

In The Sign Of The Gemini U.K. Distributor:

- Not set

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- 1

In The Sign Of The Gemini Release Date:

- 19th May 2009

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In The Sign Of The Gemini Synopsis:

Ultra racy comedy about a record-studio owner Anthon Master/Benny Master (Ole Soltoft - winner at the Sweden Fantastic Film Festival) effort to get the voluptuous cabaret singer Dolores Rossi (Cia Lowgren) to sign a record contract with him before she signs with Ulrik Ulvenstein (Preben Mahrt). With the help of Max and Walther - his well meaning but bumbling, stumbling sidekicks they kidnap Master to keep him from Delores.

In The Sign Of The Gemini Review:

The DVD box for In the Sign of the Gemini calls it 'Classic Danish Erotica'. Benny Hill meets Debbie Does Dallas might be closer to the mark! This 1970s production mixes slapstick comedy, a simple story and fairly hardcore sex in a quirky package that certainly won't change the world, but won't do it too much harm either.

The plot, for what it is worth, revolves around two record executives who are competing for the chance to sign up a star to Denmark's the first one million krone contract. Anthon (Ole Soltoft) is a playboy who surrounds himself with a cadre of attractive (and often naked) women, whereas Ulrik (Preben Mahrt) is a tyrant with a prim and proper secretary and two incompetent goons on the payroll. When Ulrik has Anton kidnapped, Anton's staff pull together in an attempt to save the contract, and the record label that employs them.

What all of that adds up to is an excuse for weird comedy sketches, a chase that wouldn't be out of place in a Keystone Cops film (assuming they performed the chase naked) and a lot of naked people. The majority of the nudity is handled by the women in the film, but a good third of it is taken on by the men, so the film is closer to equal opportunity in that respect than most productions.

The film comes across as a collection of skits, with some of them completely unrelated to the rest of the story. One recurring feature is the invasion of Ulrik's office by a mad inventor, bringing in inventions far ahead of their time. He serves no purpose other than to provide comic relief and, while quite amusing, feels very out of place.

And then there is the sex. Unlike the previous 'erotica' that I've reviewed, this isn't HBO material. While, in the words of the late Bill Hicks, no one 'gets sticky', this is full on graphic sex. In other words, this is porn. It does however only make up perhaps ten percent of the running time of the film. Much of the rest is devoted to nudity one step up from a Carry On film, the rest to fully clothed plot development.

One thing of note is the fact that the majority of the women in the film are fairly empowered. They are certainly smarter than the men in the film and, although they are in the employ of Anton, it is they who initiate the majority of the sex in the film. I'm certainly not going to suggest that this is some great feminist treatise, but it is far better in this regard than I expected - something that seems to be true of all of the European erotica I've reviewed.

So, is it worth watching? Well, if you want porn, then the internet is your virtual oyster. If you want slapstick comedy then a raid on the Benny Hill archives will net you more and better material than you'll find here. However, if you want the two combined, I'm guessing you could certainly do worse than this! The transfer is remarkably good, with regard to both video and audio, with far more care and attention paid to this than I was