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Case Number 21383: Small Claims Court



Anywhere, USA

[Cinevolve Studios](#) // 2010 // 107 Minutes // Not Rated
 Reviewed by Judge Patrick Rogers // May 20th, 2011

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All Rise...

Judge Patrick Rogers wishes he had an awesome mustache.

The Charge

"Part satire, part tragedy, part masterpiece theatre gone awry..."

The Case

Anywhere, USA is a tale told in three disjointed parts, the first detailing the trials and tribulations of a man to win back his girlfriend with the help of a midget friend with a penchant for racism and cocaine. The second of innocence within a little girl as she comes to realize that the tooth fairy isn't real. The third and final vignette upper class, mid-life malaise and the struggle for a thoroughly un-hip and painfully white man to make a friend.

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film where the director goes by a single name; in this instance it's Ashville director "Chusy." There's nothing than a filmmaker with a moniker, and it's an air of condescension that seeps its way into a good measure of there on the back of the case it states for itself that this will be about "passive racism, geo-political vagaries, faith and disappointment."

That's all well and good, but the reality of the matter is that the film doesn't address these matters in any er substantial way, shape or form. The three parts of the film don't go together in any conceivable way except character connections within the narrative and a stylistic motif of absurdity. The aim to unveil the absurdity ; nature of American society is too scattershot and unfocused to ever make you stand and take notice. "Chusy Robert Altman ([Nashville](#), [Short Cuts](#)).



The whole endeavor comes off as a fever dream of a grating hipster who's had too much Pabst Blue Ribbon, decided to jot down a film idea on a bar room napkin with a Sharpie. However, and what ultimately saves th pomp is that it's just too much fun and too off-beat to not enjoy the unique vision that "Chusy" has given us

While it makes no substantial claims about an American lifestyle, identity, or society that hasn't been done for **Anywhere, USA** still brings a sense of uniqueness and madcap delight to the table that can't be denied. Th describe "Chusy" and his directing/editing style would be to call him a Southern Fried Roger Avary ([Killing 2 Attraction](#)).



The director has populated his film with amateur actors who delight in crafting grotesque representations of American culture and society. It is ultimately these unforgettable performances, the off-beat classical score and formalist editing techniques that save the film from being just another pretentious and clichéd look into the American culture and society. While the film's central aim is stale and DOA, the uniqueness of "Chusy's" vision can be denied. I can't wait to see what he might do once he knocks his own ego down a peg or two.

This DVD has incredible clarity considering the low budget aspirations of the film. The color palette of the film is faithfully reproduced, especially in the skin tones and set design. It's not going to blow you away, but it can be complained about either. The sound, again, works for the disc. This is not a deafening 5.1 surround sound, but the helicopters in the background, though the track does really let the warped score of the film shine.

The special features are what you would expect. There is a director's commentary that is slightly dry but certainly not as bad as many of them. "Chusy" has some enlightening facts to share, both about the film itself and some tidbits. There's your standard "Making Of" featurette, a short little snippet of the director talking at the Jacks Festival and assorted trailers. It's not a robust selection of special features but it gets the job done.

The Verdict

Not Guilty.

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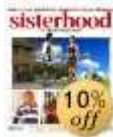
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