



**A WORD FROM THE EDITOR**

We had fun time at the picnic. So much fun I forgot to take pictures. Thanks for everyone who came and helped out.

This was a great year for SFFH at the Florida Film Festival. I take a short look at those films. Lets get some more films next year.

The Nebulas have moved to Sunday May 14. They will be online. I will post a link on the social media and via email.

**Events**

**Hero Comic Con**

May 5-7  
 Caloosa Sound Convention Center and Amphitheater  
 1375 Monroe Street  
 Fort Myers, FL 33901  
 \$50 for the weekend

- Guests: Adassa (actor-singer)  
 Sam Jones (actor)  
 James O'Barr (comic writer and artist)  
 Spencer Wilding (actor)  
 Dmitrius Bistrevsky (actor)  
 C. Andrew Nelson (actor)  
 Tait Fletcher (actor)  
 Stan Bush (singer-songwriter)  
 Paul Eiding (voice actor)  
 Chuck Huber (voice actor)  
 Joshua Seth (voice actor)  
 And many more

[theheroconvention.com](http://theheroconvention.com)

**Apopkon**

May 6  
 221 S Binion Rd,  
 Apopka, FL 32703  
 \$25 at the door

- Guests: Tom Guiry (actor)  
 Nick Gomez (actor)  
 John Morris (voice actor)  
 Phil Moore (TV Host)  
 Max Adler (TV Host)  
 Todd W. Langen (screenwriter)  
 Robert Dunne (actor)  
 And many more

[www.apopkon.com](http://www.apopkon.com)

**Spooly Empire**

May 19-21  
 Doubletree by Hilton  
 5780 Major Blvd  
 Orlando, FL 32819  
 \$75 for the weekend pre-registration , \$80 at the door

- Guests: Millie Bobby Brown (actor)  
 Butch Patrick (actor)  
 Danny Lloyd (actor)  
 Lloyd Kaufman (film maker)  
 Lin Shaye (actor)  
 Thomas Rickman (actor)  
 Samantha Scaffidi (actor)  
 Paul Wiley (composer guitarist)  
 Tsutomu Kitagawa (actor)  
 Hurricane Ryu (artist)  
 Mizuho Yoshida (actor)  
 Brian Van Holt (actor)  
 Jon Abrahams (actor)  
 Tom O'Connell (actor)  
 C.J. Graham (actor)  
 Max Laferriere (actor)  
 Mizuho Yoshida (actor)  
 Lew Temple (actor)  
 Bonnie Morgan (actor)  
 Oliver Robins (actor)  
 Craig David Dowsett (actor)  
 Amber Doig-Thorne (actor)  
 Heather Matarazzo (actor)  
 Alyssa Sutherland (actor)  
 and many more

[megaconvention.com](http://megaconvention.com)

**Mizucon**

May 28-30  
 Hilton Blue Lagoon Miami Airport Hotel  
 5151 Blue Lagoon Drive  
 Miami, FL

- Guest: Jen Brown (voice actor)  
 Landon McDonald (voice actor)

\$40 3 Days  
[mizucon.com](http://mizucon.com)

## May OASFiS Calendar

### OASFiS Business Meeting

Sunday, May 14, 1:30 PM, Jean Rhein Central Branch Library 215 N. Oxford Road Casselberry, Florida 32707. Meeting room will be on the first floor. It will also be on Zoom (please email Juan for info) Come join us as we discuss the **Sunshine** by Robin Mckinley

### SciFi Light

TBD. Please check website

### *The Mountain in the Sea*

by  
Ray Nayler

The search for intelligent life in Science Fiction usually goes to other worlds. What if we looked at our own planet? Ray Nayler takes us to the near future on the coast of Vietnam, where a scientist tries to communicate with a species of octopus.

During a tourist dive at a shipwreck near the archipelago of Con Dao, one of the divers was killed by an octopus. The way the diver was attacked indicated deliberate action. DIANIMA, a powerful corporation, buys up the Con Dao islands and pays its inhabitants to relocate. DIANIMA sets up a research facility led by marine biologist Dr. Ha Nguyen. Altantsetseg, the head of security on the island, and Evrim, the world's first android built by DIANIMA, are there to support Ha. DIANIMA hopes that by understanding the nature of the octopuses, they can increase their knowledge of artificial intelligences.

At the same time, we follow Eiko, a Japanese computer programmer. He was looking to work for DIANIMA in the Ho Chi Minh City Autonomous Trade Zone. He is kidnapped and taken to an illegal fishing trawler. Eiko, and others who were also brought against their will, are there to process the fish. Mercenaries guard the forced laborers, and the ship's operation is controlled by an artificial intelligence. Escape is a long shot.

Ha has devoted her life to investigating marine life. She has even published a book, *How Oceans Think*, and its passages lead most of the novel's chapters. Ha is still dealing with what happened at another research project. She did not anticipate all the consequences of her actions on the previous project. Ha is working to prevent that, and not endanger the octopus group she is studying.

Evrim is a stoic being. This android is referred to in the novel with non-binary pronouns. Even though Evrim's existence has enraged many around the world, they deal with the situation dispassionately. Their creator and DIANIMA's owner Dr Arnkatia Mínerudóttir hope his skills can help Ha with her work. Evrim does not have a great goal in mind like Data in *Star Trek: Next Generation*. They do not have any quirks like Murderbot from the works of Martha Wells. Evrim is trying to figure themselves out while working the task at hand.

Eiko feels that it was his lack of empathy that led him to his current situation. He was too self-absorbed to see what was going around him. He hopes to never do that again and starts bonding with a fellow prisoner, one who coincidentally is from Con Dao. Eiko pays close attention to the ship's routine to find a way to get off it.

The plot has got a lot going on. Eiko and his fellow prisoners try to take their ship. We follow Ha, Evrim, and

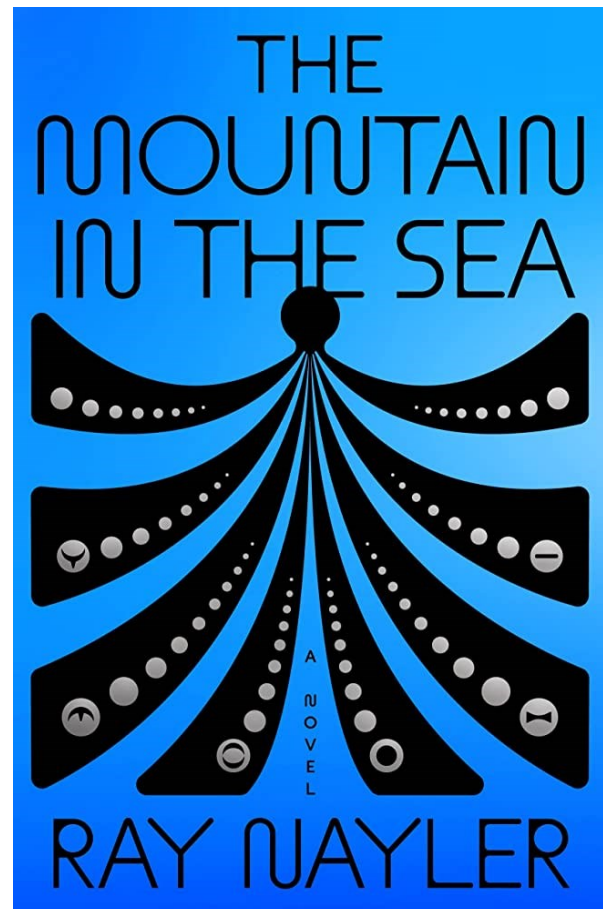
## OASFiS People

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Juan Sanmiguel	407-823-8715 sanmiguel@earthlink.net

Any of these people can give readers information about the club and its functions. To be included in the list call Juan

Altantsetseg as they work on Con Dao with the octopuses. They have to be careful dealing with the octopuses to not antagonize them. Altantsetseg, with drone technology, protects the island from any trespassers, such as ships that Eiko are on.

This is a great novel, because it tries to define what intelligence is, and illustrates the difficulties of communicating with different life forms. The science feels plausible, and the questions being asked are deep. Because I read this novel, octopus is now off my menu.



Florida Film Fest Mini Reviews

**Mavka: The Forest Song** - This is a Ukrainian Computer Generated Imagary (CGI) film. Set in a steampunk past, Mavka is a forest spirit that protect her home from harm. She falls for a human musician Luckash. Mavka and Luckash are in the middle of fight between their worlds. Can they make a peace for all? The animation is beautiful. There is an over the top villain who does a good job stirring up trouble. This studio should make more films, currently they are giving refuge to those displayed by the war.

**Moon Garden** -During a fight between her parents, Emma, a five year old girl, falls down and slips into a coma. Emma finds herself in a very dark world. Her mother’s voice is her only guide and she is pursued by a monster. Can she find a way out? This reminds one of Phil Tippet’s **Mad God**. The world Emma is in a well designed nightmare. Haven Lee Harris does a great job portraying Emma.

**The Artifice Girl**— A scientist builds an AI to gather evidence against child predators. The film is divided into three parts. We are introduce the AI Cherry, we debate the issues around her existence, and there is a resolution. The film was made in Jacksonville, FL. Tatum Matthews conveys a sense of inhumanness as Cherry. There is also a great performance by Lance Herniksen as Cherry’s creator in the last act. This is a great look at what are the consequences of creating something

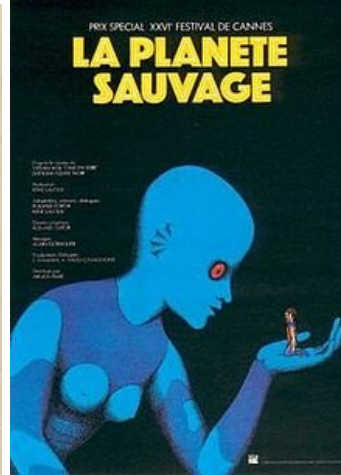
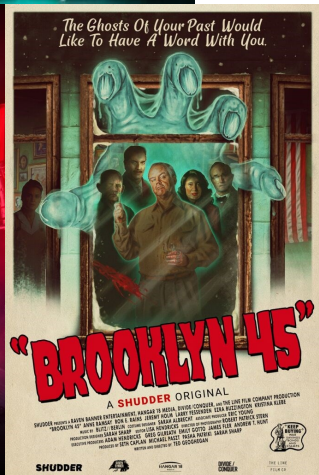
that is sentient.

**Unicorn Boy**—Matty, a struggling artist gets taken to a fantasy world after a breakup. There Matty goes to fight for that world. This is traditional animation. The characters are caricatures and the world has a very trippy look. It is a fun film about a character trying to figure themselves out.

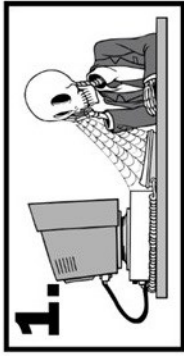
**The Angry Black Girl and Her Monster**— Vicaria is a smart teenager. She believes death can conquered. Her brother is murdered and Vicaria will do anything to bring back him to life. This a great take on **Frankenstein** while bringing up issues that are many people in the US have to deal with. This was well filmed and paced. This a great twist on the story.

**Brooklyn 45**– In December 1945, a group of veterans gather in a Brooklyn brownstone to support a friend. A séance is performed and these friends must face the ghosts of their past. Most of the film was film in one room. This films wants to shows the complexity of World War II. We get a stark look at the war and how it made people do unpleasant things at home and abroad.

**Fantastic Planet**—In the far future, humans (known as Oms) have become pets to alien giants called Traags. A boy raised as pet becomes part of a movement to free humanity. This was a 2d animated story. The images are compelling and the ending is still mind blowing.



# There are two ways to be a science fiction and fantasy fan in Florida.



Read about the exciting fan activities other people are doing.

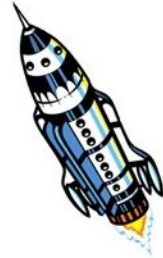


Start doing exciting things yourself, and meet new friends "in the flesh" with OASFIS!

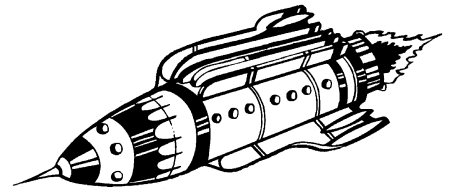


Were OASFIS-the Orlando Area Science Fiction Society. We enjoy and promote Science Fiction, Fantasy, Horror, books, movies, TV series, costuming, gaming, - every part of the most imaginative hobby in existence. Bring your unique fan interests to life and share them with Florida's fan community. We work with other fan organizations to bring our passions to life. Visit our monthly meetings...and help shape Fandom's future by joining OASFIS. Individual and Family memberships are available. If you're tired of just sitting, you're welcome at OASFIS...no bones about it!

**Besides out monthly meetings, read about our special events and activities on our website! Members can contribute articles, reviews, and original fiction to our newzine *Event Horizon*. We want to hear from you!**



**OASFIS: The Orlando Area Science Fiction Society**  
**[www.oasfis.org](http://www.oasfis.org)**



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