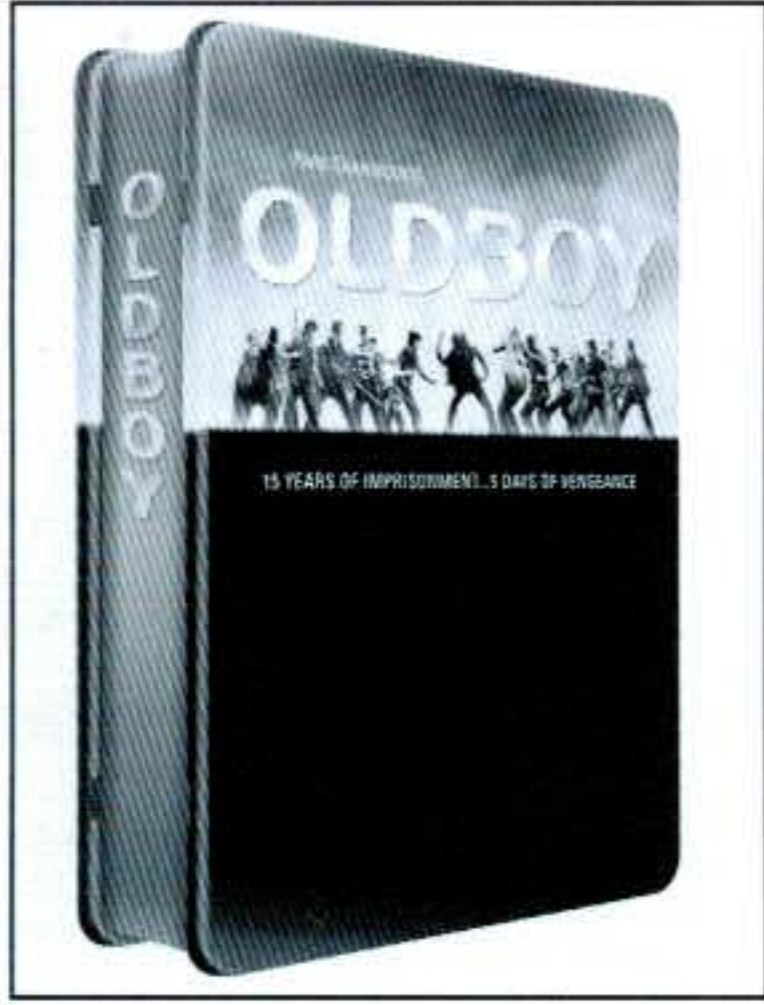
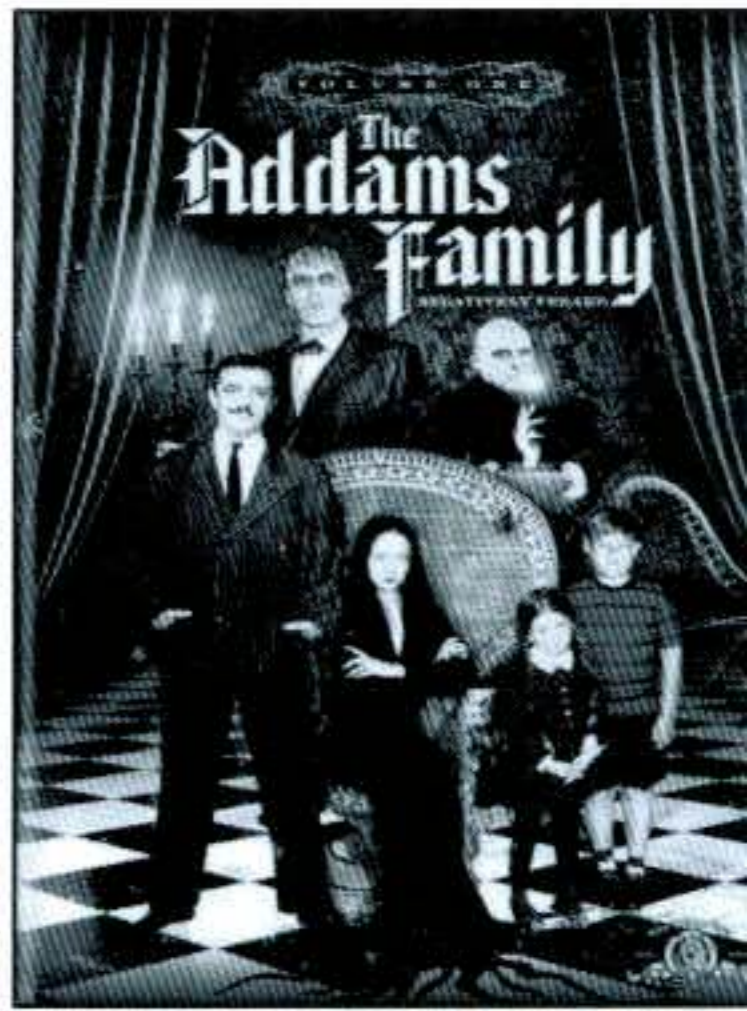


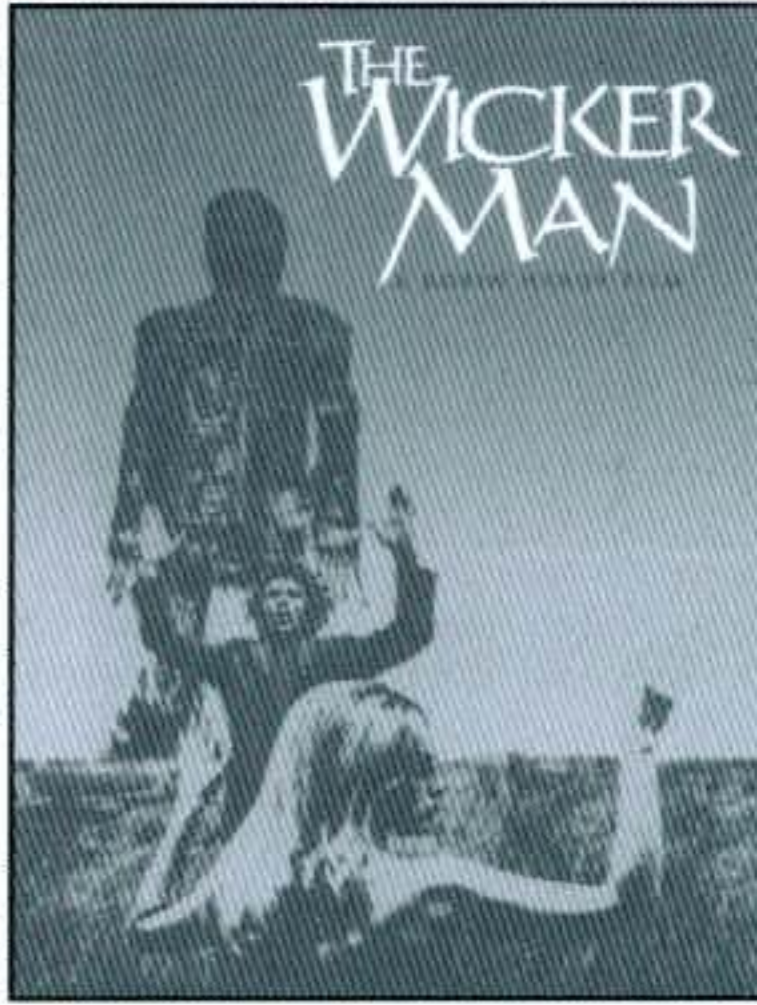
DVD QUICKIES

Brief reviews and DVD News

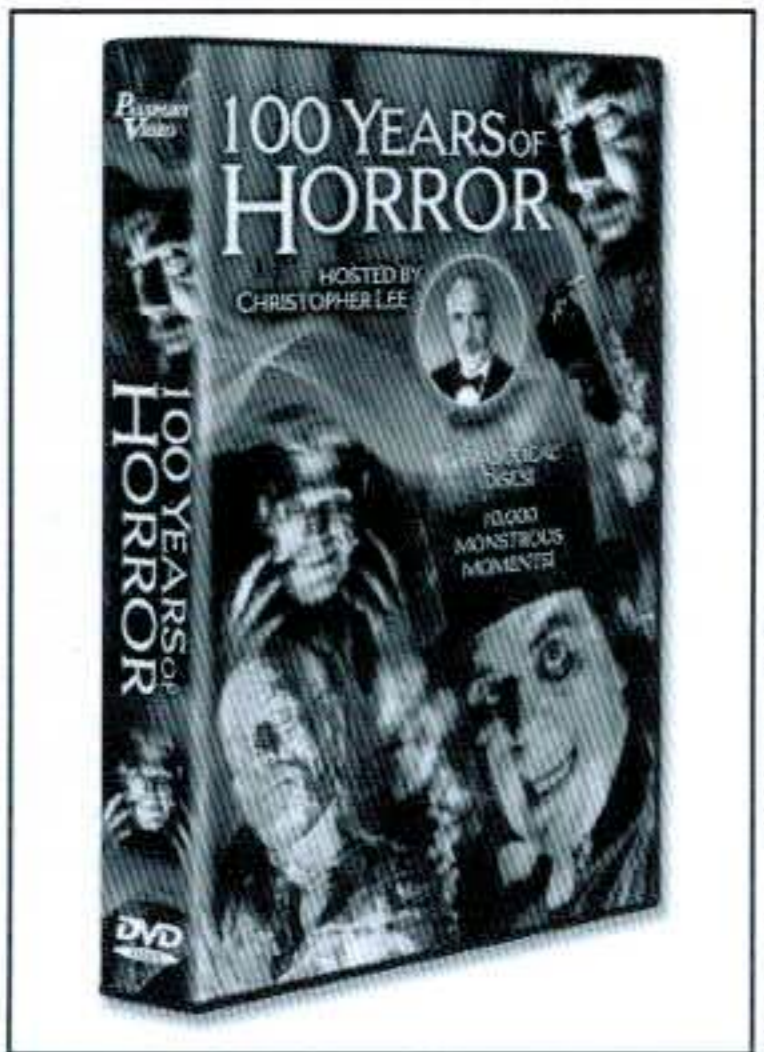


From the moment I heard Nicholas Cage was going to produce and star in a remake of the 1973 classic British film *The Wicker Man*, I was disgusted. Anyone who is not familiar with the original may avoid the picture after seeing Cage's abomination of Anthony Shaffer's masterpiece. Anchor Bay U.S. re-released the theatrical print on DVD to cash in, but a brand new U.K. edition from Optimum Releasing will make *Wicker Man* fans rejoice. Optimum's three disc set is very much like Warner Bros. import box set. It contains the theatrical version, director's cut, main cast audio commentary, plus CD soundtrack. (Warners version included a senitype, as well as a poster offer and a pressbook). The crown jewel in Optimum's edition is the new 50 minute documentary titled *Burnt Offerings*. Our host is BBC film historian Mark Kermode. New interviews with Christopher Lee, Edward Woodward, Britt Eckland and Ingrid Pitt bring new insight to the film. For those who own Anchor Bay's discontinued wooden box set, we think it's time for an upgrade.

We received many e-mails in regards to Music Video Distributors *Kate Bush: Under Review* documentary (which we mentioned in last issue's *DVD Quickies*). For those who are fans of the *Under Review* series, look for *Joy Division* and *Tom Waits Under Review* discs. Both are spectacular.



Fans of Peter Jackson's *Bad Taste* and *Braindead*, will absolutely love *The Excreamer*, an indie splatter pic from the U.K. The gross out factor is high on this baby. Bodily fluids flow just a bit too freely, but that's the film's...er...charm. If you're looking for something funny, yet twisted, *The Excreamer* should satisfy your sick needs. It's the homo-gore-otic film of the year. To purchase the DVD via PayPal, go to <http://www.masochistpictures.co.uk>

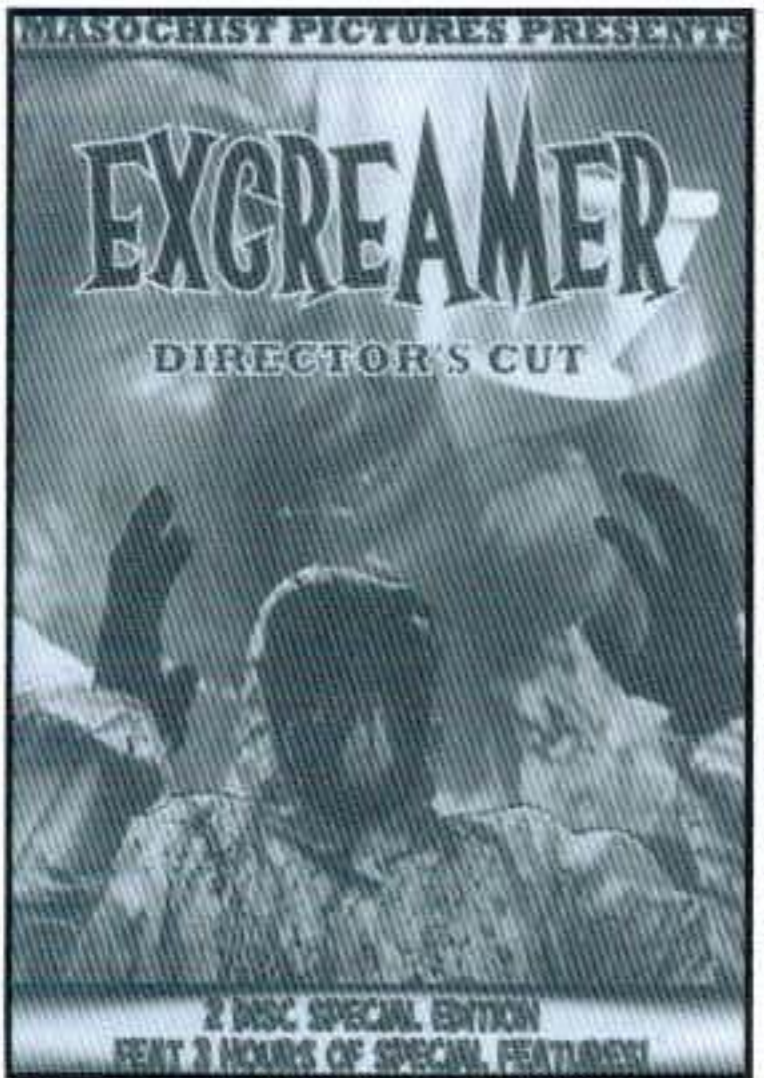


I have fond memories of the cartoon series *The Groovie Goolies*. Watching the new 3 disc DVD box set (titled *The Saturday "Mourning" Collection*) from BCI takes me back to the days when I was stuck in front of the TV watching Saturday morning's finest shows. Extras include a 45-minute documentary featuring Alice Cooper, Rob Zombie, and Fory Ackerman. Throw in a bowl of Count Chocula, and I'm in horror heaven!

Speaking of nostalgic TV, our favorite "real life" ghouls, *The Addams Family* and *The Munsters*, are now well represented on DVD. Fox has issued the first season of *The Addams Family* on DVD, while Image Entertainment's *The Munsters: The First Family of Fright* documentary has made it to store shelves after a long delay. More *Munsters* news on page 72.



Tartan's special edition *Oldboy* tin is a must own. The new three disc limited metal collector's box contains over 350 minutes(!) of bonus extras: making of documentary; music score; CGI documentary; cast and crew interviews; 10 deleted scenes; as well as three commentary tracks. Other new titles from Tartan include the serial killer film *H6* ("The Spanish answer to *Hostel*"), *The Red Shoes* and *Ghost of Mae Nak*.



If Subversive Cinema's *Dust Devil* is the best bargain of the year (see our review on page 51), then Passport Video's 5 DVD set *100 Years of Horror* is a close runner up. First made available on VHS, the complete running time of this collection is an exhausting 750 minutes. Broken into 15 episodes (each run approx. 30 minutes), our host is Christopher Lee (great choice). Lee's speaking voice has always been scholarly, and as we hear him discuss the horror genre, one feels like they're listening to a very reliable source. Although much of the footage is taken from trailers, and at times the picture quality is less than crisp, the sheer volume of material, and the unbelievable \$19.99 price tag make up for the visual flaws. Here's a taste of some chapters: *Werewolves, Ghosts and Phantoms, Witches, Demons, Mutants, Freaks, Scream Queens, Maniacs, Girl Ghouls, Gory Gimmicks, Zombies, Sorcerers and Aliens, Dinosaurs, and Blood Drinking Beings*. Lugosi and Karloff each get their own episode, but why Lon Chaney isn't given his own is disappointing. Then again, for less than twenty dollars, it's not worth nitpicking over. I haven't seen this wonderful collection in stores, but you can easily find it through most online retailers. I suggest you grab it before the set changes its name to the Claude Rains Collection!

