Cult Cinemas

Chair (TBC)

Camille Parru (Paris 8 University, FR)

Laughing at the Asylum: Cult Memory, Hitchcockian Legacy and the Hollywood Psychiatric Film in *High Anxiety* (1977)

David Church (Seattle University, US)

Pandora Peaks (2001) and Russ Meyer's Legend-Building Nonfiction Works

Alex Symons (LIM College, US)

The Online Cult of A&P Films: Streaming Indie Slashers and Digital Fandom

3.30pm – 4.30pm BST

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Return to Cabrini Green: *Candyman* (1992/2001) and the Spatialization of Horror Legends

Professor Aviva Briefel (Bowdoin College, Maine, USA)

5.00pm – 6.00pm BST

Panel Four

Industry Panel: Legends, Legacies and Home Entertainment

Chair: Eugenio Triana/Alex Fitch

Sandy King (Storm King Comics)

David Gregory (Severin Films)

Tom Seymour (Director of *Enter the Television*)

DAY TWO

TUESDAY 20 OCTOBER 2026

CINE-EXCESS 2026 • LEGENDS NEVER DIE

EVENING SCREENINGS

8.00pm – 10.00pm

IN-PERSON CINEMA SCREENING 2

Carne

(Tomas Marichal Urban, Uruguay 2026)

IN PERSON

Odeon, Birmingham New Street

Pre-recorded Filmmaker Q&A

18 Cert (BCC) With Patron Advisory Warning



In future Uruguay, one wealthy family comes up with the perfect solution to the nation's meat shortage in this uncompromising film that comes with an advisory content warning.

EUROPEAN THEATRICAL PREMIERE

6.00pm – 7.10pm BST

STREAMED SCREENING 2

AM/FM

(Connor McBride, USA 2026)



UK STREAMED PREMIERE

Cine-Excess Vimeo Showcase
Available to view for 24 hours
Age verification required

Experimental filmmaker Connor McBride mixes DJ culture with issues of identity loss in this daring debut film.

8.00pm – 9.30pm BST

STREAMED SCREENING 3

Enter the Television

(Tom Seymour, USA 2026)



UK STREAMED PREMIERE

Cine-Excess Vimeo Showcase
Available to view for 24 hours
Age verification required

American documentary filmmaker Tom Seymour returns to Cine-Excess, with an ambitious new film that traces the influence of TV advertising on cult cinema cultures and communities.

10.00pm • CLOSE

DAY THREE

WEDNESDAY 21 OCTOBER 2026

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

10.00am - 12.00pm BST

Panel Five

Legends Across Borders: Decolonising Cult Cinemas Chair (TBC)

Ashish Dwivedi (University of Southampton, UK)

Scandals, Melancholia, and a Young Death: Guru Dutt and the Cult of His Enigma

Marcin Zembrzusi (University of Southampton, UK)

Mud, Snow and Blood: The Spaghetti Westerns of Sergio Corbucci

Nadia Rismanchi (Birmingham City University, UK)

Horror Before Horror Cinema: Underground Spectatorship and Genre Memory in Post Revolutionary Iran

Xuefei Yang (University of Wollongong, AU)

Are the Kids Alright? Crazy Rabbit and the Unintended Cult Legacy of a Chinese Educational Film

1.00pm - 3.00pm BST

Panel Six

Terrorvision: Genre, Marketing and Reception in Cult TV Chair (TBC)

Siân Pearce (University of Exeter, UK)

Folk Horror and Children's Television: The Owl Service and The Snow Spider

Amanda Reyes (Independent Scholar, US)

Promoting a Small Screen Nightmare: Marketing Made for TV Genre Movies

Siobhan E. Smith-Jones (University of Louisville, US)

First Look: Black Horror in Television

3.30pm - 4.30pm BST

AWARD CEREMONY

Cine-Excess Lifetime Achievement Award Ceremony

Michael Berryman & Janus Blythe

(Streamed Recording)

5.00pm - 6.00pm BST

Panel Seven

The Soska Sisters' Tales of Terror 2026

Chair: Eugenio Triana

Canadian filmmaking duo Jennifer and Sylvia Soska return to Cine-Excess for their annual mentoring session with BCU film students. This year the theme of the competition will focus on horror journeys taken down the road.

DAY THREE

WEDNESDAY 21 OCTOBER 2026

CINE-EXCESS 2026 • LEGENDS NEVER DIE

EVENING SCREENINGS

8.00pm - 10.00pm

IN-PERSON CINEMA SCREENING 3

Wrath of the Gods

(Justin Hardy, UK 2026)

IN PERSON

Odeon, Birmingham New Street
Live Filmmakers Q&A
18 Cert (BCC)



Completed shortly before his recent death, *Wrath of the Gods*, directed by Justin Hardy, is drawn from an original concept by his father Robin Hardy, director of 1973 cult classic *The Wicker Man*. Shot on location in the Shetland Islands, UK and featuring a mostly street cast of locals, *Wrath of the Gods* is the first horror film to feature dialogue spoken in indigenous Shetland dialect.

8.00pm - 10.00pm BST

STREAMED SCREENING 4



Iranian emigre Amirhossein Amini's unsettling new film updates Kafka's nightmarish visions of anonymised state control into a claustrophobic narrative filmed entirely from one overshot camera position.

Private Restroom

(Amirhossein Amini, Italy/Iran 2026)

ONLINE

Cine-Excess Vimeo Showcase
UK Streamed Premiere
Pre-recorded Filmmaker Q&A
Available to view for 24 hours
Age verification required

UK STREAMED PREMIERE

10.00pm • CLOSE

DAY FOUR

THURSDAY 22 OCTOBER 2026

CINE-EXCESS 2026 • LEGENDS NEVER DIE

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

10.00am - 11.00am BST

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Looking Forward - Cine-Excess @20

Conference Delegates & Guest Participants

11.00am - 1.00pm BST

SPECIAL EVENT / INTERVIEW

Wrong Turns and Suburban Screams: An Interview with Rob Schmidt

PRE-RECORDED SESSION



1.00pm - 1.15pm BST

CLOSING REMARKS

Closing Remarks

from the Organising Committee

6.00pm - 7.30pm

RECEPTION

Cine-Excess 2026

Wine Reception

For in-person presenters

DAY FOUR

THURSDAY 22 OCTOBER 2026

CINE-EXCESS 2026 • LEGENDS NEVER DIE

EVENING SCREENINGS

8.00pm - 10.00pm

CINE-EXCESS CINEMA SCREENING 4

SCUM OF THE EARTH

CREATING AMERICA'S RURAL COMMUNITIES OF HORROR

Xavier Mendik, UK 2026



Odeon, Birmingham New Street

1ST UK PUBLIC CINEMA SCREENING

LIVE FILMMAKERS Q&A

18 CERT (BCC)

An exclusive screening of the new BCU documentary on rural American horror, with a Q&A from *Wrong Turn* (2003) director Rob Schmidt, who also receives an Innovator of Horror award at the event.

8.00pm - 10.00pm BST

STREAMED SCREENING 5

STITCHES

Taylor Olson, Canada 2026



UK STREAMED PREMIERE

CINE-EXCESS VIMEO SHOWCASE

Available to view for 24 hours

Age verification required

Includes Pre-recorded Filmmaker Q&A

WARNING - CONTAINS SCENES THAT SOME VIEWERS MAY FIND OFFENSIVE.

Taylor Olson's queer body horror anthology channels the spirit of David Cronenberg's cinema with a critique of the destabilizing influence that online media has on humanity, wellbeing and identity.

10.00pm • CLOSE

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

WELCOMING REMARKS FROM THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE

10.00am - 12.00pm BST

Panel 1

Auteurs, Authorship and the Art of Cult Film

CHAIR (TBC)

Reece Goodall, University of Warwick, UK

The Cult of the Composer: Christopher Young and Artistic Resurrection in *The Piper* (2023)

Jeff Billington, Lancaster University, UK

"Sown in Incest, Harvested in Hate!": Jean Genet and the Rediscovered Sexploitation Films of Andy Milligan

Julien Bouthillier, University of Montreal, CA

Artist, Hack, Cult Legend: The Many Lives of Ulli Lommel

Ken Lauder, Independent Scholar, UK

The Scale of Responsibility: How *Scream* Deconstructs the Ethics of Horror

1.00pm - 2.45pm BST

Panel 2

Genre, Narrativity and the Devices of Cult Film

CHAIR (TBC)

Emma Austin & John Caro,

University of Portsmouth, UK

Watch It and Die! Legends of the Cursed VHS Tape in Haunted Media

Sam Dubois,

Birmingham City University, UK

Maybe Legends Should Die: Self-Criticism and Metatextual Horror

Alex Fitch,

University of Brighton, UK

Bootleg Revivals: Fan Films and Franchises

3.00pm - 5.00pm BST

Panel 3

Myths, Legends and the Deconstruction of Cult Film

CHAIR (TBC)

David Edwards,

The Northern School of Art, UK

Have you checked the children?: The Enduring Legacy of the Babysitter Murders

Richard Wood,

Independent Scholar, UK

Welcome Back, Evil!: New Cult Icon Art the Clown as the Anti-Goldberg/Lecter/Bateman

Damla Campion,

Lancaster University, UK

Reworking the 'Heterosexual' Love Stories of *The Shape of Water* (Guillermo del Toro, 2017) and *Border* (Ali Abbasi, 2018)

CLOSING REMARKS FROM THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE

DAY FIVE

FRIDAY 23 OCTOBER 2026

CINE-EXCESS 2026 • LEGENDS NEVER DIE

EVENING SCREENING

8.00pm - 10.00pm BST

STREAMED SCREENING 6

DEBONE

Lee Daehan, South Korea 2026



CINE-EXCESS VIMEO SHOWCASE

INCLUDES PRE-RECORDED FILMMAKER Q&A

AVAILABLE TO VIEW FOR 24 HOURS • AGE VERIFICATION REQUIRED

WARNING - CONTAINS SCENES THAT SOME VIEWERS MAY FIND OFFENSIVE.

Lee Daehan's new film is garnering international festival acclaim for its examination of the social taboos that govern domestic violence within South Korean society. The film's searing social problem aesthetic cannot fully prepare the viewer for its dramatic shift into Asia Extreme style cult cinema imagery in the closing act.

10.00pm • CLOSE

DAY SIX

CINE-EXCESS 2026 • LEGENDS NEVER DIE

SATURDAY 24 OCTOBER 2026

EVENING SCREENING

8.00pm - 10.00pm BST

STREAMED SCREENING 7

OBEDIENCE

AKA EL LLANTO DEL PERRO

Jano Piccardo & Federico Venzi, Argentina 2025



UK STREAMED PREMIERE

CINE-EXCESS VIMEO SHOWCASE

INCLUDES PRE-RECORDED FILMMAKER Q&A

AVAILABLE TO VIEW FOR 24 HOURS • AGE VERIFICATION REQUIRED

ABOUT THE FILM

Rounding off Cine-Excess 2026 is the streamed premiere of Jano Piccardo and Federico Venzi's new Argentinian thriller, which explores the dark side of the wellness industry, and the tactics used to control and manipulate marginal community members. The screening continues the ongoing collaboration between the Cine-Excess international film festival and leading global genre film distributor Black Mandala.

10.00pm CLOSE