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ZOMBIE A-HOLE (2012)

Published by [David Carter](#) on 2013/6/25 (73 reads)

Directed by Dustin Mills
Review by David Carter



Released by MVD Visual
Running Time: 108 minutes
Rating: Not Rated
Color format: Color
Audio/Subtitles: 2.0 Stereo English
Region Code: 1, NTSC
Aspect Ratio: Widescreen
16:9 Enhanced: Yes
Special Features: None
Trailer Online: [Yes](#)



Short Version: Genre-bending gore fest

Dustin Mills' ZOMBIE A-HOLE is the kind of movie that jumps out at you from the shelves. The title immediately grabbed me – as I'm sure it did many of you – and helped to overcome my usual reticence to watch yet another low-budget zombie movie and it moved to near the top of my "to watch" pile. Zombies are, of course, still big business both in Hollywood and in indie-land, so I was curious to see what young director Mills would be able to bring to the table. Thankfully, ZOMBIE A-HOLE is as unique as its eye-catching title. It's now available on DVD from MVD Visual.



Fulci hunts down the undead; creatures that don't belong in our world. He's on the hunt for one particular member of the undead, however; a very powerful and hard-to-stop zombie who is leaving a trail of murdered female twins across the Midwest. One pair of those twins were Frank's sisters and only one, the now one-eyed Mercy, is also tracking the "zombie a-hole" against Frank's wishes.



Frank enlists the help of his friend Bob, who provides him with a talking voodoo talisman to guide him towards his prey. The talisman only speaks in riddles, and Frank is shocked when it tells him that the key to stopping the zombie menace is the nebbish hitchhiker he picked up, Castor. It turns out that Castor is the twin brother of serial killer Pollux, who through dark magic became the titular undead a-hole. Castor will have to overcome his fears and learn to harness his latent psychic abilities if he plans on helping Frank, who deduces Pollux's master plan and must race to stop him before he can enact it.

ZOMBIE A-HOLE benefits greatly from its interesting concept and well-written narrative. Simply put, this is a good story, something which is sorely lacking from the majority of zombie films that throw out a couple of dead bodies and some victims and call it a day. I'd hesitate to call anything in the film truly original, but rather a collection of some familiar ideas put together in an interesting way. Things are paced nicely as well, and Mills alternates between action and exposition in a way that neither wears out their welcome.

Josh Eal ("Frank Fulci") deserves to be singled out for his performance because he deftly avoids taking the character into clichéd territory. Both he and Brandon Salkil ("Castor") manage to turn in great horror movie performances by, ironically, not falling into the "I'm acting in a horror movie" trap and hamming it up too much.

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performances by, ironically, not falling into the imitating-in-a-horror-movie-crap-and-hamming-it-up-too-much. They are both helped in their efforts by Mills' script, which steers clear of outright imitation of the classics at any point.

MVD Visual's DVD enhances the film's faux-grindhouse aesthetic. ZOMBIE A-HOLE is not technically a "zombie film" in the sense that it is something wholly different than what you've likely come to expect from the genre. In my opinion, what Mills has given us here is greatly preferable to the standard, well-worn plot devices. Gore fans will be especially pleased with how well the film delivers on that front as most of the horror sequences are mixtures of zombie gut-munching and slasher-style stalkings. This film is certainly worth a look if you think you've seen all the world of low-budget zombie films has to offer.



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