

MOVIES REVIEWS

The Outre Eye of Daniel XIII

Featuring: Madhouse (1981), The Lawnmower Man (1992), Death Line (1972), and more!

By DANIEL XIII 7th July 2017

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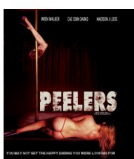


Peelers (2016)

After an effective sequence where a mysterious man vomits and turns into a zombie in a dark hospital, things start in earnest in the newest entry in the strip club horror genre: *Peelers* from director/co-writer Sevè Schelezn (with a screenplay from Lisa DeVita). Following that bit of freaky fun we are introduced to the denizens of a rural strip joint, owned and operated by the no nonsense Blue Jean, on it's final night of operation. Let me stop the sinister synopsis right here and say that these characters are instantly likable, an important element a lot of modern fright flick maestros seem to forget...we need to actually like the people that are about to meet their doom, or the whole affair becomes an exercise in hollow tedium...moving on. In the audience of the club this fateful night are a group of miners who have recently discovered oil in the town's coal mine...a strange occurrence which of course is not as it seems as the vicious black liquid has infected these blokes and is turning them into bloodthirsty pseudo-zombies, of course the infection spreads and these ghastly ghouls begin shredding strippers (and patrons) in the most over-the-top ways possible! Blood (and other fluids) spray six ways to Sunday as our comely heroes (and a few dudes as well) try and keep on livin'!

Look, from the beginning I've laid it on the line for you cats about what really gets me revved up in a fright flick; namely the unholy trinity: boobs, blood, and bad guys. Well, I'm happy to report that *Peelers* has all three; you get gobs of grizzly gore splashed across the sinister screen (most utilizing glorious practical effects), mounds of mammaries, and hordes or ravenous monsters (with a unique origin no less) ready and willing to cause all manner of chaos! Along with that awesomeness you get a film that while doubtless produced on a lower budget sure as hell doesn't look as though it was! The sheer amount of effects, not to mention things like including more sets than just the club (which is where the action would be contained exclusively in most film's of this ilk), make this seem like a high budget production and while that never really factors in to my enjoyment of a film, it certainly took me by (pleasant) surprise! And while the story may involve classic tropes of our beloved horror biz ("zombies" attacking a group of folks in a single location), the diversity of effects, strong performances, and fun storytelling (a female lead that goes straight into kick-ass mode when faced with a nightmare scenario was a nice change of pace); which deftly balances laughs and scares without ever swaying into "wink wink" satire, make the whole affair seem fresh...oh, and the method of dispatching our not-so-merry monsters is creative as well, but you'll have to watch the flick to learn more about that!

Crude, gory, sexy, and most of all fun as f**k. *Peelers* is a fright flick you need to feast your putrid peepers on post-god damn-haste!



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