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Puppets Who Kill and Other DVD News

Written by Brent Simon

Saturday, 12 August 2006
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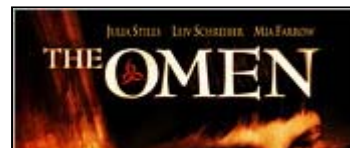
It's no coincidence or pure flight of fanciful imagination that north-bornderer Mike Myers came up with the idea for his "Wayne's World" sketch. After all, in America, there's PBS. In Canada, there are partially government-funded shows like *Puppets Who Kill*, an anarchic slice of scruffy dummy comedy.

Penned and overseen by Shawn Alex Thompson, the show centers around a quartet of degenerate puppets who live with a slovenly social worker, Dan (Dan Redican), who's ostensibly supposed to be helping them with their problems, which range from disgusting, antisocial and psychotic to... well, even worse. With characters like the sex-addicted teddy bear, Buttons, and chain-smoking mutt Rocko, well... you get the picture. Jim Henson would be *most* displeased, but anyone

who's ever tormented a younger sibling (particularly a sister, let's say) by reenacting filthy dialogues with her dolls and stuffed animals will recognize the familiar elements of unleashed adolescent id.

The most recent two-disc set collects all of the show's 13 second season episodes, and includes in-character audio commentary with Redican and Rocko over two episodes. There are also cast and crew biographies, and an interview clip from the morning show *Canada AM*. For those who enjoy gleefully demented comic absurdia like *Wonder Showzen*, *Joe Cartoon*, *Aqua Teen Hunger Force* and the Stilt Players, *Puppets Who Kill* is right up your alley. Bad puppets, indeed.

In other tidbits, 20th Century Fox's recent attainment of many of MGM's home video properties – which had bounced over to Sony in some convoluted back catalogue purchase more rooted in contingency than cash – means a finally re-scheduled release date for the long-awaited



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POLLS

What is your favorite genre of videogame?

- Fighting (Mortal Kombat, Soul Caliber, etc.)
- First-Person Shooters (Halo, Counter Strike, etc.)
- Role-Playing (includes MMOs)
- Simulators (flight, racing, etc.)
- Strategy (includes RTS and turn-based strategy games)

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FEATURED CLIP

special edition DVD release of *A Fish Called Wanda*. The title will bow on October 10. In further Fox-related news, a decked-out version of this summer's *The Omen* will release on October 17 with deleted scenes and the like, alongside a box set of all the previous films in the franchise. Also, not to go all Word-a-Day calendar on you, but who out there ever heard of the word schwarmerei (pronounced shvair-muh-RYE), a noun meaning "excessive or unwholesome sentiment?"

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