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[Alien 2 : On Earth DVD/Blu-Ray](#)

By

[Upchuck Undergrind](#)– April 20, 2011 **Posted in:** [Reviews](#)

When this came in the mail for me to review, there was actually a flicker of recognition. I'm pretty sure, somewhere along the way during my many years of rummaging through obscure horror, that I at least came across mention of this film, if nothing else. So let's put it this way: The title was familiar. Back when I got into Eurohorror, it was really kind of an underground thing and still to a degree is today. But with a slew of companies specializing in giving major Eurohorror and Euroslaze nice, official, non-gray market releases, the consciousness – I'd like to think – of Euro genre filmmaking has gone up. And while it's neat for those of us into this stuff to (a) be validated, and (b) to enjoy readier availability of formerly hard-to-find titles, it is nonetheless true that we LIKE to root around in cult obscurity and find nuggets of joy in the form of cinematic travesties (and even good obscure movies). So now that all the "major" stuff has been uprooted and polished off and delivered to consumers, now that the market place has been opened up for this sort of thing, it leaves room for more indie labels to dig even deeper and bring us even more obscure shit. Which brings me to "Alien 2: On Earth." The title – if it's original (and we all know how much retitling occurred with the import of foreign films for the drive-in/grindhouse market) – leads to the obvious conclusion that we're in "Alien" rip-off territory. But rather than the usual mere ripping off of the idea, this one goes so far as to foist itself off on viewers as a sequel! Of course, we all know this isn't really a sequel. The official sequel popped up a few years later than this (the rip-off dates to 1980) in the form of "Aliens," James Cameron's bigger and badder vision of Ridley Scott's quiet but terrifying setting. Oddly, the title does a better job of ripping off "Alien" than the actual film does. If the audacious title didn't point directly to the better original film, the movie on its own, with an entirely different title, might not remind you of "Alien." Though it might. See, down in this cave there are these pulsing rocks that are alive – one suspects, given the pulsing bit, and also the fact that they burst out these malignant monsters (kinda amorphous looking some of the time) that do gory things to people and also scare them (probably because of the gory things it does). So there is the whole alien life form bursting out of something and doing mean shit to people and that does parallel "Alien" but not enough for a lawsuit. You'd have thought the title would have wrought that. Except that this thing got such a limited – and (surprise, surprise) edited – release on video tape that probably not very many folks saw it. It didn't make it stateside. Until now. Thanks to Midnight Legacy, boomshakalakaboom, we can wallow in all its tawdry, vapid, rip-offy ooziness. It's slowish but lots of fun for those of us who understand the entertainment value of terrible Italian cinema. It's an art form ALL its own. www.midnight-legacy.com

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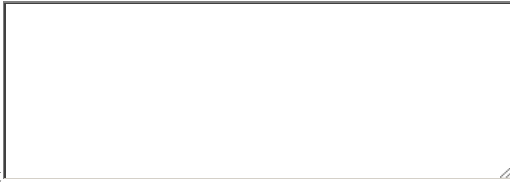
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