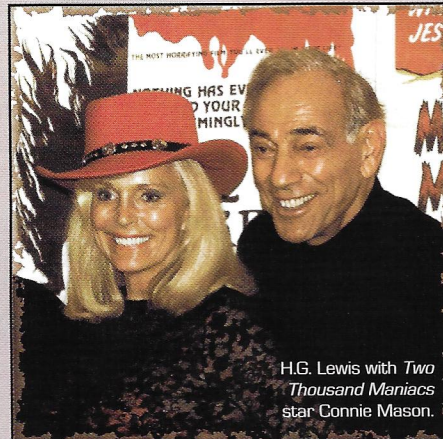
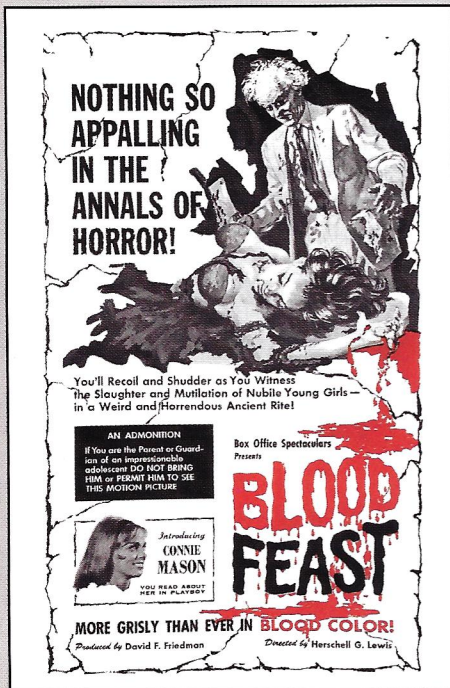


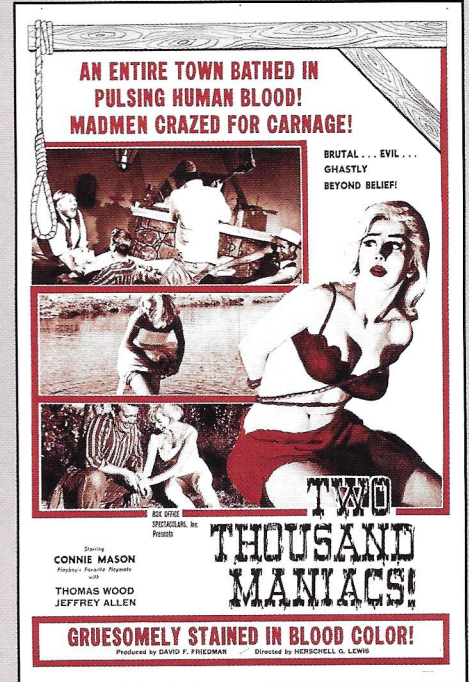
# FILM LEGEND H.G. LEWIS BIRTH OF THE GOREHOUND

by Aaron Crowell & Nathan Hanneman



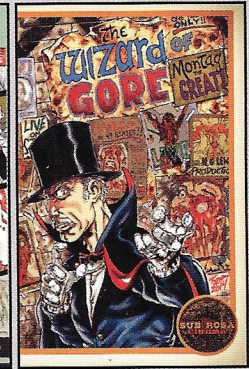
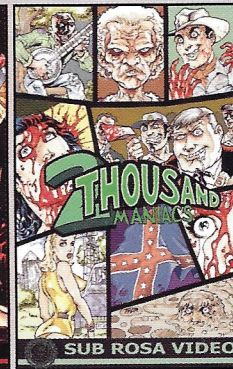
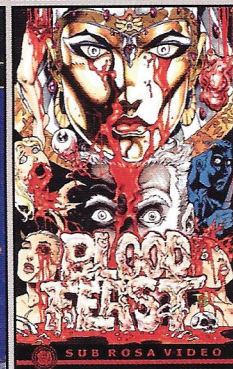
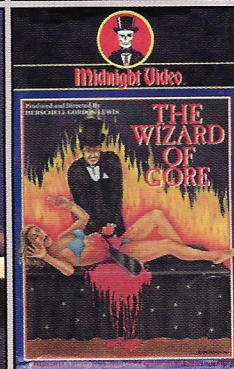
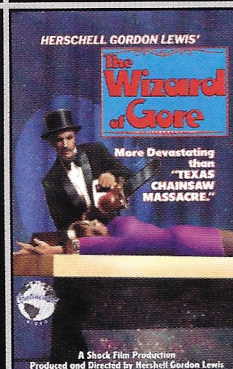
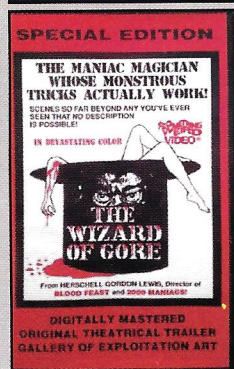
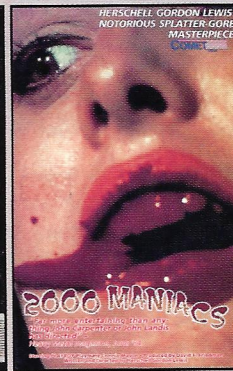
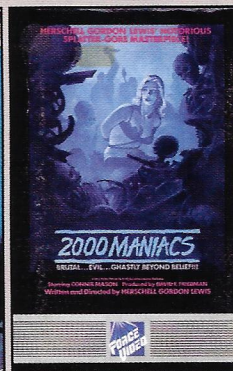
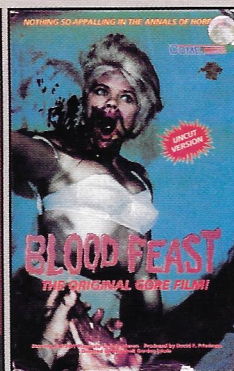
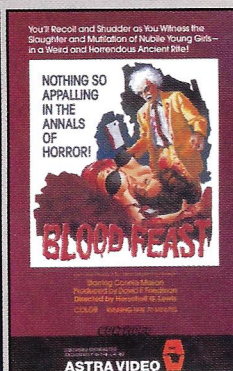
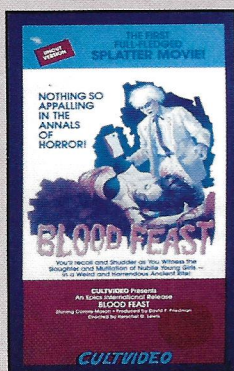
film fanatics that followed in his footsteps, from John Waters and Tim Sullivan to the creators of *HorrorHound Magazine*. In fact, H.G. Lewis was the focus of what would become the first-ever *HorrorHound* retrospective feature – a tradition that has been maintained now for 10-plus years and 62 issues. In memorial, we decided to take a look back at the original retrospective feature we published in the fall of 2005. We hope you enjoy this redux retro of our first issue's spotlight based on the legendary H.G. Lewis:

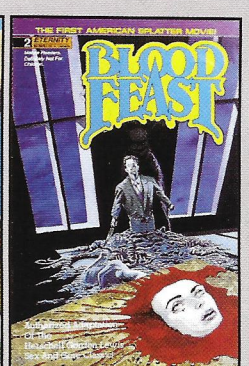
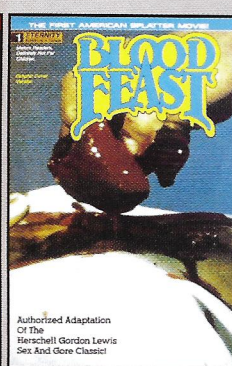
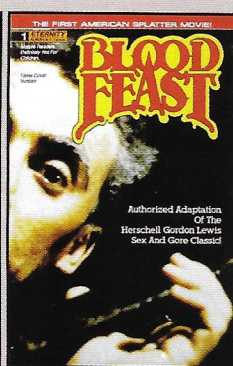
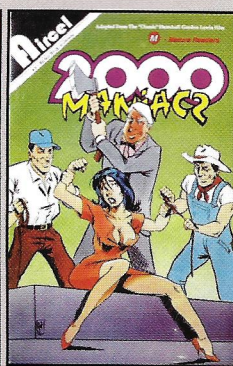
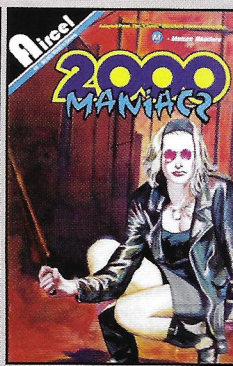
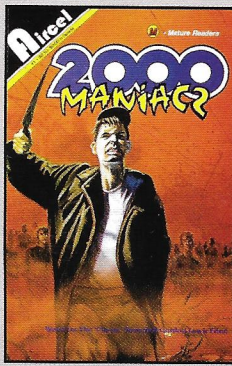
Have you ever seen a woman's tongue torn out or the violent removal of lactating nipples? How about a cutie crushed under



On September 26th, Herschell Gordon Lewis, colloquially known as the "Godfather of Gore," passed away at age 87. While sadness accompanies any passing, this innovator of horror lived a long and impactful life, helping usher in the era of the GoreHound and, in turn, inspiring the many

a giant rock or scalped alive? No? Then you must not be familiar with the many films of Herschell Gordon Lewis. Dubbed the "Godfather of Gore" by fans, this humble director changed cinema forever. While his films did not showcase Hollywood's acting elite and were almost always low-bud-

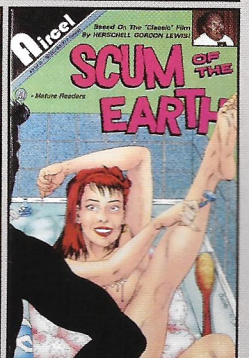
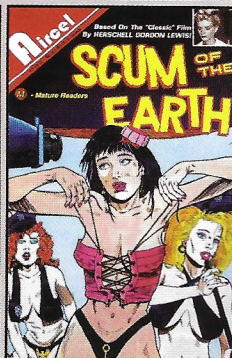
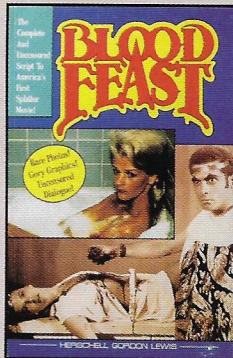




June 1963  
Playmate, Connie Mason. Each film to follow would somehow seem more twisted and shocking than its predecessor.

*Two Thousand Maniacs* was released in 1964 with even more sinister scenes of human dissection. Connie Mason returned to reprise her role as the heroine. This film showcased a very innovative style of blood-letting, as well as other scenes of graphic torment.

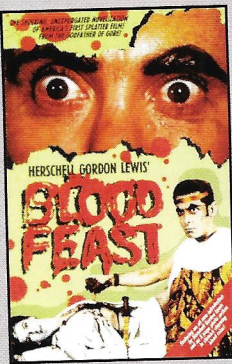
*Color Me Blood Red* was the third and final splatter film released in Lewis' partnership with friend and producer David F. Friedman, a year later in 1965. The film, about a demented artist named Adam Sorge (Gordon Oas-Heim), was the third



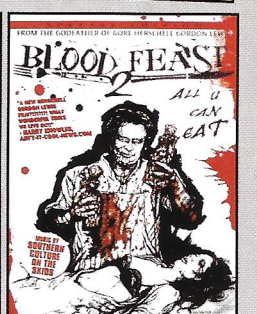
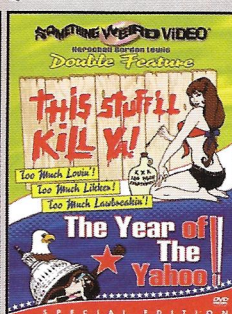
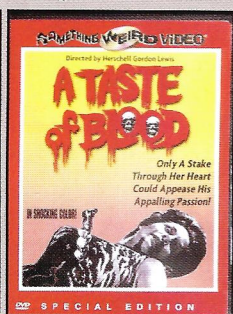
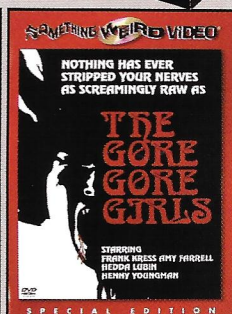
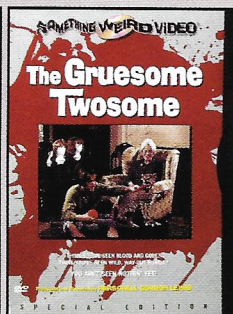
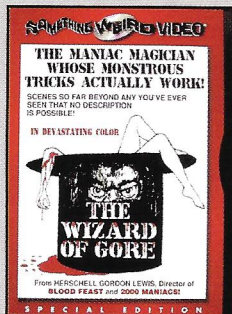
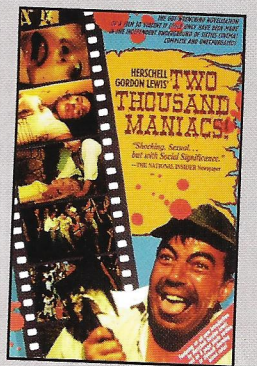
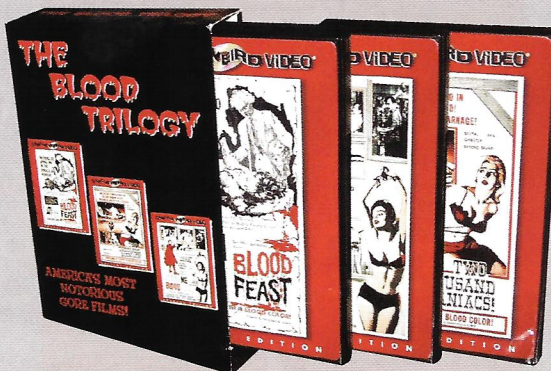
and final entry into the *Blood Trilogy*. The Godfather then took a break from gore filmmaking for a short time.

In 1967, Gordon made his return with, of all things, a Dracula-style story titled *A Taste of Blood*, followed by one of his most twisted movies, *The Gruesome Twosome*. This entry was Lewis' full return to gore movie making. More films like *The Wizard of Gore* and *The Gore Gore Girls* furthered Lewis' "Godfather of Gore" reputation.

In the 1980s, H.G. Lewis films truly became cult classics with the birth of home video. A whole new generation of movie maniacs could rent and view gore's true roots in the comfort of their own



intensely shocking for a more innocent '60s generation of moviegoers. This, mixed with Lewis' already infamous nude-sexploitation style of filmmaking, made for a big hit, especially since it starred *Playboy's*



Formerly very difficult to find, the many films of H.G. Lewis were first made available on VHS and DVD thanks to Something Weird Video. Shown throughout this spread is a sampling of the Lewis videos to check out. Also shown on this page is a set of novelizations based on *Blood Feast* and *Two Thousand Maniacs*, licensed comic books, and a vinyl record.

**Fun Fact:** *Two Thousand Maniacs* was shot in St. Cloud, Florida - right next to Walt Disney World.

## A TASTE OF BLOOD



### THE FILMS OF HERSCHELL GORDON LEWIS

Fans interested in learning more about the many films of Herschell Gordon Lewis should check out *A Taste of Blood*, a paperback by Christopher Wayne Curry, which not only chronicles H.G. Lewis' career as the master of exploitation, but also contains interviews with him and many of his former collaborators.

sequel to *Blood Feast*, *Blood Feast 2: All You Can Eat*. In 2005, *2001 Maniacs* was released, directed by Tim Sullivan (in his writing/director debut) and produced by Raw Nerve's Eli Roth, Scott Spiegel (*Intruder*), and Boaz Yakin. The film stars Lin Shaye (*Dead End*) and Robert Englund, with cameos by John Landis, David F. Friedman, and Johnny Legend. The film is a loose remake of the original *Two Thousand Maniacs*. A



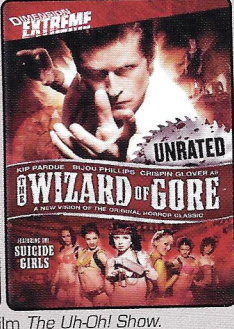
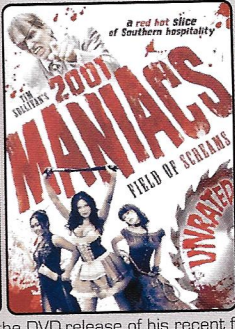
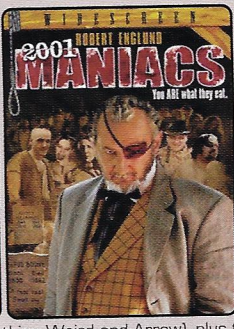
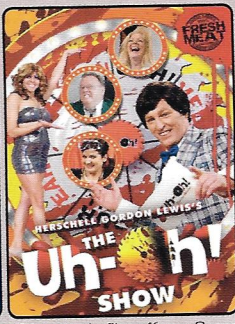
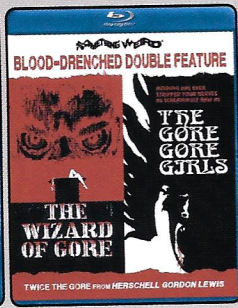
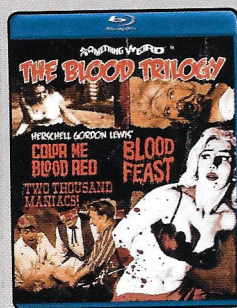
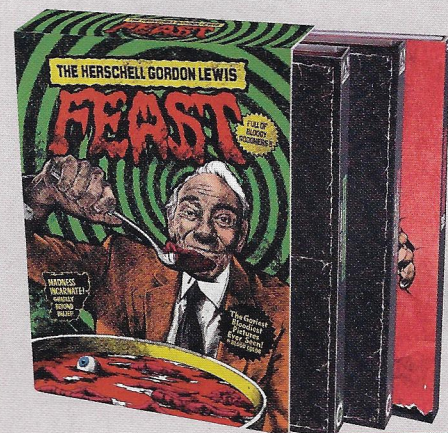
Many new directors showcase their own style of realistic gore and try to further this brand of shock cinema. Directors like Eli Roth and Adam Green are a couple examples proving Lewis' film style is alive and well. The "Godfather of Gore" changed filmmaking forever with his innovation in the macabre and those ripples are still felt to this day.

homes. This helped motivate cautious companies into taking (at that time) an unheard of chance on merchandising these types of films. Rhino Records produced *The Amazing Film Scores of Herschell Gordon Lewis* in 1984 on vinyl. Epic Publishing released novelizations of *Two Thousand Maniacs* and *Blood Feast* in 1988. Later, in 1991, Malibu Graphics, Inc., produced *Blood Feast: The Complete and Uncensored Script to America's First Splatter Movie*. Eternity Comics released the *Blood Feast* comics that ran two issues, with an alternate gore cover for issue #1. Aircel took on *Two Thousand Maniacs* with a three-issue comic series. Other items have been released over the years, but remain relatively illusive.

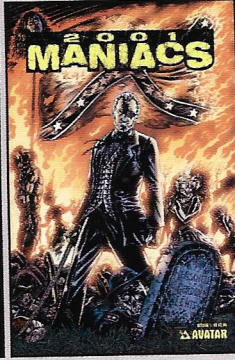
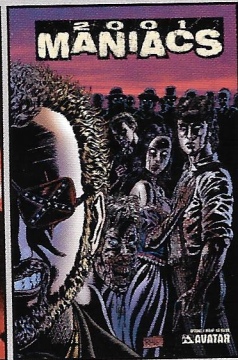
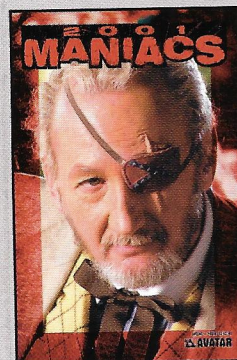
sequel to this film was produced four years later, with Bill Moseley taking over the role of Englund's mayor, titled *2001 Maniacs: Field of Screams* (also directed by Sullivan).

A one-upmanship in filmmaking has been going on ever since the inception of the gore film. Eighties foreign films like *Cannibal Holocaust* and *Make Them Die Slowly!* have what it takes to both shock and disgust you. The Japanese *Guinea Pig* film series also contains intense gore and shock value. In fact, some of these films were so shocking at times that the directors have had to convince authorities that they were not in fact real snuff films. Many of these kinds of video nasties found themselves banned in various foreign countries. All of Herschell Gordon Lewis' films were banned in the UK, the seal of a true cult-cinema icon.

The Godfather made a comeback in the new millennium with his long anticipated



Shown on this page are newer Blu-ray releases of H.G.'s classic films (from Something Weird and Arrow), plus the DVD release of his recent film *The Uh-Oh! Show*.



H.G. Lewis' legacy includes remakes of his films, such as *2001 Maniacs* (and its sequel, *Field of Screams*), *The Wizard of Gore*, and the unreleased *Blood Feast*. If that wasn't enough, back in 2005 Avatar Press released a series of comic books based on the *2001 Maniacs* remake, complete with variant covers (shown above).