

Duck, you sucker

The gimmicky 1981 3D Spaghetti Western, **Comin' At Ya!**, starring Tony Anthony, has been released as a Blu-ray 3D by MVDvisual (UPC#76013773795, \$25). Running 88 minutes, the rather lame narrative has Anthony's character attempting to retrieve his bride after she is abducted, along with a number of other women, by grungy bandits. He is just about the stupidest hero one could come across, and has no actual plan for getting the women to safety after he surprises the bandits, and no common sense while he is holding the villains at bay as the ladies escape. But that's not why anybody is watching the movie, anyway.

The 3D effects are relentless and, good or bad, they definitely get your adrenaline going. The camera points up as things fall into it. From snakes to gun barrels to fists, things lunge across at the camera, and from spears to flaming arrows, things fly at the camera, again and again. There are even some ridiculous rubber bats, flopping at you, but the whole idea is, if one trick doesn't make you jerk or blink, the next one will. Combined with occasional perspective shots of landscapes or set designs, the aggressiveness of the dimensional effects is undeniable, and yet, the story is so pointless and ineptly downbeat that you still feel ripped off by it. Directed by Ferdinando Baldi, had as much creativity gone into the narrative, you wouldn't feel so restless for it to be over and done with, even if fewer spears came flying at you in the trade off.

We reviewed a Rhino DVD, which used red/blue separations to support the 3D effects, in Dec 99. That presentation was 3 minutes longer and was in color from start to finish. The creators of the 2010 restoration that is presented on the BD couldn't keep their hands off the color manipulation buttons. Numerous sequences are in black and white, or black and white with singularly colored objects. Even when the film is entirely in color, some colors are pushed more than others. Nevertheless, the source material still has speckles and other instances of wear. Naturally, the colors are much better than they were on the primitive DVD, but it is only because the film is so dumb that you don't feel like the 'original vision' of the filmmakers has been compromised by all of the tinkering.

The DTS sound has also been beefed up, but there are a lot of enjoyable separation and directional effects. The BD contains an additional 2D version, and the picture is letterboxed with an aspect ratio of about 2.35:1. There is no captioning. Along with a 2D trailer (Rhino's trailer was in 3D), there is a 6-minute recap in 3D of the film's many 3D effects, which, unless you don't like blinking so much all at once, is all you really need to see of the movie or the disc.

DVD News

The Criterion Collection is releasing **Wim Wenders: The Road Movies**, featuring *Alice in the Cities*, *Wrong Move*, and *Kings of the Road*. Special features will include commentaries for all three films, with Wenders and actors Rüdiger Vogler and Yella Rottländer on *Alice in the Cities*, and Wenders by himself on *Wrong Move* and *Kings of the Road*; an interview with Wenders, directed and conducted by filmmaker Michael Almereyda; interviews with Vogler, Rottländer, and actors Lisa Kreuzer and Hanns Zischler; outtakes and Super 8 home movies; *Restoring Time*, a 2015 short about the restoration work done by the Wim Wenders Foundation; and two short films by Wenders, *Same Player Shoots Again* (1967) and *Silver City Revisited* (1968). Kaneta Shindo's **The Naked Island** will have an introduction by Shindo, recorded for a 2011 retrospective of his work; a commentary recorded in 2000, featuring Shindo and composer Hikaru Hayashi; an appreciation of the film by actor Benicio Del Toro; and an interview with film scholar Akira Mizuta Lippit. Nicholas Ray's **In a Lonely Place** will include an audio commentary featuring film scholar Dana Polan; *I'm a Stranger Here Myself*, a 1975 documentary about Ray, slightly condensed for this release; an interview with biographer Vincent Curcio about Gloria Grahame; a piece from 2002 featuring filmmaker Curtis Hanson; and a radio adaptation from 1948 of the original Dorothy B. Hughes novel, broadcast on the program *Suspense*. Robert Altman's **The Player** will have all of the special features that appeared on Criterion's LD release (May 93), along with new interviews with screenwriter Michael Tolkin, Tim Robbins, associate producer David Levy, and production designer Stephen Altman.

MORE CONCUSSION: Sony Home Entertainment's **Concussion** will have deleted scenes, featurettes and a commentary. The Oscar-winning **Son of Saul** will have a director's commentary. **Lamb** will have a commentary and deleted scenes. **Identicals** will have featurettes. **The Driftless Area** will have a featurette.

MORE COAT: Warner Home Video's **Dolly Parton's Coat of Many Colors** will have deleted scenes. **Point Break** will have featurettes and deleted scenes.

BROOKLYN TALK: 20th Century Fox Home Entertainment's **Brooklyn** will have featurettes and a commentary. **Youth** will have a number of featurettes.

BULLFIGHTING DOC: A documentary about bullfighting and specifically about matador Antonio Barrera, **Gored**, is available at www.amazon.com.

LATEST SILENTS: The latest silent films released by Grapevine

Video include **The Lamb, Luck, and Shock Punch**. Sound film releases include **Hypnotized, Burn 'Em Up Barnes, Santa Fe Bound/Ridin' On, and Silver Queen**.

TWILIGHT UPDATE: The latest Blu-ray releases from Twilight Time and Screen Archives Entertainment include **Eye in the Labyrinth, A Knife for the Ladies, White Ghost, I Could Go On Singing, Eureka, Garden of Evil, Cat Ballou, Appassionata, Romeo Is Bleeding, Inserts, The Hound of the Baskervilles, The Member of the Wedding, Panic in Needle Park, Rollerball, Alexander the Great, Lilies of the Field, Exodus, Anastasia, and 10 Rillington Place**.

VAULT UPDATE: The following titles were recently issued as part of the Universal *Vault Series*—**The Female Animal, The Private War of Major Benson, Blindfold, An American Tragedy, A Gathering of Eagles, 100 Men and a Girl, Scarlet Angel, Broken Lullaby, Wells Fargo, Nothing But the Truth, Kitty, A Very Special Favor, The Spiral Road, and Never Say Goodbye**.

LIMITED EDITION UPDATE: The following titles were recently issued by 20th Century Fox Home Entertainment as *MGM Limited Edition Collection* offerings: **Number One, The Peacekillers, The Revolt of the Slaves, Dance Macabre, Mom, The Smokers, Committed, Retroactive, Hotel Colonial, The Immortalizer, Grievous Bodily Harm, Captain John Smith & Pocahontas, Fearless Frank, How to Stuff a Wild Bikini, Marlene Dietrich: Her Own Song, Below the Belt, Mr. Accident, Attention Shoppers, Down the Drain, FoxfireLight, A Life of Sin, Mission Of The Shark: The Saga Of The U.S.S. Indianapolis, Pop & Me, Octavia, The Mouse on the Moon, Molly, The Falling, Living on Tokyo Time, Land of Doom, Panga, Everybody Wins, Maria's Lovers, The Adventures of Gerard, Nana, Pulp, Five on the Black Hand Side, Unmasking the Idol, Every Breath, Billie, Dempsy, The Old Gun, Without You I'm Nothing, Kissed, The Yes Men, Time Limit, In the Time of the Butterflies, A Dog's Breakfast, Griffin and Phoenix, Hanging Garden, Swimming Upstream, Kansas, Crack House, Getting Even with Dad, The Chocolate War, Rikky and Pete, Just Between Friends, Initiation of Sarah, Warm Summer Rain, Walk Like a Man, Legend of Johnny Lingo, Best Men, Bucktown, Two Weeks, 24 Hour Party People, and Rage of Honor**.

ARCHIVES UPDATE: The following titles were recently issued by 20th Century Fox Home Entertainment as *Fox Cinema Archives* offerings—**Black Sheep, Danger Has Two Faces, Goodbye Lover, The Iron Curtain, Mr. Moto Takes a Chance, and These Thousand Hills**.

ARCHIVE UPDATE: The following titles were recently issued by Warner Home Video as *Warner Archive Collection* offerings—**The Angel Wore Red, The Angry Hills, Arctic Flight, The Cowboy and the Lady, Desert Pursuit, The Desperado, Edge of Doom, Family Matters Season 3, George O'Brien Western Collection, Go Naked in the World, I Confess (Blu-ray), Key Largo (Blu-ray), Lady of the Tropics, Lawman Season 4, A Mighty Wind (Blu-ray), Mexican Manhunt, My Foolish Heart, Project Greenlight Season 4 The Leisure Class, The Real Glory, Requiem for the Dead American Spring 2014, Rhino!, Sierra Passage, Take the High Ground, These Three, Toe Tag Parole To Live and Die on Yard A, The Whip Hand, White Cargo, and Watusi**.

NEW IN BLU: The following titles have recently been released on Blu-ray—**Martyrs (Anchor Bay); Bridge of Spies, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (Buena Vista); Erotic Adventures of Candy/Candy Goes to Hollywood, What the Peeper Saw (CAV); Children Shouldn't Play with Dead Things, The Curse/The Curse II The Bite, Extraordinary Tales, The Giant Spider Invasion, Hellion, Jesus of Nazareth Complete Miniseries, The Keeping Room, Millennium/R.O.T.O.R, The Serpent and the Rainbow, The World of Kanako, Zombie Fight Club (Cinedigm); Death by Hanging, The Emigrants/The New Land, The Graduate, I Knew Her Well, The Kid (Criterion); Diablo, From Dusk Til Dawn Season 2 (eOne); Evangelion 3.33, Lord Marksman and Vanadis Complete Series, Tokyo Ghoul Season 1 (Goldhil); The Leftovers Season 2, Show Me a Hero, Togetherness Season 1 (HBO); Criminal Activities (Image); Ambush Bay, Beachhead, The Challenge, Curse of the Faceless Man, Delirious, Gorp, Highway to Hell, Hitch-hike, I'm Gonna Get You Sucka, The Passage, Pauline at the Beach, The Southerner, Spies, Up the Creek, Woman in the Moon (Kino); Extraction, Freeheld, The Last Witch Hunter, Love the Coopers, Man Up, MI-5, Racing Extinction (Lionsgate); Frankenstein, Hangman, Moonwalkers (Millennium); A Ballerina's Tale, Convergence (MPI); Twisted Sister We Are Twisted Sister (Music Box); Amos & Andrew, Beat Street, Class, Code 46, Moonlight and Valentino, Mystery Date, Pressure Point, Speechless, Secret Admirer, With Me (Olive); Mercy Street (Paramount); Freaks of Nature, Grandma, Labyrinth of Lies, Truth (Sony); Edge of Seventeen (Strand); Fargo Season 2, Spectre (Fox); Big Stone Gap, Crimson Peak, Kahlil Gibran's The Prophet, Rock the Kasbah, Steve Jobs, Suffragette, Trumbo, Warehouse 13 Complete Series (Universal); Carole King Natural Woman (Virgil); Batman Bad Blood, Black Mass, Doctor Who The Husbands of River Song, Falling Skies Season 5, Our Brand Is Crisis, Peaky Blinders Season 2, The 33 (Warner); The Beauty Inside, Estranged (Well Go USA)**