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Rosa and the Executioner of the Fiend (2009)

Region 0 DVD Video Review

Reviewed by **Fingers**

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--DVD DETAILS

Distributor:
• MVD Visual

Label:
• n/a

Running Time:
• 101 minutes approx

DVD Release Date:
• February 23, 2010

DVD Country:
• America

Screen Format:
• 4:3 Full Frame NTSC

Discs / Sides / Layers:
• 1 / 1 / Single

Soundtracks:
• English: Dolby Digital 5.1

Subtitles:
• n/a

Special Features:
• n/a

Classification:
• Unrated

--FILM DETAILS

Studio(s):
• Latin Jazz USA Productions

Year:
• 2009

Country:
• American

Directed by:
• Ivan Acosta

"Based on the true modern day story..."



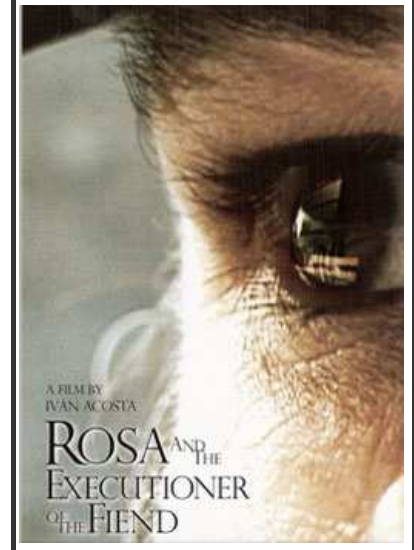
--THE PLOT

Rosa Mandelbaum, a widower and Holocaust survivor, gets caught up with a would-be assassin who needs her prime New York City apartment, located directly opposite the United Nations Headquarters, to eliminate certain political figures responsible for historical catastrophes that affected both of them in similar ways.

--VIDEO

The transfer here is mediocre at best. This is in part due to the film stock/technology used by the director himself. It's super grainy and dull, lacking any sharpness or overall clarity.

--COVER ART



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--RATINGS

Film

Video

Audio

Extras

Overall

--FUN FACTS

Trivia:
• n/a

...MORE

Written by:

- Ivan Acosta

Starring:

- Ileana Canal
- Ino Gomez
- Gabriel Gorces
- Graciela Lecube
- Ruben Rabasa
- Ricardo Razuri
- Susan Rybin
- Jules Santos

Genre(s):

- Drama

Also known as:

- n/a

--POSTER

- n/a

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Gabriel Gorces, Il...

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--AUDIO

The audio, too, is of supremely poor quality. This isn't necessarily the distributor's fault. The sound mixing and editing of the film itself is really of an inferior standard. Many of the film's scenes lack decent sound, and since it's a rather talky affair, it really effects the presentation of the film, especially from a technical standpoint.

**--EXTRAS**

Bare bones. Scene Selection menu, that's all.

--FINAL THOUGHTS

Writer, producer, and director Ivan Acosta has injected some grand, highly socio-political ideas into what is undoubtedly a labour of love. It's a shame that he didn't have the budget, writing ability, or technical expertise to pull it off effectively.

That said, [Rosa and the Executioner of the Fiend](#) would've worked really well as a play because the whole drama unfolds in a single location with two central characters. However, one aspect of filmmaking that Acosta really seemed to grasp was classical narrative structure, in that the characters here are revealed with restraint, the drama gradually unfolds around their differing circumstances and ideals, and they each have discernible arcs.

While the production itself is lacking in nearly every technical aspect, the writing, namely the dialogue, is riddled with clichéd expressions and awkward exchanges. It's a real shame to have these very complex, culturally-driven individuals emit such paltry, melodramatic spiels.

I sincerely wish Ivan Acosta the very best in his filmmaking endeavours because his ideas and themes are really loaded and politically charged, and the fact that he's into the portrayal of meaningful, realistic relationships gives him an edge over contemporary genre filmmakers. It may make it difficult for him to get funding, but fuck it, at least he's got something vital to say.

As I mentioned earlier, [Rosa and the Executioner of the Fiend](#) would've worked much better as a play, not as a no-budget indie melodrama.

--TRAILER**Goofs:**

- n/a

...MORE

Quotes:

- n/a

...MORE

Movie Connections:

- n/a

...MORE

--SOUNDTRACK

- n/a

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