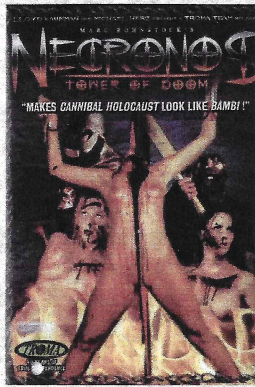


NECRONOS

The German underground horror film is still very much alive within this 2010 production. Written and directed by Marc Rohnstock it involves an epic backstory about an evil wizard and the people who tried to stop him. These opening period scenes are accompanied by ancient text. Alas it's in German and the English subtitles fly by too fast before you can read 'em. That said it isn't necessary to establish such an involved tale when the film itself simply wallows in bloody gore.



The movie switches to the present tense as our wizard, Necronos, plans the destruction of the human race. He goes about this by invoking a blood demon named Goran (who resembles an extra from Lenzi's *Nightmare City*). Goran's mission is to obey Necronos (who in turn is commanded by an impressive looking Satan a.k.a. master). The majority of the film is spent with Goran killing men and women either inside an old castle or out in the open. In one stretch he's told to gain victims in order to create a "beserker." He kills a pregnant (yes she is certainly expecting...no effects there!) woman in order to use the unborn's flesh. Next he pulls part of a Denmark politician's brain out. A woman gets a wooden stake shoved up her crotch (with pierced clit) and out her mouth in a sly nod to *Cannibal Holocaust*. He then boils some poor sap until his skeleton is left. After whipping up some magic potion, he pours it on the skeleton and whammo! Instant beserker! Yet in an ironic twist the beserker doesn't get to see any action.

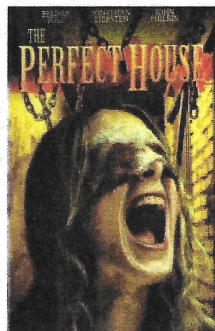
After that Necronos relies on a witch to find the "chosen one"... a virgin whose blood will bring about the end of humanity...or something like that. The problem is the witches' predictions are always wrong. She finally gets things right and the search begins for a young girl's sister. This long stretch has Goran playing hide and seek in her house until he captures her. At some point Goran disobeys Necronos (seemingly because part of his brain is showing?) and decapitates himself! Fear not...his head joins his body when it appears the credits are going to roll. This of course leads to the unleashing of zombies from the castle who are out to destroy all humans. Obviously a sequel can't be that far away...

With not much going for it except extreme gore *Necronos* doesn't disappoint. The graphic effects are rendered as juicy and red as you could possibly imagine. There's enough grue here to fill up thirty-seven horror flicks! The story is lacking and if Rohnstock could spend more time in that department we'd have something to talk about. Yet the intended audience probably won't mind, as long as they can plow through over 2 hours' worth! Clocking in at an obscene running time of 2 hours and 7 minutes you wonder if the editor was sleeping!

Troma picked this up for U.S. distribution and fans can now grab it on a budget DVD (you can order it off their website for \$11.97). Whoever tacked on the tagline "*Makes Cannibal Holocaust look like Bambi!*" clearly doesn't know what they are talking about. Demons and witches will never replace man's inhumanity to man as something "shocking." That aside this is gory nonsense for splatter freaks tired of American slop.

THE PERFECT HOUSE

It's not really advertised as such but this 2010 production (finally getting a DVD release in June of 2014) is an anthology. A couple is looking to purchase a new house. They settle on a seemingly innocent looking establishment. However the house has a vicious past where three generations of families have endured torture and murder.



Our first tale is by far the best. A brother and sister sit with their parents in the basement as a storm rages outside. The tension amongst them is thick. It seems Daddy liked to take pictures of his little girl...naughty ones. Mom liked to berate and belittle everyone. The kids take matters into their own hands. The murders are never shown. They are filmed in a unique fast cutting method using sound to emphasize the diabolical action. Accordingly there is a twist ending since there can only be one survivor.

The next tale features a serial killer played by Jonathan Tiersten of *Sleepaway Camp* fame. He likes to cage up victims, torment them with promises of escape, then torture and kill 'em. A lone female captive (Holly Greene) becomes almost like a partner to the proceedings. Greene is so good in the role it becomes her coming out party. She looks decrepit with fucked up teeth and tattered clothes... completely giving off the aura that she's been locked up for a long time. Tiersten is not a convincing killer at all. He looks too much like a pretty boy. His vocal delivery is trite and unthreatening as well. However the end of this one goes for the gusto with a slam bang murder that'll have you cheering!

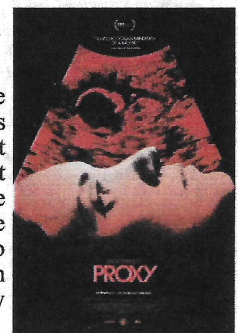
Last up is a family who become captive prisoners by their neighbor. This guy flips out over a borrowed week whacker! I kid you not. He doesn't like the fact that the mom is having an affair, or that the children fight amongst themselves for their mothers attention, or that the daughter acts like some whore around boys. He takes out all of this anger on the family by making them kill each other or by torturing them with Epsom salt, tweezers, knives and the obligatory weed whacker. Frankly this is sorry stuff with the murder of little kids tossed in for tasteless "entertainment." Frankly so many horror films go the torture route that it becomes tedious to sit through. The target group must be teenagers...much like slasher flicks were back in the early '80s. Speaking of which, Felissa Rose appears in this segment as the mom who gets to witness the death of her two boys. Re-released only weeks apart on home video, Felissa's debut *Sleepaway Camp* features an interview with the actress who is grateful for all that the film did for her career. While that is admirable one wonders why she would tackle such a generic character that she essays in *The Perfect House*. Granted her name on the box cover is a selling point, but nobody will come away reeling from her performance.

One missing aspect of the story centers on the few survivors that could have appeared as older characters in other segments. A makeup bag appears twice but that's about it. Also why is the real estate agent (Monique Parent) portrayed as some oversexed hussy? I was expecting her character to be revealed as someone else but alas that was asking too much. Finally this film features a TON of flashbacks...flashbacks inside of flashback inside of flashbacks...etc... etc.

The Perfect House goes through the motions with plenty of gore and some good performances but not much else. The DVD includes a ton of extras and it's nice that Wild Eye Releasing went the distance. Yet I would approach this cautiously...unless you are looking for cheap thrills and some blood to impress your teenage date.

PROXY

At first I didn't know what to make of the title. I know what a proxy server is but it's not a word I often use or hear. Honestly most folks going into this movie won't know what to make of it either until they think about the meaning: the authority to represent someone else or a person who is given power to do something for someone else. *Proxy* is a dish best served cold, meaning the less you know the better it'll be.



I won't go into a whole lotta detail here because I'd rather not spoil anything. I will say the pre-credit

