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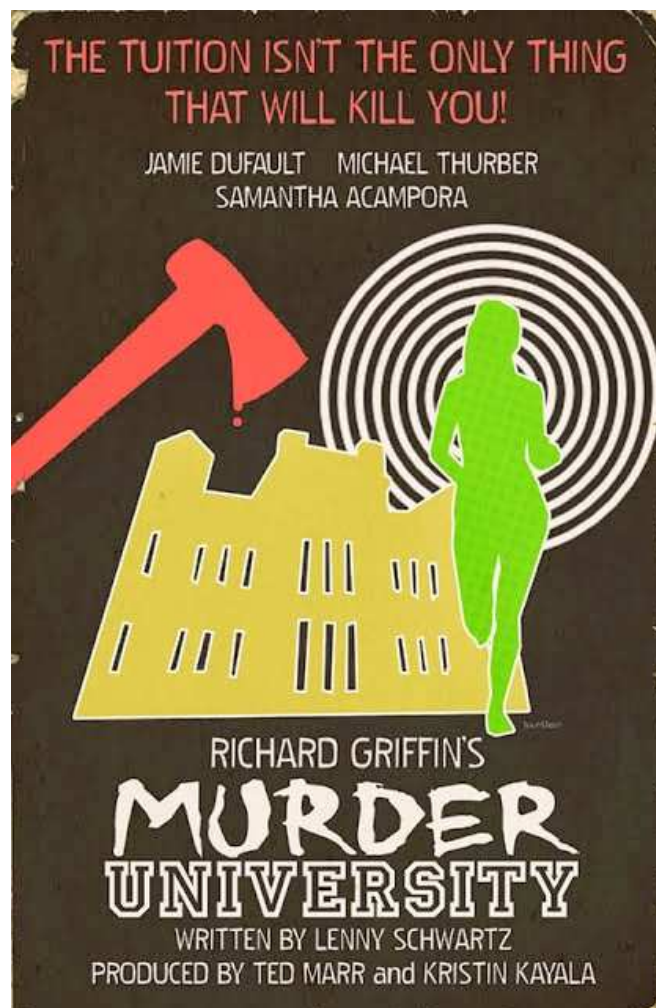
Themes

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That Time of the Month

Tuesday, October 15, 2013

Murder University (2012)



Hartert poster art

Murder University (2012)

Starring: Samantha Acampora, Jamie Dufault, Michael Thurber

Writer: Lenny Schwartz

Slaterocalypse! 2012

Halloween Month 2011



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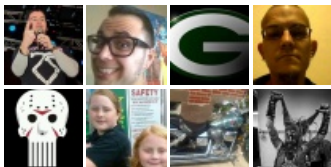


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November 19

In 1993, both Addams Family Values and Man's Best Friend hit cinemas! Saw Man's Best Friend in theaters and have watched it several times since. Fun flick.



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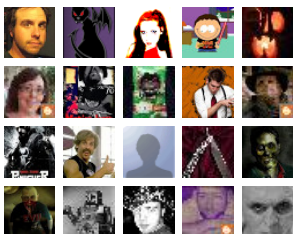
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Directive 4: [CLASSIFIED]

Eric King

Synopsis:

A small New England college is plagued by a series of brutal, cult-like murders that share a similar pattern of killings some twenty years earlier. The lone survivor of a recent attack must team up with a veteran police detective and his daughter in order to uncover the secret behind the killings, revealing a legacy of murder and the occult that has been kept buried for decades on campus.

Review:

The word on the street is that *Murder University* pays tribute to 80s slashers, and that just happens to be the truth. I think it comes every bit as close to the correct atmosphere as *The Sleeper*. It draws inspiration from *Pieces*, *Halloween*, *Slaughter High*, and gives visual nods to the work of Dario Argento. Hell, even the music has a style that fits into Italian horror. AND, there's a lot of nakedness. Unfortunately, if you take away the slasher aspect and cool look of the film, there are some things that disappoint.

The use of color lighting in *Murder University* immediately put films like *Suspiria* and *Inferno* in mind; lots of blues and reds. Chase scenes fit over this color gimmick perfectly, as does the look of who's behind the killings. And when the movie is trying to thread itself into the look of 80s slashers, it succeeds. So, no complaints there. Lastly, the intro of the movie- excellent title font that really just makes *Murder University* look like it should for what it's trying to be.

My loss of interest came with some of the characters. There's a serious amount of over-the-top goofiness going on. I realize that's intended in order to make the movie even more realistic to what it's emulating, but it was just a too much for me. It's a shame, really, as things get totally serious in the last act and I really got on with the change. Just wish it had been that way throughout.

The pair up of Michael Thurber and Jamie Dufault as Detective Forresster and Josh are admittedly pretty great together. Samantha Acampora as Meg, Detective Forresster's daughter, is also really good. These three were the most fun to watch for the first half of the film, for sure.

The SFX are a super high point; they're the type of low-budget gore gags you'd expect to see out of an 80s horror film. Ton of decapitations, and the bloodletting itself is another instrument that calls out to the glory days of Italian horror.

In addition to the music producing the right vibe for the film, there's also a theme song titled after the movie, with lyrics that go hand-in-hand with it all. I miss stuff like that. It's cheesy as all hell, just like it should be.

Final Word:

I've spoken about so many positives that it kinda bums me out that the silliness took the overall enjoyment away for me. That's kind of rare, if I'm being honest. Usually, that's something right up my alley. It just felt off. However, I give *Murder University* credit for feeling somewhat authentic, and there were many things I enjoyed. I can still give it a recommendation to fans of the slasher genre, and I hope if you give it a shot that you'll be able to either look past what I couldn't, or appreciate it.

The DVD is released through [Wild Eye Releasing](#), and you get 2 different commentaries- one with the director and writer and the other with producers and actors. Available through Amazon [HERE](#).

- Eric (Brobocop)

Posted by Eric King at 2:49 PM

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