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Ultrachrist is, as you'd expect from the title, a blasphemous romp through taboo comedy waters.

The story finds a baffled and naked Christ awakening in a modern big city ally. One is reminded of Terminator, but I'm not going to speculate as to whether or not it's a deliberate reference. More than likely, it's simply a shocking context in which to deal with a sacred cow.

Speaking of which, the movie at first doesn't seem promising. One fears early on that the events and actions will only be humorous because it is Jesus doing them. In other words, one fears that the humor itself isn't clever but rather finds its laughs by juxtaposing the sacred and the profane.

To an extent, this is true, but as it happens, the movie keeps on and manages to get the viewer involved.

This is very much underground, microbudget cinema and the low-fi aspect of the movie is apparent at every turn. However, that's the appeal of uber-indie cinema and it's this very freedom that allows the movie to go the places it goes.

In a nutshell: Jesus has returned for the promised second coming, though it's not working out the way Tim LaHaye and other Left Behinders are expecting! In an ill-conceived effort to relate to the youth of today, Jesus decides to take a new tack with his new ministry. He updates his messiahship to superhero status. He is now Ultrachrist, complete with spandex and cape.

Needless to say, things don't go as expected. That's not even to mention his lesbian roommates and potential love interest!!! (Semi spoiler but I can't not mention this: One hilarious scene combines stigmata and sexual arousal!!!)

God, presented here as what is almost a mob boss sort of character, sends a talkative, geek angel down to keep an eye on Jesus and, no matter what, get the damn costume away from him.

Naturally, those who are easily offended should probably find their entertainment elsewhere. But those who'd like a cheap but fairly intelligent stab at some traditional cultural mores might get a kick out of this one.

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