

# LUCCA COMICS & GAMES 2022: THE UNMISSABLE EVENTS OF THE HOPE EDITION

**The five-day festival of must-see pop culture events kicks off today**

**Lucca, Italy, October 28, 2022: Lucca Comics & Games 2022**, a unique and multifaceted event, loved and created by the hundreds of thousands of visitors who each year gather in one of the most iconic historic centers in the world has kicked off. This is the 56th year of magic. *Hope* is this year's theme, illustrated in the poster signed by the master of imaginative realism, Ted Nasmith.

Between virtual and real, digital and analog, ink and makeup, screens and stages, everything is ready to unleash a cultural proposal designed to go beyond the expectations of comics, manga, gaming, video games, cinema, TV series, animation, anime, cosplay and fantasy fiction fans. The five-day event aims to stimulate community participation, and is also designed to be seen by those who cannot attend, via the Lucca Comics & Games Twitch channel.

## MOVIES AND TV SERIES

Among the most anticipated surprises of the Movie Area is the appearance of one of the most symbolic directors of our time, **Tim Burton**, who, in collaboration with Netflix, arrives in Lucca to present the European Premiere of the first episode of *Wednesday*, the highly anticipated TV series.

Also returning to Lucca Comics & Games is Prime Video, with some of the stars of *The Lord of the Rings: The Rings of Power*. **Cynthia Addai-Robinson**, **Ismael Cruz Cordova** and **Sophia Nomvete**, who will meet the Lucca audience in a special panel on Sunday, October 30.

Disney+ are attending with two exciting Lucasfilm projects: *Willow*, the all-new live-action fantasy adventure series based on the classic 1988 film directed by Ron Howard, and *Andor*, Lucasfilm's newest series exploring a new perspective on the Star Wars galaxy. Presenting them will be some of the key players in Lucca.

There will be many previews, from the highly anticipated *One Piece Film: Red* in the presence of director **Gorō Taniguchi**, accompanied by a series of initiatives dedicated to fans of the crew of *Straw Hat*, to the World Premiere of the fantasy-action *Dampyr*, as well as the directors of *Dungeons & Dragons*, **Jonathan Goldstein** and **John Francis Daley**, who will show the audience some exclusive images.

## THE CONCERTS AND THE MUSIC & COMICS ARENA

At Lucca Comics & Games, the Music Area has never stopped, but finally this year it is possible to physically party together! The stage of excellence is the Music & Comics Arena. Among the not-to-be-missed events is *The Witcher 3: Wild Hunt* concert, produced in collaboration with the Teatro del Giglio, scheduled for Oct. 28. **Eimear Noone** author of 26 film and video game soundtracks, including *World of Warcraft* will be conducting. On Saturday 29, symphonic power metal from the legendary band *Rhapsody of Fire* takes the stage.

## THE BEST OF COMICS

The world of comics returns in all its varied nuances, touching every corner of the globe and bringing the great international masters of the Ninth Art back to Lucca Comics & Games.

Lucca Comics & Games 2022 marks the great return of mangaka to Italy: Norihiro Yagi (Star Comics), author of *Ariadne In The Blue Sky* as well as the dark fantasy *Claymore*; Nagabe (J-Pop Manga), author of the million-plus-copy hit *Girl From The Other Side*; and Atsushi Ohkubo, author of such worldwide hits as *Soul Eater* and *Fire Force*.

**Chester B. Cebulski**, Marvel's editor in chief, will return to Lucca Comics & Games 2022 to conduct scouting activities in Area Pro, the space that offers aspiring comic book artists the opportunity to show their work to publishers, and to participate in events related to the Marvel world, including Spider-Man celebrations.

**Paco Roca** will also return to Lucca to celebrate 15 years since the publication in *France of Wrinkles*, one of the most significant graphic novels of this century. Kenny Ruiz will present *Team Phoenix* in collaboration with RW Goen, an action/pop retelling of master **Osamu Tezuka's** masterpieces. Others bringing their latest creations or special editions of historic titles to Lucca Comics & Games 2022 are Lee Bermejo, Brian Azzarello, Arnaud Dollen and Jérôme Alquié, Marcello Quintanilha, and Miguel Repiso. Italians Resiswnt, Zerocalcare, Leo Ortolani, Sio, Dado, Fraffrog and Giacomo Keison Bevilacqua also attend.

## VIDEO GAMES

Videogames is also starring in Lucca Comics & Games 2022.

**CD Projekt Red** has chosen Lucca to celebrate its 20th anniversary. The Museo & Art Gallery project dedicated to the Polish software house's celebrations, which will be celebrated at Villa Bottini, where an interactive art trail dedicated to the company's two decades will unfold.

**Riot Games** will return to Lucca Comics & Games in grand style, once again choosing as its base of operations the Ex Museo del Fumetto in a project that sees its community as protagonists thanks to a series of activities dedicated primarily to fans.

Among the main guests will be **Nolan Bushnell**, who will celebrate Atari's 50th anniversary with dedicated panels and meetings; **Yoshitaka Amano**, among the most influential illustrators and character designers of his generation; and Italian Creative Director **Davide Soliani**, who will talk about the great work behind 'Mario + Rabbids'. The Italian Esports Open returns with activities and content dedicated to the world of video games and in particular esport, inside the Esport Cathedral in Piazza San Romano, as always managed by ProGaming Italia.

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

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