For 36 years, the Miami Film Festival has been bringing the most innovative storytelling in local and international cinema to Miami’s screens. Some of the world’s greatest filmmakers have graced the carpets, mingling with South Florida’s emerging talent in the field. One thing we love most about the festival is its uncanny way of constantly evolving, getting bigger and better with each passing season. This year, Miami Film Festival has some great new things up its sleeves, check out the top 5 things we’re looking forward to:
BRAND NEW HOME VENUE

After spending most of their years at the Regal South Beach Cinema on Lincoln Road, Miami Film Festival has switched their hub venue to the brand new Silverspot Cinema in Downtown Miami. Luxurious and at the center of everything, this new headquarters will make movie hopping even easier since other official venues like The Olympia and even MDC’s Tower Theater are a hop skip and a jump away.

LAUNCH OF FASHION IN FILM

Co-presented with the Miami Design District, the festival is launching a 3-day program of screenings, talks, and performances that explore the intersection of fashion in cinema for the inaugural: Fashion in Film Festival. Some of the most visionary creatives in movement and dress will be highlighted, thanks to a partnerships with the University of the Arts London – Central Saint Martins.

WORLD PREMIERE RELEASES

Although almost every film is in itself a “first” for Miami with Florida, Regional, and National premieres abound, it’s the world premieres that really make the festival and heavy-hitter for any film buff. *The Projectionist* is an opening night film directed by José Maria Cabral whose first film, *Check Mate*, was selected as the Dominican entry for the Best Foreign Language Oscar at the 85th Academy Awards. Other world premieres include *A Name Without a Place* which features comedian Chris Parnell, and *Huracan*, a nominee for this year’s Knight Made in MIA Feature Film Award.

**NEWLY REVAMPED KNIGHT MADE IN MIA AWARD**

![Photo by Miami Film Festival](image)

The Knight Foundation has long since been a major supporter of the arts across the country but heavily in Miami. This year’s award competition boasts 9 feature films competing for a $30,000 prize. The Knight Made in MIA Award also includes 11 short films competing for a grand prize of $10,000.
HONORING MIAMI’S RISING JAZZ STAR

https://youtu.be/NkmGue2WQyg

“The extraordinary rise of Miami’s own Cécile McLorin Salvant, already renowned as one of America’s top jazz vocalists at the age of only 29, is chronicled in this gorgeous love letter to the storied talent of our hometown treasure.” The GRAMMY-winning musician will not only be there for the world premiere of Singular, she will be performing live for a very special first-time concert.

If this still isn’t enough to inspire you and your fellow film buffs, take a deep dive into the full program with all its satellite events and showings here. The Miami Film Festival runs from March 1st – 10th so there are tons of chances to catch these cinematic treasures. Grab tickets here.

Cover photo by Rove.me