TwilightRoom Adds Fantastic Fest 2026, Continuing Its Growing Presence on the Film Festival Circuit

Founder Devin Esser covers the country's largest genre film festival as TwilightRoom, surfacing the inventive independent storytelling shaping modern cinema.



SAN DIEGO, CA, UNITED STATES, September 9, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- From SXSW and Tribeca to Fantasia and now Fantastic Fest, independent film criticism platform TwilightRoom is continuing to build its presence on the film festival circuit. Founder and editor Devin Esser has been credentialed to cover Fantastic Fest 2026, taking place September 17-24 at Alamo Drafthouse South Lamar in Austin, Texas.

> Fantastic Fest reflects what we believe deeply at TwilightRoom: genre films can be wildly entertaining while still being some of the most ambitious and inventive storytelling happening in cinema."
>
> *Devin Esser, Founder*

Now entering its 21st edition, Fantastic Fest has become the largest genre film festival in the United States, bringing together established filmmakers, emerging voices and devoted audiences around horror, fantasy, science fiction, action and other boundary-pushing cinema. This year's program includes 73 feature films and episodic projects, with a slate spanning world, North American and U.S. premieres. Among the most anticipated are Zach Cregger's "Resident Evil," which opens the festival; Lionsgate's "Beware Boiúna"; Martin McDonagh's "Wild Horse Nine"; Mike Flanagan's "Carrie"; Zachary Wigon's "Victorian Psycho"; and the closing-night world premiere, "The Swallow," from Kevin Kölsch and Dennis Widmyer.

"Fantastic Fest understands something we believe deeply at TwilightRoom: genre films can be wildly entertaining while still being some of the most ambitious and inventive storytelling

happening in cinema," said Esser. "These are filmmakers willing to take risks, and those are usually the films that create the most interesting conversations."



Ahead of the festival, Esser has published "The Biggest Releases at Fantastic Fest 2026", TwilightRoom's guide to the films and filmmakers expected to define this year's edition. The preview moves from the festival's marquee titles into its international and auteur-driven programming, highlighting the discoveries that often make festivals like Fantastic Fest particularly valuable to serious film audiences.

Read TwilightRoom's Fantastic Fest preview here: https://twilightroom.com/the-biggest-releases-at-fantastic-film-fest-2026/

Fantastic Fest also arrives at an important moment for its longtime home, Alamo Drafthouse Cinema. Sony Pictures Entertainment acquired Alamo Drafthouse in 2024, bringing the theater company and Fantastic Fest into its Sony Pictures Experiences division. This summer, Sony and Alamo announced plans to restore and reopen Hollywood's historic Cinerama Dome and adjacent theater complex, extending Alamo's distinctive approach to theatrical exhibition to a new West Coast flagship.

For TwilightRoom, that broader investment in film culture and the theatrical experience makes Fantastic Fest an especially relevant next stop. Since launching publicly at SXSW 2026, TwilightRoom has steadily expanded its festival coverage while developing an editorial identity built around clear criticism, accessible analysis and genuine appreciation for filmmaking craft. Its reporting has since extended to Tribeca Festival and Fantasia International Film Festival, alongside year-round film and television reviews, rankings, previews and recurring editorial series.

TwilightRoom's Fantastic Fest coverage will include:
- Reviews and analysis of notable premieres and festival discoveries
- Coverage of emerging and established genre filmmakers
- Curated recommendations highlighting films audiences should be watching
- Reporting on trends shaping contemporary horror, fantasy, sci-fi and international genre cinema
- Festival updates across TwilightRoom's website, newsletter and social channels

The growing festival presence is part of TwilightRoom's larger effort to create a destination for audiences who want more than immediate reactions or aggregated entertainment news, a place

where films are considered within the larger creative and cultural conversation.

“As TwilightRoom grows, festivals give us the opportunity to discover what audiences may be talking about six months or a year from now,” Esser said. “That’s where we want to be, early enough to discover something, but thoughtful enough to explain why it matters.”

Fantastic Fest coverage begins September 17. Follow TwilightRoom’s coverage at: www.TwilightRoom.com.

###

About TwilightRoom

TwilightRoom is an independent film and television criticism platform founded in 2026 by critic and editor Devin Esser. The publication offers reviews, festival reporting, rankings, previews and cultural commentary designed to help audiences engage more deeply with contemporary film and television. Since its public debut at SXSW 2026, TwilightRoom has provided credentialed coverage of major film festivals including Tribeca Festival, Fantasia International Film Festival and Fantastic Fest.

For more information, visit: www.twilightroom.com

Ania Kubicki for TwilightRoom
ANGLES Communications
+1 480-277-9245
email us here
Visit us on social media:
LinkedIn
Instagram
Facebook
TikTok
X
Other

This press release can be viewed online at: https://www.einpresswire.com/article/940754627

EIN Presswire's priority is source transparency. We do not allow opaque clients, and our editors try to be careful about weeding out false and misleading content. As a user, if you see something we have missed, please do bring it to our attention. Your help is welcome. EIN Presswire, Everyone's Internet News Presswire™, tries to define some of the boundaries that are reasonable in today's world. Please see our Editorial Guidelines for more information.
© 1995-2026 Newsmatics Inc. All Right Reserved.