

The Film Reel

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Radio drama the next step for NOTLD:Reanimated artists.

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I realize that since it's Wednesday I should be doing a post of The Humper but I've been sitting on this information for a couple of weeks now. It was a super light week for comics and I'm honestly out of any interesting information for everybody right now. The timing couldn't be better for this post anyway so here it is!

There's been lots of buzz lately about Night Of The Living Dead: Reanimated. The entire concept of the film is incredible and the marketing behind it is even better. The creators have been encouraging people to come to screenings and video the screening which they are putting together to offer as bootleg versions. I'm pretty sure nobody else out there is offering up bootlegs of their own films! The entire project is not for profit because Night of the Living Dead had been released without a copyright and has been public domain ever since. Instead of trying to cash in on that mistake, Mike Schneider put together a project that is only looking to recover its cost. A DVD will be available and will contain plenty of bonus materials but for those who don't want to dish out any cash the film will also be available through torrents. Of course you'll miss out on all those extra goodies, which I can never live without.

But where do you go from there? I was over at the site for NOTLD:R and noticed that they were working on some new projects. It seems that they'll be animating old radio dramas, in the horror category, in the same way they did for NOTLD. I shot Mike an email to learn more about this and here's his response.

"For the radio dramas it's basically a similar idea (as the NOTLD:R), artists and animators from all over are invited to jump in and pull the drama through their own style media and process."

"Basically, radio dramas would give more freedom and force more creativity from the artists all while providing a project which would allow people the option of watching all of the art or closing their eyes and experiencing the drama in its original form."

This seems to be done in response to some reviews which felt that something was lost when they animated NOTLD. Obviously the film is visual. While the animated scenes are taken right from the movie, they aren't the same thing. They're presented in a way that is different from the original product. As Mike was saying, with radio dramas there was no visual aspect, only audio. By adding in the visual element we'll be able to experience these dramas in a whole new way.

Mike points out that "in the 30's – 50's radio held the place that tv does now. Like talk shows today, the deal was that the stars would come on the show and would get to promote their current movie/project in the process. This lead to these dramas featuring all of the best actors (horror and beyond) from the silver screen."

I'm actually a fan of some of those old radio shows. I have a small collection of Superman radio programs and I recently got XM radio which has a channel dedicated to old radio shows so I've been listening here and there to detective shows. I think it will be pretty interesting to have some of these great shows presented with a

completely new and original visual aspect.

Here's how the process is breaking down. There are 2 steps involved.

“1 – a singular artist/group selects a public domain drama, checks in to make sure it's not already underway by another artist or group...and then they set to work on it. In the process of their work they design the look of the characters, sets, and key objects based on the dramas themselves. They continue to work until they feel the drama is ready to be open to the public (some may opt to complete the entire drama in house) but how much work that entails really depends on the drama at hand.

2- After the first artist/ group is finished, their art is posted along with the drama opening it to the public for anyone to join in and pull those designs through their own style, media, and process. Specific dramas may end up with specific restrictions... but in general the project will be open to artists of all types as NOTLD:R was.”

The same type of marketing will be done with these radio dramas as was done with NOTLD:R with free public screenings, free access to horror hosts and artists will hold merchandising rights over their submissions and self-distribution rights over any DVD releases. I'm personally looking forward to this project and I'm still hoping to get to see NOTLD:R.

Speak of the devil. I was editing this post and the mail came and what was in the mail, that fancy screener copy of NOTLD:R and a bunch of posters for the flick. I have to send thanks to Mike Schneider for sending that my way and I'm going to see what kind of audience I can get together for it. Since I've been given so many copies of the posters I'll probably be giving them away as well as a couple of copies of the NOTLD:R DVD's. Since they're still pre-order right now I'm deciding whether I should wait until I get them or give them away now and send them when I finally get them. I'll have to let everyone know soon.

Anyway, keep an eye open for NOTLD:R as well as any future projects by checking out their [site here](#).

Under the marquee – Will

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