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## A Serbian Film

2010

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Very rarely does a film come along that actually bothers me to a degree where I feel compelled to hold the remote in order to fast forward through a scene that could be potentially too shocking or disturbing to watch. If you have heard rumors about *A Serbian Film* being a film that pushes the envelope as far as legally possible, it lives up to those accusations.

*A Serbian Film* is about a gigantic risk a retired porn star named Milos (Srdjan Todorovic) takes to secure a better future for his struggling family. The offer comes from a former co-worker that tells Milos about this “too good to be true” project that will pay out an unbelievable amount.

Upon meeting his mysterious employer Vukmir (Sergej Trifunovic), we find Milos being coaxed into signing on board with this ground breaking project that seems fairly harmless. With the amazing offer on the table there seems to be reluctance on Milo’s end due to the fact he has no idea what he is doing in this film. When the contact hits the table Milos decides that the money outweighs the risk.

Once this project that Vukmir totes as bringing art into porn begins, it gets off to a very strange start and feels like a really outlandish and perverse *Twin Peaks* episode, this is where things seem to be “tame”. The film should take about three days to accomplish and as the film continues it feels like almost going through the most

uncomfortable haunted house ever, as you view each scene and see the gritty raw displays of brute sexual power being acted out in a vicious manner.

When Milos gets a very uncomfortable condition thrown into his work, he decides this is over and not worth the money; this ends with him getting drugged and the rest of the film feeling like the *Hangover* meets *Saw/Hostel* with over the top gore and sexual violence.

I do have to say during the scene that clenches Milos decision to quit is Vukmir showing a video involving a newborn that is absolutely sickening and the idea behind it pretty hard to watch which for once I am thankful that it is edited because I really do not need to see an uncut version of this at all.

If you have any tolerance left and make it towards the end of the film, I will tell you it will not be easy to tolerate as Milos gets a very disgusting trick pulled on him that would cause any sane man to completely lose his mind and become filled with rage to where he actually murders some one involving the human skull in a way that would make Sgt. Hartman from *Full Metal Jacket* proud.

After the wicked melee of obscenity is over and the film seems to take a winding down approach it some how is able to squeeze out one final moment of sheer shock value that you might not see coming but is still pushing it to the extreme at the absolute very end of the movie

Visually this is a very filthy movie that is incredibly grimy, yet the film does look solid and sharp and I feel is mixed right as the songs used in the film come in at just the right time and volume to really enhance the mood of the particular scene. One thing I will say is a huge disappointment is the fact there is no supplements. With all the commotion about the offensive and borderline illegal content this movie deals with it would be such an easy move and could even perhaps devote a section to explaining why this project was created and what the desired end result was. The other rough thing about the film is the subtitles, since the film is in Serbian you have to work extra hard to pay attention to all the insane action

while trying to catch the dialogue at the bottom of the screen.

Finding a film that truly causes me discomfort is very rare, a few films have flirted with that fine line and one actually did break through which I have to admit was *Cannibal Holocaust* and now I add *A Serbian Film* to that slim list. If you have the stomach for this film and have an open mind its worth one viewing because I can promise you will not want to watch it again. If you are a family orientated person and have children I would avoid this movie at all costs because if I was able to be offended by this film not having that parent/child connection I can only imagine the distress it could cause with that.

-Derek-

Directed by:  
Srdjan Spasojevic

Written by:  
Aleksandar Radivojevic  
Srdjan Spasojevic

Cast:  
Srdjan Todorovic  
Sergej Trifunovic  
Jelena Gavrilovic  
Slobodan Bestic

Blu-ray Features:  
Aspect Ratio: 1.33:1  
Audio: Serbian DTS-HD Master  
Audio 2.0  
English Subtitles  
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