

An Interview with Clint Weiler, Writer and Producer of *Bath Salt Zombies*

by *Mike Haberfelner*
March 2013

Clint Weiler on (re)Search my Trash

Your new movie *Bath Salt Zombies* - in a few words, what is it about?

It's about a group of junkies who get hooked on a very potent form of bath salts and terrorize the city of New York, to a punk rock soundtrack.

How did you come up with the story in the first place, what were your key inspirations?

I was inspired by the news stories surrounding the real life bath salt zombie attacks. It's such a strange thing to me. I don't recall anything like this happening in my lifetime. I was disturbed by the events but also thought they would make a good basis for a horror movie.

How did the project actually get off the ground?

Having worked with Dustin Mills [*Dustin Mills*interview - [click here](#)] before, I pitched him my idea and he was into it. He had actually made a short film about bath salts before I even approached him. I guess we were on the same page.

Your co-writer and director Dustin Mills - what was your collaboration like, and how did you two hook up in the first place?

I had worked with Dustin on the marketing of his other films: *Puppet Monster Massacre*, *Zombie A-Hole*, etc. I really liked how he was able to make a great looking finished product out of a shoestring budget. I handed over my treatment to him and he ran with it. He wrote all of the dialogue, handled the casting, etc. He's a very talented dude. I always said if someone gave him a real budget to make a film, he would blow us all away.

As a producer of *Bath Salt Zombies* - how directly were you involved in the filmmaking process, how much creative input did you have during the shoot, and what was the feeling like seeing your vision come to life?

I didn't have much. Since the film was shooting roughly 8 hours from my home, it just wasn't prudent. Also, Dustin wanted total creative freedom with it, which was part of the deal. I trusted him and it all worked out. When I saw the finished film, I was impressed... Mostly with the dialogue. It was so spot on.

What can you tell us about the audience and critical reception of *Bath Salt Zombies* so far?

Strangely enough, almost all reviews have been positive. Even the mainstream DVD websites seem to get it. At the screenings, people are laughing and hooting and having a gay ole time. It's a fun fucked up flick... That's what's supposed to happen!

Any chance there will ever be a *Bath Salt Zombies 2*?

There's a good chance of that, yes.

(Other) future projects you'd like to share?

Not right now... Some are too developmental to comment on.

What got you into screenwriting in the first place, and did you receive any formal training on the subject?

I had a few classes in college through my first course of study, Cinematography. I always liked the camera and filming, and have a good eye, but it stops there. I have no editing skills whatsoever... I'm much better at constructing ideas and concepts through writing.

What can you tell us about your filmwork prior to *Bath Salt Zombies*?

I wrote a few treatments in college and also developed the concept for a music video a few years ago, but that's about it!

Please do talk about your work for the *MVD Entertainment Group* for a bit!

I've been with *MVD* for nearly 13 years now. I'm the Director of Publicity and Consumer Marketing, and also handle content acquisition. *MVD* has been

around for a long time (over 25 years) and they intend to be around for much longer. It's very gratifying to work for a company like this because there aren't many left doing what they do, which is independent distribution for film, music, and more.

Outside of movies, you have also taken a strong interest in punk rock music - care to elaborate?

Sure! I discovered punk rock in my early teens. Previous to that, I listened to hip hop almost exclusively. I believe that the spirit of punk is quite similar to hip hop... It's about rebellion and struggle, also not giving a fuck. That was me as a teen. I'm much different now obviously but I still identify with these themes and emotions. Punk is about grittily grinding it out and going full steam. I like that.

Filmmakers, writers, musicians, whatever else who inspire you?

Well, through *MVD* I am blessed to be working with all kinds of independent artists: filmmakers, musicians, etc. You see these guys really believing in their craft and working hard to get the recognition (and sales) they deserve. That's inspiring to me... pushing to make a good product and seeing it through all the phases: from creation to distribution and beyond.

Your favourite movies?

Pee Wee's Big Adventure is my hands down favorite. It's such an epic journey. I tend to gravitate towards films from my childhood like that and also **Goonies**, **Monster Squad**, etc. I'm a big fan of Vietnam War movies too: **Platoon**, **Full Metal Jacket**, etc.

... and of course, films you really deplore?

I can't stand American mainstream comedies and romantic comedies.

Your/your movie's website, Facebook, whatever else?

www.BathSaltZombies.com
<https://www.facebook.com/BathSaltZombiesMovie>

Anything else you are dying to mention and I have merely forgotten to ask?

Please check out my punk toy label Aggronautix.com!

Thanks for the interview!

[http://www.searchmytrash.com/articles/clintweiler\(3-13\).shtml](http://www.searchmytrash.com/articles/clintweiler(3-13).shtml)