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## News & Features

### ELVIS FOUND ALIVE (2012)

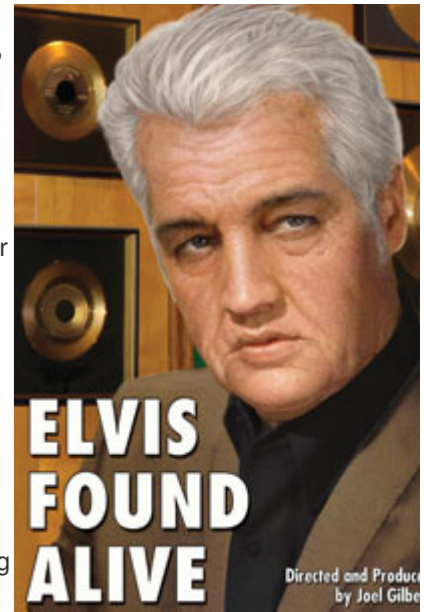
BY JOE WAWRZYNIAK

**“Elvis Never Left the Building.”**

Directed by Joel Gilbert

Director John Gilbert hits the mother lode of choice cheesy subjects for this gloriously preposterous speculative documentary: Yep, Elvis Presley, the one and only King of Rock’n’Roll, famously faked his own death back in 1977. The reasons for this are positively jaw-dropping in their unlikelihood: Elvis was working as an undercover Federal agent for the American government in the mid 70’s waging a war against both the 60’s radical group the Weathermen (the leader Billy Ayers is referred to here as Captain Nazi!) and the Mafia, so he had to stage his own untimely demise in order to avoid being assassinated by either organization. Better still, the guy who claims to be Elvis, who’s identified as Jon Burrows, further purports that he’s in “Avatar” as one of the good guy aliens (!) and that Ayers played a key role in the election of Barack Obama, who the mondo Presley describes as a “socialist thug” who’s determined to destroy the American way of life as we know it (!!).

Of course, we also hear the usual stuff about Presley’s well documented life and times: Growing up dirt poor in the Deep South, his firm and unwavering love for his mother, his infamous gyrating pelvis, service in the Army, the Beatles and the British Invasion (not surprisingly, the Big E hates dem long-haired hippie freaks), his ’68 comeback TV special, acting in schlocky formula movies, his addiction to prescription drugs, how Colonel Tom Parker totally used and exploited him for his own selfish ends, asking Richard Nixon to become a Federal agent, various sightings by people following his “death”, and so on and so forth. All familiar to devout Elvis buffs, but fortunately Gilbert covers everything in a brisk and entertaining manner. Moreover, the wacky correlations between Presley’s life and comic book hero Captain Marvel are mighty cool and enjoyable. Naturally, Gilbert fails to provide much in the way of hard and persuasive evidence to back up the more absurd assertions made in this crock doc, but one still must admire the cheeky audacity behind this sublimely ludicrous affair just the same.

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