

10 ^{Random} QUESTIONS WITH AISLINN CLARKE

BY JAY KAY



Here at *HorrorHound*, we occasionally like to throw crazy questions at directors within the horror community – unusual, off-the-wall, and commonly dumb queries – in a little article series we call 10 Random Questions. In the past, we have interviewed such names as Jemaine Clement, James Gunn, and Issa López. This issue, we decided to take aim at indie director Aislinn Clarke – a director on the rise as of late. Finding an audience with her tense storytelling and ability to cultivate dread, her debut feature *The Devil's Doorway* has been unleashed through IFC Midnight. *The Devil's Doorway* unearths the dark secrets of a 1960s Northern Ireland home for fallen women by two priests sent in to investigate a miracle. Crafting a narrative that is part dark drama, part supernatural, and entirely atmospheric horror storytelling, this feature utilizes the found-footage platform in a haunting and honest way. Here is Aislinn's reaction to our 10 "random" questions!

HorrorHound: What film has stuck with you from childhood?

Aislinn Clarke: I saw so many horror films in the '80s as the youngest of four with a dad who loved horror, but the one that sticks best is Ken Russell's *The Devils*. It was not shown to me (obviously), but I caught it on late-night TV when my parents were on holiday. I watched it because of the title, assuming it would be a straight horror film, and it mesmerized and disturbed me on a very deep level. I will not get over Vanessa Redgrave's crawling nun.

HH: Where do you sit in a movie theater?

AC: Middle, always.

HH: Has your work looked its best on digital or actual film?

AC: Oh, film, of course! In fact, most of my films have been made on film. I started out by making 8mm films by myself, and I've shot on 16mm and 35mm. I don't think a digital filter ever quite catches the quality of film. It sounds pretentious, but it's a hill I'll gladly die on.

HH: Do you still have your favorite toy from childhood?

AC: I have a She-Ra (remember her?) that I've had since I was 6.

HH: What is a must for craft service?

AC: Good coffee. Please just give me the GOOD coffee. At least give me actual coffee. I can't do instant and I need caffeine.

HH: High IQ or photographic memory? Why?

AC: Photographic memory. My memory is crap. Anyway, aren't IQ tests inaccurate and filled with cultural and social bias? I can't remember.

HH: If you had to choose between a butter

knife, a salad fork, or a soup spoon to fight off a zombie horde, which one would you grab?

AC: Why am I wasting time rifling through a kid-safe cutlery drawer? I'd run. Most zombies are slow. If I have to pick, because I'm in a corner or something, I'd go for the fork and stab it into my own brain seeing as I've no chance now anyway.

HH: Do you have any keepsakes from any of the locations in your film work?

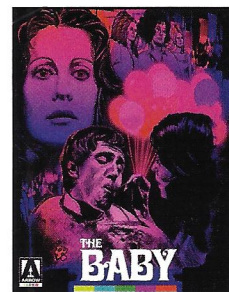
AC: I always keep something. I have a drawing of the Childer from *Childer* that my art director made for part of the set. I also have the origami swans from the kitchen wall and the paper hat Mark wears in the first scene. I have one of the upside down crosses and John's camera from *The Devil's Doorway*.

HH: What is the weirdest thing that you have ever seen in someone's house?

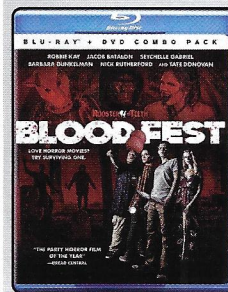
AC: Ketchup in the fridge. I don't care what the bottle says. Also, furry toilet seat covers give me the horrors. One childhood friend had a glass door in the bathroom, right opposite the toilet. It was frosted, but you could still see the shape of people in there. Wrong. So wrong.

HH: What is the scariest film you have seen recently?

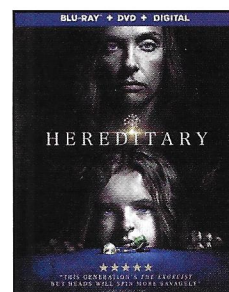
AC: *Hereditary*. I had nightmares for days. For me, a big part of the dread in that film was the feeling of procrastination. The mother ignoring the e-mails from the gallery, the son going to bed and avoiding the inevitable after the turning point incident (no spoilers!), those moments that reflect emotions we have all experienced really built up a sense of dread in a way that felt totally fresh.



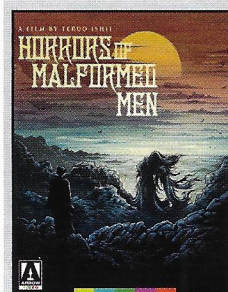
The Baby
Available: September 25th
Studio: Arrow Video
Includes: New commentary by Travis Crawford, new film retrospective, archival audio interviews, and more.



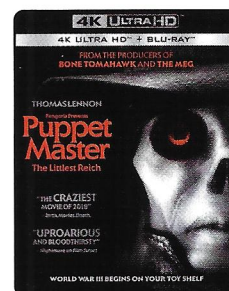
Blood Fest
Available: October 2nd
Studio: Cinedigm
About: A fun horror comedy about a Halloween festival that turns deadly, as a group of friends fight to survive.



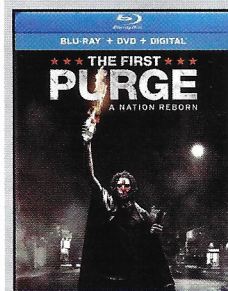
Hereditary
Available: Now Available
Studio: Lionsgate Films
Includes: Deleted scenes, "Cursed: The True Nature of Hereditary" featurette, and a photo gallery.



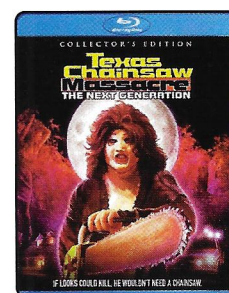
Horrors of Malformed Men
Available: Now Available
Studio: Arrow Video
Includes: A 2K restoration, two audio commentaries, retrospective memories of Teruo Ishii, and more.



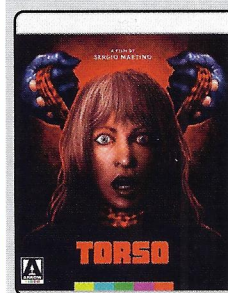
Puppet Master: The Littlest Reich
Available: September 25th
Studio: Image Entertainment
About: The iconic killer puppets wreak havoc at a morbid small-town convention.



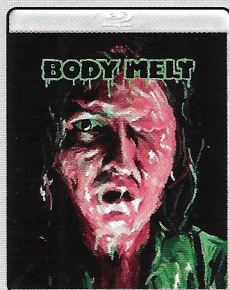
The First Purge
Available: October 2nd
Studio: Universal Studios
Includes: A deleted scene and three featurettes (revolving around the making of the film and the masks).



Texas Chainsaw Massacre: The Next Generation
Available: September 25th
Studio: Shout! Factory
Includes: Newly produced features (TBA) in this Matthew McConaughey film.

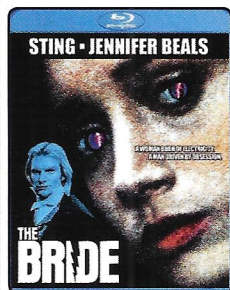


Torso
Available: October 30th
Studio: Arrow Video
Includes: A 2K restoration, Kat Ellinger commentary, new video interviews with cast/crew, and more.



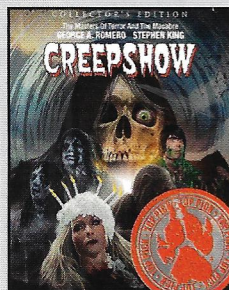
Body Melt

Available: September 25th
Studio: Vinegar Syndrome
Includes: A 2K restoration, writer/director commentary, featurette, behind the scenes, gallery, and more.



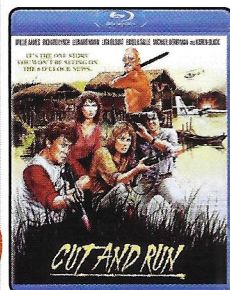
The Bride

Available: September 25th
Studio: Shout! Factory
About: Starring Sting, this film follows Frankenstein's creations as they search for their place in the world.



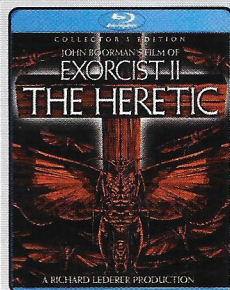
Creepshow

Available: October 23rd
Studio: Shout! Factory
Includes: Sourced from a brand-new remaster of the film, this set will include exclusive new bonus features TBA.



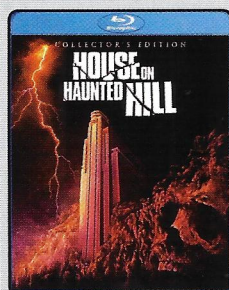
Cut and Run

Available: October 16th
Studio: Code Red
Includes: A 2K remaster, unrated and R-rated versions of the film, plus all-new cast/director interviews.



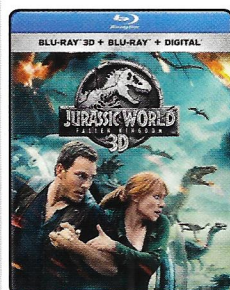
Exorcist II: The Heretic

Available: September 25th
Studio: Shout! Factory
Includes: High-definition transfers of two cuts of the film, as well as a brand-new interview with Linda Blair.



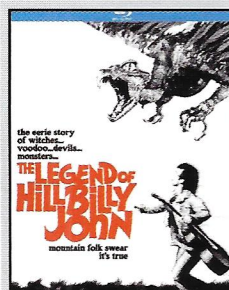
House on Haunted Hill

Available: October 9th
Studio: Shout! Factory
Includes: A new remaster of the film, along with an exclusive new interview with director William Malone.



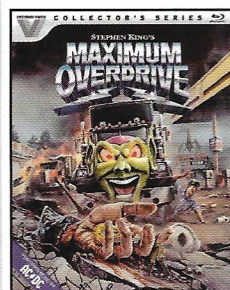
Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom

Available: Now Available
Studio: Universal Studios
Includes: Tons of featurettes, on the film's production, SFX, franchise history, and more.



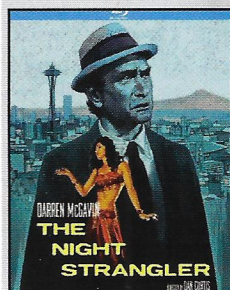
The Legend of Hillbilly John

Available: September 25th
Studio: Kino Lorber
About: An interview with Star Hedges Capers, film historian commentary, and the original theatrical trailer.



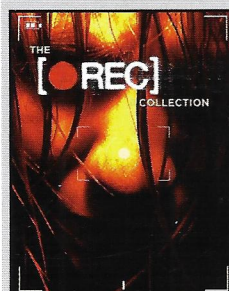
Maximum Overdrive

Available: October 23rd
Studio: Lionsgate Films
Includes: Two audio commentaries, interviews, featurettes, the restoration of the Goblin, and much more.



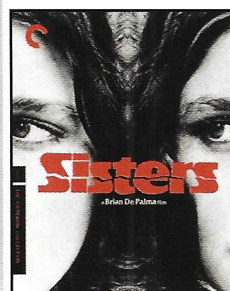
The Night Strangler

Available: October 2nd
Studio: Kino Lorber
Includes: A 4K restoration of the film, historian commentary, composer interview, featurette, and more.



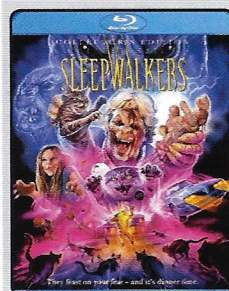
The [REC] Collection

Available: September 25th
Studio: Shout! Factory
Includes: All four [REC] films with director commentaries on the first two movies, deleted scenes, and much more.



Sisters

Available: October 23rd
Studio: Criterion
Includes: A 4K restoration approved by Brian De Palma, new and vintage interviews, and a 1973 AFI special.



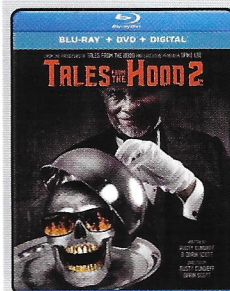
Sleepwalkers

Available: November 6th
Studio: Shout! Factory
About: A vampire-like story of a mother and son who move to a small town with eyes on a pretty young virgin.



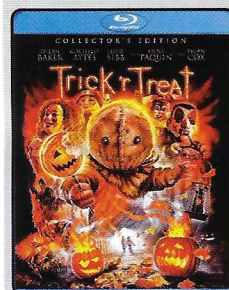
The Spiral Staircase

Available: October 2nd
Studio: Kino Lorber
Includes: A 4K remaster, film historian audio commentary, and a radio broadcast of *The Spiral Staircase*.



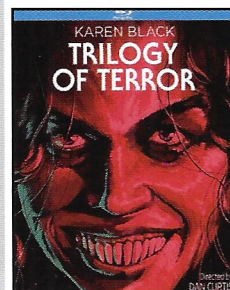
Tales from the Hood 2

Available: October 2nd
Studio: Universal Studios
About: Horror is back in the hood with this anthology that presents stories with psychics, dolls, and ghosts.



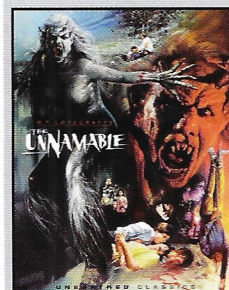
Trick 'r Treat

Available: October 9th
Studio: Shout! Factory
Includes: No extras have yet to be announced for this Collector's Edition of the 2008 anthology film.



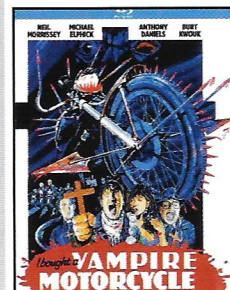
Trilogy of Terror

Available: October 16th
Studio: Kino Lorber
About: A new 4K restoration, historian commentary, composer interview, featurettes, and a booklet essay.



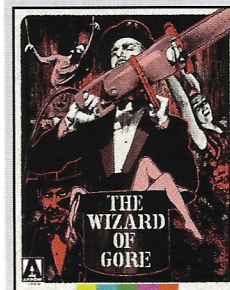
The Unnamable

Available: October 9th
Studio: Unearthed Films
About: A group of college students are drawn to a spooky old house that's rumored to be haunted.



I Bought a Vampire Motorcycle

Available: October 23rd
Studio: Kino Lorber
Includes: A 4K remaster, a documentary, two featurettes, and original trailer.



The Wizard of Gore

Available: November 13th
Studio: Arrow Video
Includes: H.G. Lewis commentary, interview with actor Ray Sager, a bonus film: *How to Make a Doll*, and more.

DVD & Blu-ray Release Schedule

A week-by-week rundown of notable DVD and BD titles:

September 25, 2018

Absurd (BD)
The Baby (BD)
Body Melt (DVD+BD)
The Cyclops (BD)
Battle in Outer Space (BD)
The Bride (BD)
Exorcist II: The Heretic (BD)
The House on Tombstone Hill (DVD+BD)
King Cohen (DVD+BD)
The Legend of Hillbilly John (BD)
Preacher: Season 3 (DVD+BD)
Puppet Master: The Littlest Reich (DVD+BD)
Queen of Outer Space (BD)
The [REC] Collection (BD)
The Row (BD)
The Swarm (BD)
Texas Chainsaw Massacre: The Next Generation (BD)

October 2, 2018

Blood Fest (DVD+BD)
Devil's Doorway (DVD+BD)
Feral (DVD+BD)
The First Purge (DVD+BD)
I Heard the Owl Call My Name (DVD+BD)
The Night Strangler (DVD+BD)
The Spiral Staircase (BD)
Tales from the Hood 2 (DVD+BD)

October 9, 2018

The Forest of the Lost Souls (DVD+BD)
House on Haunted Hill (BD)
Hotel Transylvania 3 (DVD+BD)
Trick 'r Treat (BD)
The Unnamable (DVD+BD)

October 16, 2018

Cut and Run (BD)
Down a Dark Hall (DVD+BD)
The Ghost of Sierra de Cobre (DVD+BD)
Schlock (BD)
Trilogy of Terror (DVD+BD)
Unfriended: Dark Web (DVD+BD)

October 23, 2018

Blood and Black Lace (DVD+BD)
Creepshow (BD)
Deadbeat at Dawn (BD)
I Bought a Vampire Motorcycle (DVD+BD)
Maximum Overdrive (BD)
Sisters (BD)

October 30, 2018

Our House (DVD+BD)
Torso (BD)
The Wasp Woman (BD)

November 6, 2018

Mara (DVD+BD)
Sleepwalkers (BD)

November 13, 2018

The Fifth Floor (BD)
Maniac (BD)
Single White Female (BD)
Wizard of Gore (BD)

* DVD or Blu-ray formats are indicated in parentheses.
 ** Release dates subject to change.