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THE DISCO EXORCIST (2011)

Published by [David Carter](#) on 2012/11/17 (44 reads)

Directed by Richard Griffin
Review by David Carter

BUY IT

Released by Wild Eye/MVD Visual
Running Time: 80 minutes
Rating: Not Rated
Color format: Color
Audio/Subtitles: 2.0 Stereo English
Region Code: 1, NTSC
Aspect Ratio: Widescreen
16:9 Enhanced: Yes
Special Features: Deleted scene
Trailer Online: [Yes](#)



Short Version: Funky frights and fun

THE EXORCIST and SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER were two of the highest grossing films of the seventies, and it boggles my mind that it has taken this long for someone to try to combine them. In addition to being pop culture phenomenon in their own right, each represented a combination of several prevalent ideas of seventies' America. THE EXORCIST dealt with the supernatural and the challenging of authorities (in this case, religion) and SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER typified the superficiality and excess of the late seventies. The two films and the concepts in them obviously made an impression on director Richard Griffin, who has to date, made two disco-themed horror films. The titular club in his 2007 film SPLATTER DISCO was actually a fetish club, but his latest, THE DISCO EXORCIST, features the real deal – a swinging seventies hotspot with plenty of polyester, bumping, grinding, and nose candy. THE DISCO EXORCIST is available on DVD from Wild Eye/MVD Visual.



Rex Romanski is the proverbial big fish in a small pond at his local discotheque. He's the envy of the all the men and the object of desire for all the women – most of whom he's seduced and promptly abandoned, yet all agree they're unable to hate the good-natured Rex for it. Rex thinks he's found "the one" after a night of dancing and passion with Rita Marie. Rita is a statuesque head-turner who can hold her own with Rex on the dance floor and in the bedroom, and he does the unthinkable and arranges a second date with her. A chance encounter scuttles their burgeoning relationship, as Rex meets his dream girl – porn star Amoreena Jones – at the disco that night and she wins both his heart and a catfight with Rita Marie.

Rita Marie doesn't take Rex's betrayal lying down though. If he had taken the time to get to know her better, he would have found out that Rita is a very powerful witch and thus it is a bad idea to cross her. Rita exacts magical revenge on Rex and Amoreena, turning the latter into a black-eyed demon hell-bent on Rex's destruction. Despite the fact he never knows when she'll fly into a murderous rampage, Rex still loves Amoreena and as such seeks out an exorcist to cure his girlfriend from Rita's curse. But will he be able to save her before Rita and her growing army of zombies destroys every swinger in town?



THE DISCO EXORCIST is a fun entry into the neo-grindhouse cycle of films and one of the few that manages to successfully recreate the atmosphere of a seventies film instead of simply the look of one. Griffin's done his homework, and the film has an authenticity that will heighten the humor in most

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... of the... Griffin's work his homework, and the film has an authenticity that will heighten the horror in most scenes. THE DISCO EXORCIST is a comedy first and foremost. I'd hesitate to call it horror-comedy since even the occasional moments of gore will probably elicit more laughs than shudders from the average horror fan. To that extent, it is a solid comedy. Most of the jokes find their mark and the three leads all display decent comedic chops and give likeable performances.

MVD Visual's disc is well put-together. Director Griffin appears on a commentary track and a deleted scene gives more background on Amoreena's porn career in a humorous way. Ultimately, THE DISCO EXORCIST is a lot like many a disco hit of the seventies: fun while it lasts, but not very memorable. Good performances from all involved and sharp direction help elevate the film above your standard direct-to-DVD indie horror film, however, and this is a film that won't have any problem finding an audience.



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