



## **Claustrofobia**

Also from the MVD catalog arrives "**Claustrofobia**," a claustrophobic Dutch thriller that succeeds even though its plot has holes through which you could drive a truck. Eva aspires to be a veterinarian, although her study habits would qualify her only to change the newspapers on the bottom of bird cages. Feeling her youthful oats, she decides to move into an apartment in a building seemingly populated with peepers and perverts. One morning, after being plied with drinks by the doctor downstairs, Eva awakes to find herself chained to a bed in a dank dungeon. Loud noises and disembodied voices unnerve her, of course, but it's the black-clothed creep with the gas mask who really freaks her out. Eva fights back, however, eventually unmasking her captor and discovering cracks in his veneer and that of her prison. Just when we think she'll be able to pull off her escape, Eva discovers her captor's greater mystery and the reality that a security system won't allow her to get past the coded door lock. Hope is trumped by disappointment twice more, with the stakes rising each time her plans are thwarted. As the clock ticks closer to Eva's personal midnight, viewers might find themselves far more deeply invested in her predicament than they thought possible. – *Gary Dretzka*