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DVD Review: *Puppet Monster Massacre*

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When I was in junior high and high school in the mid-1980s, it seemed there were new horror movies hitting theaters every week. I didn't get to see many until they started showing up on video in high school and college, but I did see a few. And most of them involved teenagers doing dumb things and getting slaughtered by the monster or serial killer of the week.

From Freddy Krueger in *A Nightmare on Elm Street* and the haunted car in *Christine* to *The Lost Boys* and *Friday the 13th*, they all start with a group of clueless, usually good-looking teenagers with hormones raging out of control and end up with blood and dead bodies everywhere. Like Jeff Goldblum's character in *The Lost World: Jurassic Park* says - "Oh yeah. Oooh, ahhh, that's how it always starts. Then later there's running and screaming."

What if I told you there was a new movie that took that basic plot and turned it on its head? *The Puppet Monster Massacre* is definitely one of the strangest mash-ups I've ever seen. Teenagers? Check. Evil mad scientist? Check. Monster? Check. Creepy old house? Check. Puppets? What the...?



That's right - *The Puppet Monster Massacre* from writer/director/actor Dustin Mills takes aim at the classic teenage horror movie pattern, but uses puppets in all the roles. Don't worry though, there's still plenty of blood, gore, running, screaming, and sex - yes, I said sex - in this movie so be VERY aware this puppet show is NOT FOR THE KIDDIES. That said, I was laughing my butt off in more than a few places as the film pokes fun at the horror movie genre.

The story takes place in 1985 and starts with a hunter in the woods. He encounters a penguin and proceeds to get his butt kicked by said flightless bird. The poor old hunter wakes up in a mad scientist's lair and is used as the incubator for a strange little black monster. I knew from the first blood splatter that this wasn't going to be an average puppet horror film, though I had no idea what the "average puppet horror film" might be when I started...

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Brian Fitzpatrick (aka "Fitz") is a software engineer and writer living in Colorado Springs, Colorado, with his wife, two daughters, two dogs, a cat, and two rats (new for Xmas 2010!) -- trying desperately to survive the chaos!

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Puppet Monster Massacre

Release date: 2011-07-26

Running time: 70 minutes

Publisher: Music Video Dist

A group of teens are challenged to spend a night in the Wagner mansion on the edge of town. Little do they know the owner (Dr. Wolfgang Wagner) has concocted a monstrosity in the basement and plans to ...



Nightmare on Elm Street Collection

Release date: 2010-04-13

Running time: 702 minutes

Publisher: New Line Home Video



Christine (Special Edition)

Release date: 2004-09-28

Running time: 110 minutes

Publisher: Sony Pictures Home Entertainment



The Lost Boys [Blu-ray]

Release date: 2008-07-29

Running time: 97 minutes

Publisher: Warner Home Video



Friday the 13th - From Crystal Lake to Manhattan (Ultimate Edition DVD...)

Release date: 2004-10-05

Running time: 734 minutes

Publisher: Paramount

Article comments

1 - Nukapai

Aug 04, 2011 at 3:30 am

This looks pretty funny. I went to see Avenue Q and yes, puppet sex is quite disturbing. :D

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2 - Fitz

Aug 04, 2011 at 6:41 am

@Nukapai - I'm glad I'm not the only one who thinks so. :)

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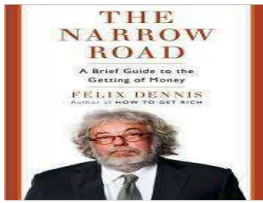
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