

THE DVD LASER DISC NEWSLETTER

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Watching a killer

Suspecting that a landscaper has done in their friend, a young couple sneak into the man's house and place surveillance cameras in various locations for **Closed Circuit Extreme**, a Jinga Films MVDvisual release (UPC#760137629092, \$15), which presents what is supposedly an edited collection of the subsequent videos that have made their way into a police evidence report. Other than the standard cinematic indulgence that the cameras are also recording sound, the 114-minute program (mistakenly listed as 98 minutes on the jacket) is fairly clever. The couple has to continually sneak back to recharge the cameras or something, and for the first hour, rather realistically, nothing much really happens. Then things do happen. Because the film is presented as a police report, the ending is revealed up front, which undercuts the suspense a little bit, but the finale is still reasonably exciting, especially after the investment of getting to that point. The realism of the performances also sustains the program's atmosphere effectively.

A 2012 Italian production, the characters speak accented English and the news reports in the background are in Italian. There is some nudity and gore, though a lot of it is teasingly just out of view. The picture is letterboxed with an aspect ratio of about 1.78:1. Any grain or distorted color in the image, and even the video distortion, is part of the program and unhindered by the transfer. The sound is centered and clear. There is no captioning, and a trailer is included.