



Bong of the Dead: Just Another Pipe Dream?

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One of the very best things about extremely-indie film *Bong of the Dead* is the gratitude director [Thomas Newman](#) expresses to all those who supported his making of the movie, particularly his apparently ever-patient wife (“Thank you to all the people who said yes and then helped me make my dreams come true by contributing in some way [sic] to the making of this film...Last and most importantly...a very big thank you to all the people who ever said no to me and tried everything they could to stop this film from being made by placing obstacles in my way or by constantly telling me ‘It’s not possible.’ I made this film specialy [sic] for all of you. Looks like it is possible...”). Newman further endears himself to his audience by proudly (yet briefly) explaining how he did so many of the required filmmaking tasks himself, giving credit to tutorials and software where appropriate.

The premise of *Bong of the Dead* is that two stoners (Mark Wynn and Jy Harris) somehow survived a zombie apocalypse (we don’t know how, they just did), *and* discovered that rehydrated, desiccated zombie brains make a super-fertilizer for their small marijuana crop, not only speeding up the growth of the plants but also making the weed super-potent. The two end up “guests” of Leah (Simone Bailly), a very attractive survivor who has more brains in her fingernail clippings than the two stoners put together.

Welding together a Cheech-and-Chong vibe with a *Sean of the Dead* sensibility and a number of visual references to other films, *Bong of the Dead* is ninety minutes of pure silliness. Consistency is not its strong point, but the inconsistencies add to the fun, and it would be very disappointing to learn that the cast and crew were *not* having fun while making this film.

Reportedly made for five grand, *Bong of the Dead* benefits from performances that are in-character and surprisingly high production values. One is forced to wonder why so many productions with much higher budgets don’t look and sound as good as this movie.

There is nothing subtle about *Bong of the Dead* (now available for download and on [DVD](#)), from its stereotypical potheads to the gallons of blood splashed on the actors and across the screen, but it was never intended to be subtle. It was intended to be exactly what it is—a film that is definitely *not* for everyone (ya’ hear that, Grannies and kiddies?) but is certain to find a cult audience that can appreciate its humor, over-the-top apocalyptic plot, and 3 *Stooges* silliness.

Read more: <http://technorati.com/entertainment/film/article/bong-of-the-dead-just-another/#ixzz1uNR0m1ms>