

PENANCE (DVD) – INDEPENDENT MEDIA DISTRIBUTION

50/100

This movie had gone through a title change before its release to make it less of a "B-movie-esque moniker". That is readily admitted on the accompanying press release. If indeed this is something Penance is trying to avoid being then for starters someone on the crew should have noticed the spelling error in the movie's epilogue. Plot-wise Penance is a story of a single mother who while trying to land a make-over prize and turn around her life stumbles into and becomes a stripper and through bad luck gets mistaken for another stripper which then lands her into a torture house to be 'purified'. The whole story is seen through the lens of hand held digital camcorders, which somehow seem to be available to everybody, even those imprisoned and tortured. The unrated version includes a couple of scenes that won't be seen in mainstream movies but otherwise this is neither scary nor overly violent.

Oh and by the way the movie was originally called The Devil's Dungeon.

- Anna Tergel