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## House of the Flesh Mannequins

2009

[Elite Entertainment, Inc.](#)

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The Best Price is Still Your Standing

Rarely does a film come around and give me any kind of a shocking punch; well *House of the Flesh Mannequins* did just that. This is a very slow moving and explicit movie. For once the warning on the box to be honest is an understatement as the feeling I almost get from the film is *Twin Peaks* with lots of male genitalia, and not just one second glimpses or suggestive shots I am talking full on hard core porn shots, I mean for Christ sake, there is even a shot of a man in clown make up blowing a load in full view in some confined room with a window. It is very disturbing.

The start to this bizarre Avant-garde film shows a well dressed woman get out of a car and seems to be meeting up with a man for a fatal encounter as the film segues into blurred scenes of torture and a man named Sebastian (Domiziano Arcangeli.) Having flash backs to this fatal encounter with the mystery woman. The film slowly reveals bits and pieces about Sebastian as he seems to be a loner that keeps to his own company and is tormented by memories that seem amplified by being alone so much. Sebastian's main interest seems to be photography and filmmaking which in some cases I would imagine must be therapeutic for him as he would be subjected to constant home videos and sleep deprivation as a child.

For income Sebastian is a landlord and takes vile and lewd photographs for a very disturbed man that operates out of a newspaper stand, the man almost resembles a morbidly obese Jello Biafra. Sebastian also spends most of his time watching old bizarre videos alone, until a young tenant by the name of Sarah takes an interest in Sebastian which is where things begin to take a turn for the worse as Sebastian drags the poor young unsuspecting girl into his macabre world.

The relationship between the two grows more and more bizarre upon each encounter as they learn more about one another Sarah seems to take an interest in Sebastian's morbid works or art. The climax of the film comes when Sebastian takes a trip to a place where many strange sex acts, visions of torture, and just full on explicit nudity take place, this is where the film felt very twin peaks for me due to how strange and dream like the sequence was. It was the atmosphere and sheer feeling of being uncomfortable from watching this awkward tour that ends with a "small" bang.

Winding down to the film's closing moments. It appears it is divided into three sections (borrowing this idea from older films). So at the third act the relationship between two grows fatal as the two indulge Sebastian's artistic impulses and create their own little deadly master piece together, the film does not really end with any sort of resolve or resolution, it seems as the conclusion just happens with

with any sort of resolve or resolution, it seems as the conclusion just happens with the murderous final act the two commit together.

Following any sort of plot with this film is rather difficult due to the bombardment of bizarre images and sequences that are dumped upon you constantly during this film, if anything it just feels like a bad dream that gets weirder and more bizarre as you venture deeper into this twisted tale. My understanding is the acts of torture and mutilation in this film is mostly real and done by real life professionals; there is some pretty intense crap I have to say.

Supplements offered for *House of Flesh Mannequins* is decently stocked with segments on special effects, interviews and if you have the stomach for it all the snuff films shown in bits and pieces are shown in their entirety here, I only recommend this if you have a strong stomach. The make-up featurette is great because there is some great special effects in this film especially a dream sequence where Sebastian gets eaten alive by small children and shows the meat coming off his rib cage in a very graphic way.

Even after watching this film I am left undecided as to what I really feel about this film, it was one completely odd journey that gave shocks and jolts the entire way, the best way I could sum up the film is your worst nightmare interrupted by David Lynch with major Italian influence from Dario Argento, if modern film has left you calloused and hard to shock, this film will promise to return some of that feeling.

-Derek-

Directed by:  
Domiziano Cristopharo

Written by:  
Domiziano Cristopharo

Cast:  
Domiziano Arcangeli  
Irena A. Hoffman  
Giovanni Lombardo Radice  
Jerred Berg

DVD Features:  
Aspect Ratio: 1.85:1  
Audio: Italian Dolby Digital 2.0 Stereo  
Subtitles: Italian  
Includes 5 Snuff Films featured in the Movie  
Special Make up Effects Featurette  
Interviews with Cast & Crew

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