

## Gaming giants CD Projekt RED, Atari, Sony, Nintendo and more confirmed to attend Lucca Comics & Games 2022

## Special concert confirmed for The Witcher 3: Wild Hunt, conducted by Eimear Noone

Thursday 13th October, Lucca, Italy: Lucca Comics & Games 2022 is delighted to announce that a symphony orchestra will be playing a special concert dedicated to CD PROJEKT RED's The Witcher 3: Wild Hunt.

**The Witcher 3: Wild Hunt - Music from the Continent**, will be held at the *Palazzetto dello Sport* and conducted by **Eímear Noone**, conductor and composer of 26 film and video-game scores, among which is World of Warcraft. Eimear is the first woman ever to conduct at the Academy Award's ceremony, and her music has reached more than 100 million people in the world over 15 years. Tracks will be performed by musicians from the *Fiesole's Orchestra Giovanile Italiana* (the Italian Youth Orchestra), accompanied by the Polish folk metal band Percival Schuttenbach. It's a once-in-a-lifetime event, produced with Teatro del Giglio in Lucca, on the occasion of **CD PROJEKT RED**'s 20th anniversary.

**CD PROJEKT RED** will all host a number of activities at Villa Bottini, the 16th-century palace located in the center of Lucca. The palace's garden will serve as a portal to **Toussaint**, which players had the chance to explore in Blood & Wine, the second of **The Witcher 3: Wild Hunt'**s expansions. Visitors will be able to participate in an immersive Witcher-themed treasure hunt, take part in various crafting activities, as well as join in on other attractions, all brought to life with the help of experienced live-action role-playing professionals and cosplayers.

Inside the villa, the studio will be hosting a special exhibition, showcasing many rare and never-before-seen artifacts spanning 20 years of the studio's game-making history. The exhibtion will display Cyberpunk 2077 & The Witcher art as well as historically inspired works from across both franchises.

On 29th October, **CD PROJECT RED** will host an official **Community Party** for invited members of the studio's community to talk and meet with fans. For more information regarding CDPR's 20 years celebration at Lucca Comics & Games 2022, visit the <u>dedicated</u> website.

In addition to this **CD PROJEKT RED** will also host several panels throughout the convention, the first dedicated to *Cyberpunk: Edgerunners* and a second to *Cyberpunk 2077*. Attending these panels will include Yoh Yoshinari (Chief Character Designer), Naoko Tsutsumi (Animation Producer), Saya Elder (Producer & Creative supervisor), Bartosz Sztybor (Writer of Cyberpunk Edgerunners), Martha Weiss (Concept Artist), Miles Tost (Acting Lead Level Designer), Pawel Sasko (Quest Director).

**Lucca Comics & Games 2022** is also delighted to confirm that some of the world's biggest gaming companies will be attending the convention this October. Gaming giants including **SONY**, **CD PROJEKT RED**, **Atari**, **Nintendo** and **Italian Esports Open** will be





offering guests immersive experiences, in depth panel discussions as well as a number of events exclusive to Lucca attendees.

The festival will also celebrate **Atari**'s 50th anniversary where Guest of Honor **Nolan Bushnell**, Atari's founder and named by Newsweek as "one of the 50 men who changed America." The creator of the first large-scale coin-op (Computer Space), as well as inventor of Pong, will be celebrated through an exhibition at San Franceschetto, an old oratory in Piazza San Francesco.

Inside the exhibit area some of Atari's rarest coin-ops and many other goodies. Bushnell will be a guest on opening day in a live Twitch on the festival's channel. On 29th October he will participate in the panel "The Evolution of Video Games". On 31st Nolas will talk about his career during "Nolan Bushnell - The videogame legend" and finally on 1st November he will be at the center of the "New Horizons" round table discussing the future of video games.

**Riot Games** will return to Lucca Comics & Games, once again choosing the Ex Museo del Fumetto as its base of operations in a project that will put attendees as the protagonist in a series of activities. This includes the only merch-store in Europe with official Riot Games merchandise, cosplay inspired by League of Legends and Valorant characters, a cosplaying and make-up workshop on the most famous Riot Games characters in collaboration with M-A-C Cosmetics.

To celebrate its presence at Lucca Comics & Games, Riot Games have commissioned comic book artist Giovanni Timpano to create artwork dedicated to its most iconic characters immersed within Lucca itself.

Another very important Guest of Honor will be **Yoshitaka Amano**, Japanese illustrator and character designer, famous both for animated films such as Vampire Hunter D and for having signed logos and illustrations of the award-winning Final Fantasy series. He is the creator of iconic characters in world animation such as Gatchaman, Tekkaman: The Space Knight, or Casshan. Yoshitaka Amano will also be engaged in a series of panels, live performances, and public meetings, details of which we will soon be unveiled.

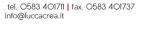
**Sony Interactive Entertainment Italia** (PlayStation) returns to Lucca Comics & Games, and will be launching a number of acitivites at Piazza Anfiteatro with more details to be released in the coming days.

**e Italian Esports Open** will return to Lucca at the **Esport Cathedral** in Piazza San Romano, hosted once again by ProGaming Italia. Key gaming events and tournaments taking place will include **Pokémon**, **League of Legends**, **Valorant** and **Rocket League**.

Lucca Comics & Games will also be a part of the **Medion Erazer European tour**, the new brand of gaming PCs, which will allow gamers to compete at organized tournaments with the most important titles of the moment, entering the super-tech truck that is criss-crossing Europe, which will stop for 5 days outside Porta Sant'Anna.

Nintendo will bring a series Nintendo Switch titles to Lucca Comics & Games; the very popular Bayonetta 3, Splatoon 3, Nintendo Switch Sports, Mario Kart 8 Deluxe and Mario Strikers: Battle League Football.









Great prominence will be given to the Pokémon brand, in anticipation of the upcoming games **Pokémon Scarlet** and **Pokémon Violet**, coming 18th November on **Nintendo Switch**.

The Nintendo stand in Piazza Bernardini will also be the meeting point for the Big N's major communities and all fans of the Pokémon world.

Space is also given to independent software houses such as Trinity Team Games, which is chronicling the videogame dedicated to the cinematography of Bud Spencer and Terence Hill with the successful title Bud Spencer & Terence Hill: Slaps And Beans, and other projects that explore the potential of videogames as a territorial and historical communication tool.

Attendees at Lucca will also to enjoy the "Cosplay Garden" at the Giardino degli Osservanti, a crossroads of Italian communities, with a special area dedicated to photos, a series of installations and many entertainment activities such as parades and quizzes with the public. Spider-Man and Lady Oscar gatherings are also planned.

Finally, Lucca will also be offering guests a unique and ambitious project; **R.E.C.** (**Relevant Electronic Content**). Produced in collaboration with leading industry players R.E.C is a cultural program dedicated to the video game industry, designed to bring fans closer to the brands they love, allowing them to observe the "behind the scenes" of the video game industry through a series of appointments with developers, creatives, illustrators, concept designers and all kinds of industry professionals.

R.E.C. will allow fans to meet and engage with all of the festival's guests, creating, unique and decidedly special occasions that will put figures such as Nolan Bushnell (founder of Atari), Yoshitaka Amano (illustrator and character designer), Davide Soliani (Creative Director of Ubisoft) and his Mario + Rabbids: Sparks of Hope, but also a large representation of the creative and development teams of CD Projekt Red, Riot and the other protagonists.

The #roadtolucca does not end here: in the coming month we will continue to announce guests, editorial news, events and details about the cultural program, and we will constantly update our website. Stay tuned!

For additional information, please contact:

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We believe in #Community #Inclusion #Respect #Discovery #Gratitude

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