Despite being physically forced away from William S. Hart Park and onto the internet by the corona virus pandemic, the 2021 Newhallywood Silent Film Festival, which was held online in February, proved to be a big hit. After the successful debut of the festival in 2020, it was decided by founder and FOHP board member E.J. Stephens, working in concert with Phil Lantis from the City of Santa Clarita's Arts and Events office, that this year's festival, with the theme of "Silent Scandals and Tragedies," would still go on - but this time in cyberspace.

The three-day festival was held over Valentine's Day weekend, and consisted of several Zoom interviews with silent film experts hosted by Stephens, including ones with film critic Leonard Maltin and Lobster Films owner Serge Bromberg, who called in all the way from Paris. FOHP board member Bill West conducted a Zoom interview with fellow board member Jeff Wheat and Roger Basham on the life of William S. Hart.

The festival organizers are already planning for next year's festival, which - pandemic permitting - will once again be held live and in person at William S. Hart Park.