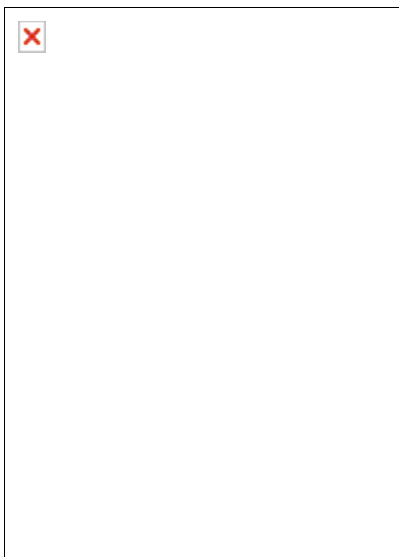




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## Sex on 42nd Street Collection

REVIEWED BY: The Graveyard Tramp Posted on 10/04/2012



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As someone who grew up developing a healthy (?) obsession for a manner of horror, exploitation and drive-in cinema, one of my biggest regrets is that I never got to experience New York's 42nd Street during its sleazy heyday. I went to America on family vacations a couple of times as a kid, but we never visited the East Coast, and by the time I was old enough to travel on my own, the glory (hole) days of 42nd Street had already long passed, and the big clean-up was well underway. Today, it has gone the way of Las Vegas, but between the mid-sixties and early-eighties, 42nd Street and Times Square was a veritable smorgasbord of sleaze, sex, drugs and crime, dominated by adult bookshops and cinema marquees advertising the most depraved triple-bills of horror, exploitation, porn and grindhouse fodder of a manner. According to those who lived through it, the events that went on inside these (once grand) old movie palaces was often a lot more terrifying and degrading than the events unfolding up on the rat screens. Thankfully, the spirit of 42nd Street lives on, in the movies that were both shown and filmed there during its scuzzy prime,

books like Josh Allen Friedman's [Tales of Times Square](#) and Bill Landis and Michelle Clifford's [Sleazo Express](#), and in DVD compilations like After Hours' [Sex on 42nd Street](#).

Essentially, *Sex on 42nd Street* compiles three vintage XXX features from the glory days of early hardcore cinema. There's nothing really notorious or exceptional about the films, and they are tenuously tied together by the fact that they were all filmed in New York. That's not to say the films aren't entertaining

their own way, and they certainly have some appeal to those who are interested in the adult genre of this period.

**Pen Pals** (1973, directed by Shaun Costello) has a group of naive pen pals trekking to New York to meet up with each other for the first time. As soon as their hosts greet them at their grotty New York pad in full nude, the situation quickly develops into a sexual free-for-all. What an introduction to the Big Apple (she beats getting mugged). **Certified Mail** (1974) is even more low-rent, following a young mailwoman as she has sex with just about every person she encounters on her delivery route. Produced and directed by Leonard Kirtman under his 'Leo the Lion' pseudonym, highlights of *Certified Mail* include an appearance by early-seventies super stud Marc Stevens and the rather classy (by comparison) Lynn Stevens, and a tattooed cretin who looks like he was hired after the director spotted him loitering around the mens room of the notorious Port Authority Bus Terminal. Rounding out the titillating trilogy is **Love-In Maid** (1974) with two Greenwich Village sleazeballs plotting to hire a hot young maid (Cindy West) and turning her into their willing sex slave (something which, of course, doesn't take too much persuading).

Running at about an hour each, these films are so ugly and artless they almost develop an art of their own. The sex is frequent but almost always unerotic – there is a fascination to them which makes it hard to take your eyes off what's happening (as much as you often want to look away), but any arousal to be found is purely coincidental. Of course, these things were produced when hardcore sex on the cinema screen was still a new thrill, and I'm sure the raincoat brigade would have gotten more than their money's worth out of them. As it often does when watching porn of this vintage, my mind turns to the actors and what they may be doing today, and if they are at all aware that their past celluloid sins are still out there for smug hounds and connoisseurs of decadence to enjoy 40 years later.

After Hour's two-disc release of *Sex on 42nd Street* features digitally restored and colour corrected prints (so every unwashed pubic hair and genital pimple is clearly visible) and comes nicely packaged with an eight-page colour booklet. Extras include a whole slew of trailers for other After Hours adult releases including the notorious **Forced Entry** and other compilation sets such as **Euro-Trash Collection**, **Extreme Sleaze Showcase**, **8mm Madness**, **Sex On Wheels** and **Sexorcism** (featuring the wild double-bill of **TI Devil Inside Her** and the early B&W hardcore feature **Sacrilege**). Get down and get dirty with it.

#### DISC DETAILS:

DIRECTOR(S): Various | COUNTRY: USA | YEAR: 1973 | DISTRIBUTOR(S): After Hours Cinema | RUNNING TIME: 240 minutes | ASPECT RATIO: 16:9 | REGION: 1 / NTSC | DISCS: 2

#### EXTRAS:

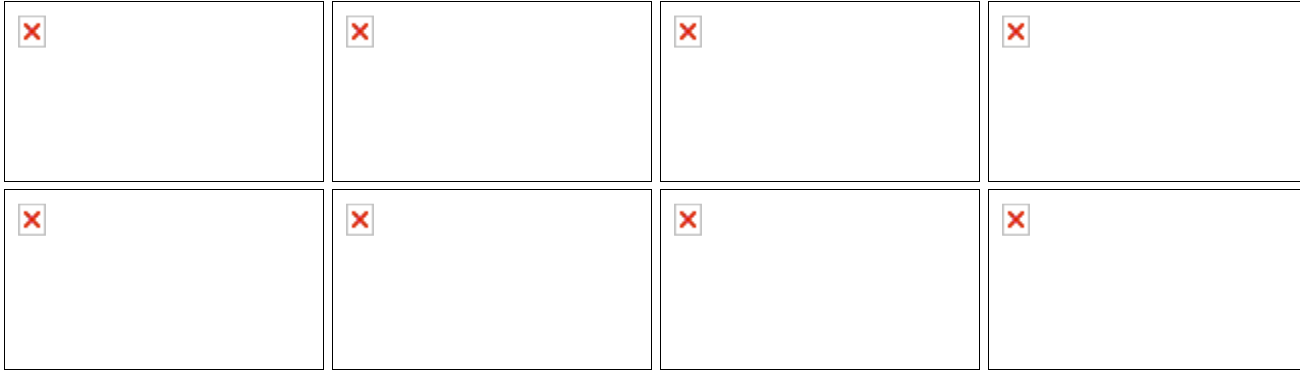
- Trailers
- 8 page color booklet

#### RECOMMENDED VIEWING:

- [42nd Street Petes Busty Babe Bonanza](#)
- [42nd Street Pete's Night of Perverted Pleasures](#)
- [42nd Street Pete's Sleazy Grindhouse Picture Show](#)

- [Filtch on 42nd Street Grindhouse Triple Feature](#)

IMAGE GALLERY:



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