



September

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Featured C

News

CDs/DVDs

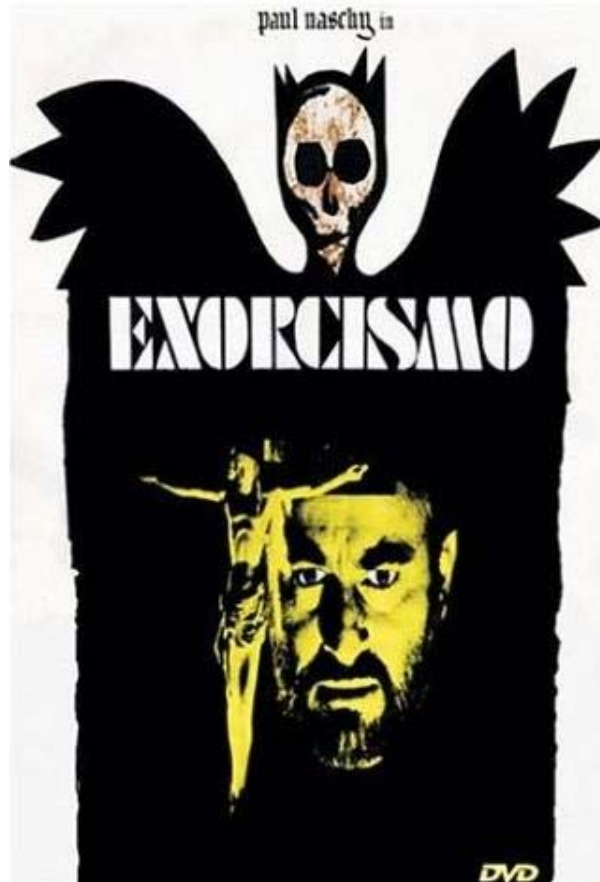
SubKulture

Photos

Annex22 E

Archives

Contact Us



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The opening scene in *Exorcismo* is of a group of Satanists performing a ceremony on the beach, sacrifice and all. We have no sound to tell us exactly what is going on at this rite, but the eerie music pulls us through to the morning and the murders.

A young lady named Leila, who was one of the participants in the satanic ceremony, is hospitalized and rejects her family's comforts. Her brother John believes there is something wrong with Leila. So, John goes to a friend of his who is a priest and asks him to come check on his sister.

*Exorcismo* was filmed in color and is 90 minutes in length. It stars Paul Naschy, a popular Euro-Trash actor of the time, as a priest named Father Adrian Dunning who is summoned to attempt to save Leila, the girl that has found herself wrapped up in the world of Satanism.

In his first visit with Leila, Father Dunning sees nothing wrong with the woman's behavior as her mother agrees. How does one help someone who has an obvious problem when you can't convince anyone else that there is actually anything wrong? This is John's dilemma, until he is found dead!

After John's funeral Leila starts to act out and begins to suffer from delusions. She attacks a young maid girl and has fits in the night waking up everyone in the house. Yet she continues to deny that there is anything wrong with her, though now others in the family are beginning to wonder.

The next victim in this circle of satanic mysteries is Leila's fiancé Richard who is found by Father Dunning after the Father himself has a brief encounter with someone in a very scary demon mask.

Even after Leila has an outburst during a family party ending in her rolling on the floor and howling like a dead cat, everyone is still at a blank to what is really wrong with her. People also begin to wonder about the strange deaths of both John and Richard.

There are a lot of surprises around each corner in *Exorcismo*. Strange occurrences and edge of your seat suspense keep your eyes glued to the screen and your ears alert to all sounds coming from the speakers.

*Exorcismo* utilizes all of the usual signs of possession, including the possessed person writing and speaking in foreign languages that they do not know and showing the signs of stigmata (Jesus Christ's crucifixion wounds). Leila screams at her family with profanity and her body contorts in all sorts of odd ways that the normal human body does not do.

Will Father Dunning be able to save Leila's soul before it is too late? Will an exorcism work to free this young woman from the spirit that possesses her? Will more people have to die before this madness ends, and who is murdering these people? You will just have to watch 'Exorcismo' to find out for yourself!

If you enjoy movies about demonic spirits possessing people's bodies and souls you will most definitely find *Exorcismo* at least slightly enjoyable. But just be reminded, although *Exorcismo* is a cult classic, it is far from the likes of *The Exorcist* or *The Exorcism of Emily Rose* (but it does have a lot more "skin" in it than the above mentioned movies if you are into that)!

-Yvonne Glasgow