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ZOMBIE A-HOLE (2012)

Directed by Dustin W. Mills

Written by Dustin W. Mills

Starring Brandon Salkil, Josh Eal, Jessica Cook

Reviewed by [Ambush Bug](#)

Though I'm beginning to think that filming a movie through a computerized Grindhouse filter is the new found footage trend, if films like ZOMBIE A-HOLE come out of it, I won't mind it at all.

ZOMBIE A-HOLE is a damn fun film. Following a religious cowboy with powers of the occult on his side hunting a demon zombie who is offing twins across the country is definitely a premise I have never seen before. Though this is a zombie movie, per se, it bares no similarity to most zombie films you've ever seen. Here you have your usual mindless, moaning flesh-eaters. Those are easy pickens. The hard part for our cowboy is to track down a serial killer zombie which became the undead through a unholy medallion. So no plague, fallen satellite, or toxic spill made this zombie. This Zombie A-Hole is born from the bowels of hell!

The aforementioned Grindhouse effect is used expertly in this film. Whereas the effect was used off and on and completely

forgotten towards the end of Tarrantino/Rodriguez's GRINDHOUSE, here the filmmakers commit to the effect until the very end, offering up scratchy images, wobbly film, and a really cool way of highlighting rudimentary special effects. Though this film was probably made pretty cheaply, the clever way the effects scenes are filmed make this look like a million dollar baby. Sure, it's likely the skeletons our cowboy is blasting away are probably ten inches tall, some clever camera work makes them seem like human sized and makes for both a fun effect to watch play out, but the manner of which they are blown apart by the cowboys' holy pistols is damn gory.



The acting here is pretty amateur, but some of that is played as homage to Grindhouses in the past. There are some problems with the score of the film, as it relies waaaaay too much on a few repetitious harpsichord stanzas in too many scenes. At the same time, though, the film sports a damn fine soundtrack with some nice underground rock and electronica.



As with the harpsichord, I lost count of the number of times the zombie tracks down a pair of twins in an apartment. While one twin sits and stares into space before the zombie puts the hurt down on her, the other twin declodes and gets into a shower. I shit you not, this happens almost ten times in this film. Which is maybe two too many, in my book.

Repetition aside, the script does do a decent job of wrapping itself around some pretty kooky other worldly concepts and props to the filmmakers for going to GATES OF HELL route with the zombies rather than the old tried and true route. For that, some damn inventive effects (especially the use of silly string as both intestines and zombie acid spit...yeah you read that right), and a nice use of the old Grindhouse filter, those worn out from your typical zombie yarn but still in love with

the subgenre will most likely be as revitalized as I was after watching ZOMBIE A-HOLE!

Here's the trailer with that glorious NOT SAFE FOR WORK smell!