In the Sign of the Gemini

CLASSIC DANISH EROTICAL

Director: Werner Hedman (Denmark, 1975)

Studio: MVD Aspect Ratio: n/a

Region: 0

Running Time: 92 minutes

Review posted on 02/07/2009 by Crimson Celluloid

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Who among us here at DVD HOLOCAUST hasn't, at one time or another, been watching hardcore porn and thought "what this film needs is some good slapstick comedy"?

It's a natural reaction to be watching hardcore vaginal penetration and say "where's the slide-whistle sound effect??" or think "Man, I'd really bust a nut if that butler does a reverse prat-fall into the lake!". Luckily for us all director Werner Hedman has heeded the call. My second dose of Danish porn/comedy isn't too dissimilar to his previous effort, In the Sign of the Lion. Lots of Danish beauties, some hit and miss comedy scenarios and more gratuitous dance numbers.

"enough nubile Nordic flesh on view to inspire trouser-lumber"

A couple of sequences do differentiate the two films and detour from his usual M.O., as witnessed in the previously reviewed Lion. One lesbian tryst in a sauna could almost have been taken from another film and inserted here. It goes for OVER a minute and there's not a speeded-up frame or over-the-top double take to be seen. It's the closest Hedman comes to "real" porn that I have witnessed so far. Also a sequence in a girl's locker room is a highlight, it's not hardcore but there's enough nubile Nordic flesh on view to inspire trouser-lumber.

"Lots of Danish beauties, some hit and miss comedy scenarios and more gratuitous dance numbers"

As with Lion, there's a preponderance of vintage cars, castles, period costumes and over the top acting, all the trademarks of a Hedman film it seems. The acting? Well, let's just say it's not too hard to imagine Hedman off to one side, sweating profusely, slide-whistle in hand as he yells "MORE over the top!!!!" to his actors. All the while imagining the critical acclaim this film will receive and working on his acceptance speech for the "best prat fall in a porn film" award.

The story, such as it is, involves a music star, kidnapping and lesbian sex. That's all you really need to know. Besides, it's all secondary to Hedman's desire to perfectly meld slapstick and porn into the one viewer friendly package.

Sadly Hedman passed away in 2005. Rumour has it that at his funeral the priest drunkenly fell into the grave. Hedman would have been proud.



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SPECIAL FEATURES:

None

RECOMMENDED VIEWING:

- In the Sign of the Virgin
- In the Sign of the Taurus



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