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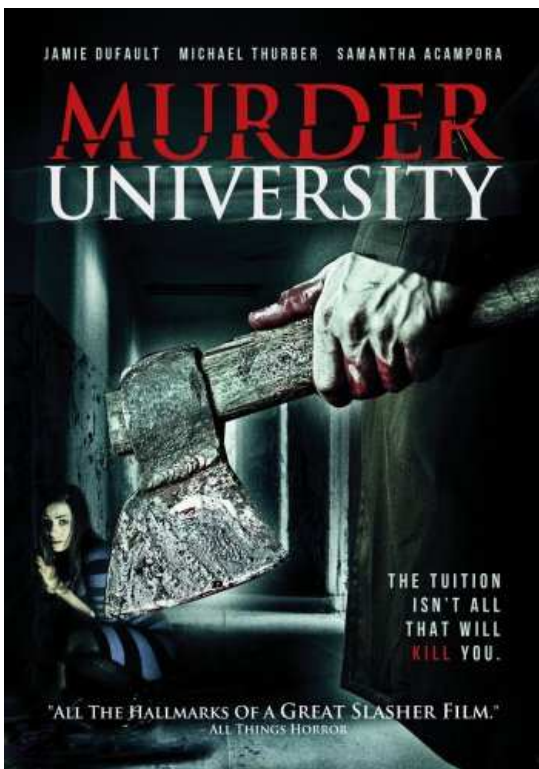
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MOVIE REVIEW: Murder University

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HORROR-PUNKS REVIEW



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

One of the largest issues that I have with a lot of horror/comedy films is that more often than not what you get as a viewer is a film that isn't funny enough to be a comedy, and isn't strong enough to be a horror film. You end up with a half-assed attempt at both. Too much tongue in cheek work, too much gore for the sake of gore, not enough plot, a deus ex machina ending just because it is used as a 'parody', and a whole bunch of bad acting, with bad lines, and usually even bad gore. I'm starting my review off with this reservation so that I can tell you, this movie doesn't fall victim to this. This movie keeps its head above water.

After a slow start, I found myself loving this film. At first I feared that the movie would be more comedy than horror, and thus a mockery of a lot of things I love. So I put on the DVD and began to bide my time. But then the jokes started to really land. Irreverent humor, referential jokes... they all started to work. The slow beginning was over and the meat of the film took off. Funny lines, surprisingly well acted serious and comedic moments, some nice gore effects, an actually engaging story about a returning serial killer, and some familiar faces. Earlier this year I saw the movie 'Exhumed' and I LOVED it. A few of the actors from that movie are in this and the moment I saw them, that gave the film a bit more gravity.

I'm really glad I gave this one a fair shake. It works well as both a comedy and a horror film, a rare feat. The plot revolves around Josh, a student at a college with a horrible history involving a serial killer who returns periodically to carve up the student body's... well... bodies. As the film progresses, Detective Forester and his daughter Meg inform Josh of their suspicions and the three of them set about solving the murders once and for all. Through twists and turns, funny moments and actual shocks, the secret is revealed, and the final twists begin their dance.

The makeup effects crew on this movie had their work cut out for them. I actually kept a count of how many heads were severed, and I was blown away. During the (fairly short) film six heads are cut off, one person is scalped (very brutally), one person has their head cut in HALF (which looked awesome), and a few other vicious gore-out deaths are supplied.

This is a fun film, and the very serious and heavy final scene lends a real feeling of worth to the film that most horror-comedies miss. I recommend this one.

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