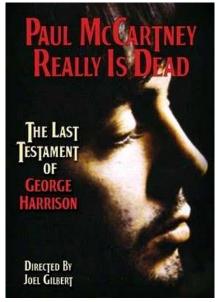
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The Land of Cerpts and Honey

"Wicked as fresh red paint and poisonous as dried spiders" since 2005.

Tuesday, November 02, 2010

AS A FAN OF THE HOARY OLD URBAN LEGEND, I JUST HAD TO GET ME A COPY OF THE NEW DVD



"PAUL MCCARTNEY **REALLY IS DEAD: THE** LAST TESTAMENT OF GEORGE HARRISON", Now, I'm

sure I don't need to explain to you about the old rumour in the mid-to-late 1960s that said Paul McCartney was actually killed in a car crash and replaced by a lookalike. I just love this stuff and it's always been a lot of fun spotting the clues in the song lyrics and album covers. So, of course, when I heard about this new "documentary" coming out on DVD I naturally had to see what new angles were being brought to this old, old urban legend. For those who don't know, the story goes that an unsolicited package arrived at the Hollywood offices of filmmaker Joel Gilbert's Highway 61 Entertainment in the summer of 2005. Inside the package was a mini-cassette recorder and two mini-cassettes dated December 30, 1999 and labelled in block-

letters "The Last Testament of George Harrision". On the tapes was a voice claiming to be George Harrison explaining that the "Paul Is Dead" urban legend was actually true and that the British MI-5 organization had threatened to kill any Beatle who exposed the plot to replace Paul McCartney. The reason given at the time was that the Queen's government determined that, if the death of Paul McCartney was announced, countless frenzied Beatles fans would commit suicide. It is also alleged that John Lennon was killed after he made it known he was about to reveal the truth -- and that the near-fatal knife attack on George Harrison in the late 1990s was also an attempt to silence Harrison after he made rumblings of spilling the beans as well!



OK, a wonderfully silly but interesting addition to the myth. But now, on to the documentary. Sadly, sadly, sadly, the voice of George Harrison is so obviously NOT him that it fatally undermines any willing suspension of disbelief. I have personally seen countless interviews and documentaries featuring George Harrison; I'm fairly familiar with his voice and this just ain't him. The person doing the George Harrison "impression" is fairly good, I suppose, but he betrays himself by not only speaking in a Liverpudlian accent which waveringly comes and goes but also by using one or two Americanisms that no Englishman would use. Also, I happen to own a mini-cassette recorder almost identical to the one shown in the photo as having arrived in the package. The sound is, well, fairly atrocious and the recorder is only meant for dictation purposes. However, the sound of "George Harrison's voice" on the documentary (which provides narration for the entire movie) is clearly recorded on professional-sounding audio equipment; no amount of "sonic tweaking" could've made the micro-cassette recording sound THIS good! All this really pushes the "documentary" from the realm of "conspiracy theory" clear over the cliff into satire; are we really meant to take this documentary

seriously?!? I can't imagine anyone but the most gullible person buying the truth of what's being said. At the very least, the voice of George Harrison could've been made to sound like it had actually been recorded on the little micro-cassette instead of sounding like it had been recorded in a



WHAT'S THAT PICTURE UP THERE ?:

Cerpts

• THERE'S your Motif # 1

About Me



Belched forth from the graveyard in 1577, I have been roaming the globe for centuries

ringing doorbells and running while searching for a really good cup of coffee. Oh, and P.S. . .I still haven't found a REALLY good cup of coffee vet.

View my complete profile

RESQUIESCAT IN PACE



Gregory Isaacs (1951 - 2010)

REQUIESCAT IN PACE



Graham Crowden (1922 - 2010)

A Peek at My Library

Books from my LibraryThing



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high tech recording studio! Ah well, the REAL reason I got the dvd was because I was hoping it would go over all the "clues" in the traditional "Paul Is Dead" urban legend; and this it thankfully does. It is by no means a complete listing of all the "clues" but I have not seen any other documentary on the "Paul Is Dead" myth so this will have to do until a better one comes along. Another extremely odd facet of "George Harrison's" voice is that he occasionally uses extremely odd pronounciation not typical of a Liverpudlian accent: the most distracting is the way he constantly refers to the MI-5 threatening representative Maxwell as "Moxwell". Even stranger is the fact that, with all this mention of MI-5's Maxwell threatening the Beatles with death, the "documentary" never once refers to the song "Maxwell's Silver Hammer" -the obvious source of the name "Maxwell" for this



character. So there you have it, as a silly conspiracy theory movie on the "Paul Is Dead" urban legend, this DVD leaves a lot to be desired -- even if you are like me and never for a moment bought the "package from George Harrison" addition to the myth. One was rather hoping, however, for some shyster movie-makers with a little more finesse. But hell, at least this DVD is a lot more plausable than Patricia Cornwell's laughable so-called "solution" to the Jack the Ripper case!

Posted by Cerpts at 6:31 AM

Labels: Enigmatology, Movie Review, Movies, music

2 comments:

Fink Master Flash said...

I still want to see this. Can I get, err, make a copy of this?

I too, am fascinated by the 'Paul is Dead' urban legen and I have you to thank for that!



Cerpts said...

Um.....no. 1:54 AM

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THE AGE OF THE KNOW-NOTHING TOTS

"...the situation today is fuckin' bloody tragic. We operate in the Age of the Know-Nothing Tots. Kids raised not on literature, or even on films, but on television reruns, are being hired every minute to write and produce films that have the social import and artistic longevity of zweiback."

-- Harlan Ellison

11/4/2010 10:57 AM

Click Button to See My Library Thing LIBRARY THING

HERE'S WHAT I'VE BEEN WATCHING RECENTLY

- High Fidelity (2000)
- Von Ryan's Express (1965)
- Zack and Miri Make A Porno (2008)
- Paul Really Is Dead: The Last **Testament of George Harrison** (2010)
- King of the Zombies (1941)
- Night of the Creeps (1986)
- Du Levandre (2007) aka You, The Living
- Superman II (1980)
- Paperhouse (1988)
- Under the Tuscan Sun (2003)
- Frida (2002)
- Flying Saucers Over Hollywood: The Plan 9 Companion (1992)
- The Haunted World of Edward D. Wood Jr. (1995)
- Le testament d'Orphée (1960)
- Children Shouldn't Play With Dead Things (1972)
- The Fog (1980)
- The Cat and the Canary (1927)
- Saw VI (2009)
- The Invisible Man (1933)
- Saw IV (2007)
- Good Will Hunting (1997)
- The Fly (1986)
- Imagine: John Lennon (1988)
- Dorian Gray (2009)
- Night of the Living Dead (1968)
- Murders In The Rue Morgue (1932)
- The Hideous Sun Demon (1959)
- Frankenstein Must Be Destroyed (1969)
- Iron Man 2 (2010)
- "Father Ted" (1995 1998)

king."

- Dr. Richard Mitchell, The Travel template. Template images by Flashworks. Powered by Blogger. Jnderground Grammarian

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THE SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF GERENUKS!!!

My Blog List

Bathed in the Light From



-*ALBUM OF THE WEEK: MONSTER MASH BY ZACHERLEY. After the Halloween

Monster Bonanza, Dr. Janos Rukh and I thought we'd scale things back a little bit by onl... 2 days ago

The Cobwebbed Alcove



- *JEAN YARBROUGH (1900 -1975).* *Never to be confused with a great director, Jean Yarbrough began

working in menial positions in silent pictures and then mo... 1 week ago

Halloween Countdown



Recommended Links

- 1000 Misspent Hours and Counting
- Alton Brown.com
- Aquaman Shrine
- Astounding B-Monster
- Atomic Monsters
- Bathed in the Light From Andromeda
- Bela Lugosi
- Billy Loves Stu
- Boris Karloff Home Page
- Brian's Drive-In Theater
- Bumbler the Nuclear Puggle's Blog
- Bunnies Movies in 30 Seconds
- Cheekies' The Man Hole
- Cheekies'

- Thedharma(andgreg)Project
- Chelsea Lately
- Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster
- Cinema Insomnia with your host Mr. Lobo
- Classic Horror Film Board
- Comic Book Cover Browser
- Comic Covers.com
- Countdown To Halloween
- Crap From the Past
- Creepy Classics
- Cthulhu Mythos: A Guide
- Daily Plate, The
- Dial B For Blog
- Dr. Demento Official Site
- Dr. Who A Brief History of Time (Travel)
- Dr. Who Reference Guide
- Elton John Official Website
- Epicurus
- Faere's "I Haven't the Bloggiest"
- FINK'S MOM: THE BLOG!!!
- Fink's Rich and Meaty Blog: A Public Outcry
- Fleapit of the Mind
- Ghost Stories.net
- Girasol Pulp Magazine Replicas!
- Golden Age Heroes & Zeroes Micro Heroes Archive
- Golden Age Microheroes Directory
- Good Eats Fan Page
- Groovy Age of Horror
- H.P. Lovecraft Archive
- Hometown Tales
- Horror Film History
- Horror-Wood Archives From the Crypt
- Horrormasters.com
- Illustrators: Famous Graphic Artists
- Internet Archive
- Jandek
- Jesus Saves, Allah Protects and Cthulhu Thinks You Would Make a Great Sandwich
- Joe Bussard's Fonotone Vintage 78s
- Jump the Shark
- Just a Simple Girl with a Dream
- K & J Beads
- Kate Bush Official Website
- Katharine Hepburn
- Kingston Trio.com
- League of Tana Tea Drinkers
- LibraryThing
- Lisa Pardo Kitchen
- Micro Heroes Barney Planet
- Micro Heroes Wiki
- Microheroes Archive
- Midnight Marquee
- · Midnighter's Unfinished Sympathy

- Monster Club
- Monster Mania Convention
- Monster Movie Music Blog
- My Monster Memories Blog
- New Adventures of Mr. Stephen Fry
- Old Time Candy
- Outpost Gallifrey
- Paleo-Cinema
- Paul Russell
- Pax Romano's Ramblings
- Peter Cushing Museum & Association
- Project Gutenberg
- Scary Spooky Sounds.com
- Scraps
- Senses of Cinema
- Shut Up, Little Man!
- Sinister Cinema
- Skiffy Films Blog
- SOLID!: Big Band, Lounge, Jazz & Space Age Sounds
- Space Age Pop
- Stupid Comics
- Supernatural Fiction Database
- Television Tunes
- The Cobwebbed Alcove
- The Comics Archives
- The Julie/Julia Project
- The Season of Plum and Cobblestone
- The Underground Grammarian-Richard Mitchell
- Three Investigators Collectors Site
- Tiffany Shepis
- Trailers From Hell
- TV Intros.com
- TV Show Episode Guide
- Vic and Sade
- Viewmaster Ultimate Reel List
- Vote for the 2009 Rondo Awards!!!
- We Are The Movies
- Weaverman Archives
- Weight Watchers Point Calculator
- Will It Blend?
- Witch's Dungeon Classic Movie Museum
- Wordworth Editions
- Yesterday's Wine
- Zacherley The Cool Ghoul
- Ze Ball Breaker Micro Heroes Site

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- Anno Dracula by Kim Newman
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- Children of Green Knowe by L.M. Boston
- Complete Works of Edgar Allan Poe
- Complete Works of H.P. Lovecraft
- Count of Monte Cristo by Alexandre Dumas
- Don Quixote by Miguel de Cervantes
- Farewell, My Lovely by Raymond Chandler
- Flicker by Theodore Roszak
- Frankenstein or The Modern Prometheus by Mary
- Shelley • Franny and Zooey by J.D.
- Salinger • Gormenghast
- by Mervyn Peake
- Macbeth by William Shakespeare

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 Moby Dick by Herman

Moonfleet by

J. Meade

Riverworld

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Philip Jose Farmer

· Rosemary's

Levin

King

• The

James

Cooper

• The Devil

Dennis Wheatley

 The Dracula Tape by Fred

Saberhagen

The Maltese

Falcon by Dashiell

Hammett

F. Scott Fitzgerald

• Three

Jr.

• This Side of

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Investigators

Robert Arthur

novels by

• Titus Groan

by Mervyn Peake

Mockingbird

• To the Devil -

A Daughter by Dennis

Wheatley

Robert Louis

Stevenson

Noble Wood

by Onuora Nzekwu

 Treasure Island by

Wand of

by Harper Lee

• To Kill A

Fenimore

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Rides Out by

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- Aretha Franklin
- Arvo Part
- Bob Marley
- Cheryl Wheeler
- Curtis Mayfield
- David Bowie

- Dean Martin
- Depeche Mode
- Dinah Washington
- Edvard Grieg
- Elton John
- Franco & OK Jazz
- Frank Zappa
- Fun Boy Three
- Glenn Miller
- Henry Thomas
- Jandek
- Joan Armatrading
- Joe Strummer
- Johann Sebastian Bach
- Kate Bush
- Little Richard
- Louis Armstrong
- Ludwig van Beethoven
- Lynyrd Skynyrd
- Mary J. Blige
- Mavis Staples
- Nat King Cole
- Nick Drake
- Parliament
- Patsy Cline
- Robert Johnson
- Sade
- Sarah Vaughan
- Sly & the Family Stone
- Split Enz
- Stan Rogers
- The Beatles
- The Boswell Sisters
- The Clash
- The Kingston Trio
- The Specials
- Tim Finn
- Zacherley