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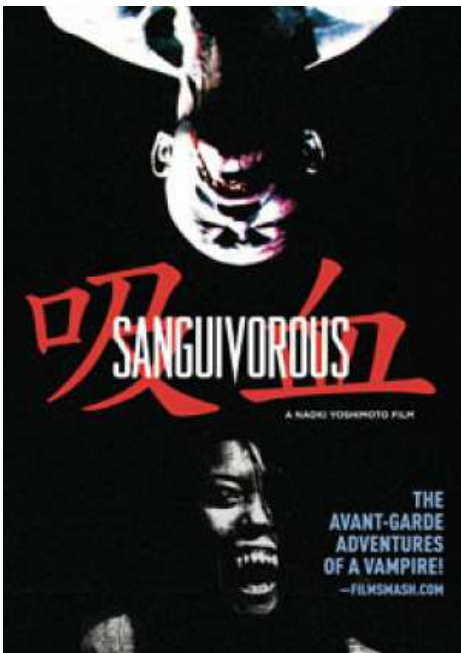
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MOVIE REVIEW: Sanguivorous

- Posted by [H-P | Movies & TV](#) on November 21, 2013 at 1:45pm in [Vision of Horror](#)
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HORROR-PUNKS REVIEW



by: [Charlie J.J. Kruger](#)

This slow and concentrating film is one of the stranger films I have seen all year. The press release bills it as the first and only silent avant-garde Japanese vampire film, but that isn't quite true.

This movie isn't silent. There IS dialogue, so when, all of a sudden, a few minutes into the film I heard speaking, I was startled. Grunting, moaning, crying, these sounds exist from the first frame onwards. And they add to the detached strangeness of the film.

The plot revolves around a young woman who realizes that she is part vampire, and feels this urge awaken within her. With the help of her lover, she finds a way to deal with her bloodlust.

The plot sounds simple enough, and really, is neither here nor there when it comes to enjoying this film. Like most avant-garde pieces, the real power of the film isn't so much the story as much as the storytelling. Dutch angles, jump cuts, film layered over film, filters, grain, closeups, color saturation/desaturation, and a haunting ambient/minimalist score all help to make the 58 minute film all the more strange and unnatural.

It reminded me of 'Nadja' in some ways... and in other ways I was reminded of 'Le Dernier Combat', but all throughout the film I was impressed with the bravery within the story.

A few moments rung out and made me wince, moments of ill-stepping or poor visual awareness, but the fact that those negatives stuck out so much speaks volumes to the effective elements of the film.

This is an art film, truly, and though it is flawed in parts, it tries, valiantly, to create true and disquieting art. And it succeeds.

This is one of the most interesting films of the year. I can't recommend it enough to the artists among us.

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