

to demonic realms and Satanic influence, and was therefore deemed harmful to the young people who played it. As laughable as the idea of bedevilled RPGs might seem in 2017, beliefs like this were commonplace only three decades ago.

13 Demons takes the idea of a deadly game and makes it literal. The story centres on a group of grown men who become addicted - or possessed by - a fantasy quest board game called "Daemons," in which they're tasked with ridding the realm of the thirteen demons the title alludes to. But when their honourable quest results in a real-life death toll, it turns out the hellspawn might not be fictional after all.

Daniel E. Falicki's film is far from perfect. In fact, I imagine a lot of people will find 13 Demons difficult to appreciate with its hammy acting and cheap special effects. That said, it's as independent as indie cinema can be and for aficionados for this kind of scare fare, it's a good effort with plenty to enjoy. While some will see these factors as weaknesses, others will view 13 Demons as entertaining and ambitious for its budget - and that's what 13 Demons is: entertaining.

While I can't wholeheartedly recommend this movie to every horror lover, I will recommend it to those who appreciate underground, DIY cinema made with heart and enthusiasm. 13 Demons might not be a gateway to actual demons, but it is a serviceable introduction to the undiscovered horror gems that lurk beneath the shadows.

**Rating:** 🧟🧟🧟🧟

**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Multiple trailers for 13 Demons and many other select trailers from current and upcoming DVD releases from Chemical Burn Entertainment.

**Rating:** 🧟🧟🧟🧟

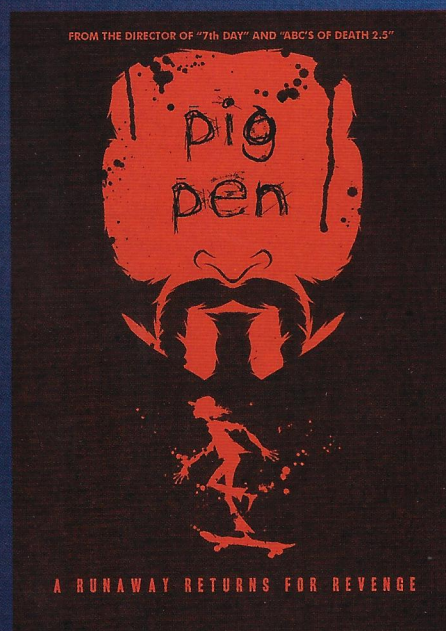
13 DEMONS is out now on **US DVD** courtesy of Chemical Burn Entertainment.

REVIEWED BY KIERAN FISHER

## PIG PEN

**THE FILM:** Having been involved with V/H/S/2 and after entering the ABCs of Death 2 competition, filmmaker Jason M. Koch is no stranger to the indie horror scene. His latest effort Pig Pen is less of a horror movie but more of a dramatic thriller that touches upon a number of dark themes that could have been intriguing to watch unfold. But, clearly affected by its low production value, much of Pig Pen's grittiness is lost in the grainy quality of the presentation.

Pig Pen follows 13-year-old Zack (Lucas Koch) who is left to fend for himself on the streets after being pushed out of his family home by his mother's new boyfriend Wayne (Vito Trigo). What follows next is seventy minutes filled by dimly lit sets, overt the top performances and very lacklustre moments



of drama that failed to grab my attention.

Overall, I found Pig Pen to be quite troublesome. There is very little to no attempt to develop its characters, not one single performance thrilled me and the overall quality of the film left me bitterly disappointed as a viewer. Sure, there is some attempt to increase its intensity with some pretty nasty gore effects but by the time the end credits begun to roll, I had lost interest.

**Rating:** 🧟🧟🧟🧟

**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Trailers

**Rating:** 🧟🧟🧟🧟

PIG PEN is out now on **US DVD** courtesy of MVD Entertainment.

REVIEWED BY JON DICKINSON

## THE BURNINGMOORE DEATHS

**THE FILM:** It might be over a decade late to the party but Jonathan Williams' mockumentary The Burningmoore Deaths has been traveling a long-unfolding path to a release date. Although somewhat hindered by its own micro-budget, Burningmoore struggles to fully impress but stands to keep the attention of its audience peaked throughout its relatively short 86 minute runtime.

Owing more than a debt to the found footage films that came before it, The Burningmoore Deaths sees a bunch of unknown actors as members of a television production crew working inside an abandoned house whilst filming a pilot for their new home improvement television show. They are unaware that James Parish (Geoff Tate), a man who killed his family, is hiding in the basement. Therefore it's not too long before the crew are bumped off one by one whilst their murders are captured by the cameras placed all over the house.

Though its characters fall into fairly easy stereotypes (the stoner, the perky presenter, the over dramatic production manager, etc), Williams attempts to display a keen sense of creativity and the end result which, while not especially terrifying, is actually tense in quite a few moments. That said, nothing particularly stands out but as a first time director, I would be interested in seeing what he comes up with next.

**Rating:** 🧟🧟🧟🧟

**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Trailers & Photo Slideshow.

**Rating:** 🧟🧟🧟🧟

THE BURNINGMOORE DEATHS is out now on **US DVD** courtesy of MVD Entertainment.

REVIEWED BY JON DICKINSON

