

MAIN/NEWS[Archives](#)**DVD REVIEWS**

[Horror](#)
[Anime](#)
[Animation](#)
[Asian Cinema](#)
[Disney](#)
[Movies](#)
[Television](#)
[Special Interest](#)
[Easter Eggs](#)

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[Playstation 3](#)
[PSP](#)
[GameCube](#)
[Nintendo Wii](#)
[Nintendo DS](#)
[Gameboy Advance](#)
[Xbox](#)
[Xbox 360](#)
[iPod](#)
[PC](#)
[Codes / FAQs](#)

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[Anime OSTs](#)
[Game OSTs](#)
[Movie OSTs](#)
[Misc Music](#)

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[By Author](#)
[By Title](#)

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[Gadgets](#)
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Lights Camera Dead

2007

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Recently I became victim to a pretty terrible film. I watched *Lights Camera Dead* which in itself is a pretty awkward title; the film was so bad it was a difficult task to even form words to describe how bad this film was. Also might I mention really confusing as I will get into that a little later. For starters this is a relatively unknown release in fact I saw pretty much barely any mention in Fangoria and HorrorHound magazine which I read sac-religiously. It seemed like a decent and original idea that could have been pulled off but was executed about as sloppy as the kills in this film.

The film is described as a dark comedy, but really laughter was pretty devoid from this feature film, trying to find something chuckle worthy was about as hard as a blind kid looking for Easter eggs with no hands. *Lights Camera Dead* starts off by showing the beginnings of the film making process that aspiring film maker Ryan Black (Wes Reid) along with snotty and egotistical screenwriter Steven Dydimus (J.C. Lira) undertake. After a few painful tryouts and getting the cast and crew assembled they finally get the film up and running and begin,

Once the filming begins it looks like some bad nineties Goth music video as two witchy looking females appear to be doing a séance in grainy black and white. A noise outside occurs which makes one of them go investigate and soon the other one follows and then absurdity begins and out of a shed pops out one of the worst looking zombies I think I have ever seen in my life, it had on a rubber mask that is all I need to say to that as that itself is an insult.

The film is half way completed and pretty much falls apart as the films creator Ryan blows up and unleashes his true feelings about his cast and crew that he is not paying but yet expects the most for his non-existent buck, which of course makes every one disgruntled and walkout of the film leaving it half way done. When the failing film maker duo go to get the audio mastered, the guy tells them he has nothing to work with and its pretty much garbage which leads to an accidental kill which gives them a taste for blood and new method to finishing the film.

A final stage is set which is disguised as the films premier that happens to take place in a house in the middle of nowhere. Lacking the brains the cast and crew do they all put their differences aside and attend because they want to see what their brief work amounted to. Once the sun falls and the film rolls it turns into a premier of survival as the film making duo take their film

to an extreme new level which they are convinced is the way to break into the big times.

That pretty much sums up the entire film. While I did say there was not much entertaining stuff to it, I will say the best and only best thing about the film was the cameo by Richard Christy from The Howard Stern Show. His performance is just so ridiculously it just further adds to the train wreck this film is. The box art even states "This movie is awesome! Richard Christy gives a command performance" –Richard Christy the Howard Stern Show, it would have been more entertaining if it would have just said "I am totally freaking awesome in this movie" Richard Christy, or just anything else.

The film quality was kind of surprising as I was expecting super low budget but it was ok and tolerable and the special features section is pretty skim expect for the actual film short "The Music Box" which was what the film makers were making in the first place. It's super annoying but kind of amusing in a way, the story has a *Texas Chainsaw Massacre* K-Mart kind of feel to it.

Besides the guy from Howard Stern I really can't find much positive in this unfrightening film, I can't even tell if this is rated R or PG-13, because there is barely any blood and if there is slashing going on there is zero nudity which these days is kind of required in any kind of slashing horror film, I say slashing instead of slasher due to the fact it says it's a zombie movie but it really is not. The final though on this film is LIGHTS, CAMERA, NO!!!!!!

-Derek-

Directed by:
Tim Reaper

Written by:
Tim Reaper
Monica Reaper

Cast:
Wes Reid
Amy Lollo
J.C. Lira
Monica Moehring
Coldon Martin
Ashby Brooks
Stephanie Caston
Richard Christy

DVD Features:
Aspect Ratio: 1:33:1
Language: English Dolby Digital 5.1
Audio Commentary
"The Music Box" short
Trailers

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