

SPOOKY MOVIE: 2009

The 4th Annual Washington D.C. International Horror Film Festival

Tuesday, September 15, 2009

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FILMMAKER HERSCHELL GORDON LEWIS AND THE 45th ANNIVERSARY OF *TWO THOUSAND MANIACS!* TO OPEN THE 2009 SPOOKY MOVIE FILM FESTIVAL

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2009 | 9:00 PM | SILVER SPRING, MD

(Washington, D.C.) SPOOKY MOVIE: 2009 - THE 4th ANNUAL WASHINGTON, D.C. INTERNATIONAL HORROR FILM FESTIVAL is proud to announce that the Opening Night event this year will be the 45th Anniversary Screening of one of the most influential and controversial films of the last half-century, Herschell Gordon Lewis' *TWO THOUSAND MANIACS!*

Filmmaker Herschell Gordon Lewis will help introduce the film as well as provide a lively Q&A session following the screening (perhaps even leading a sing-along of his infamous opening titles song), at the American Film Institute's AFI Silver Theatre in Silver Spring, MD, on Wednesday, October 21 at 9:00 p.m.



“We are looking forward to our upcoming collaboration with the Spooky Movie festival,” said Todd Hitchcock, programmer for the AFI Silver Theatre. “And very excited about hosting the Opening Night screening of the cult classic *TWO THOUSAND MANIACS!* with Herschell Gordon Lewis attending!”

Former literature professor, Herschell Gordon Lewis, took inspiration from the 1947 Lerner and Loewe musical *BRIGADOON* when he set out to shoot (in less than 15 days on Florida locations that are now part of Disney World) the second installment of what would be known as “The Blood Trilogy.” *Mayhem* is just below the surface at all times, as the twisted realities of violent and grisly revenge play out in what many consider to be one of the most significant independent horror films of the modern era, and one that still manages to shock and disturb audiences today.

“The reason I am delighted to appear at Spooky Movie,” said filmmaker Herschell Gordon Lewis “is that the event is a gathering of sophisticated moviegoers who don't hesitate to provide candid opinions!”

Preceding *TWO THOUSAND MANIACS!* will be a preview for the 2009 festival, as well as the outstanding short film *PSYCHO HILLBILLY CABIN MASSACRE!*, which shows Mr. Lewis' influence 45 years later with a new generation of independent filmmakers. Admission for Opening Night is \$12.00 for the general public, or \$9.00 for AFI members; tickets are now available at the AFI Silver box office, or through the website – www.afi.com/silver.

SPOOKY MOVIE: 2009 OPENING NIGHT begins a total of five days and nights showcasing some of the very best in the exciting and diverse culture of new independent horror cinema.

BEYOND OPENING NIGHT!

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22 – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25
CINEMA ARTS THEATRES | FAIRFAX, VA

In all a total of 42 new shorts and features will screen, including films from 9 different countries (including Spain, Canada, the Czech Republic, England and Italy) and 12 states (including Virginia, New York, Utah, both Carolinas, Texas and California). These movies represent 10 months of programming and reviewing films, culled from more than 300 submissions from talented indie filmmakers from around the globe.

All of these new works at Spooky Movie 2009 are premieres, including the 9 features screening at Cinema Arts Theatre in Fairfax, Virginia – the exquisite *EVIL ANGEL* starring Ving Rhames, the zombie double feature of *GEORGE'S INTERVENTION* and *DR. S. BATTLES THE SEX CRAZED REEFER ZOMBIES: THE MOVIE*, the 'reverse' werewolf flick *AUDIE AND THE WOLF*, the demonic award winner *FINALE*, the neo-noir vampire masterpiece *THE DEATH OF ALICE BLUE*, the German production *MUST LOVE DEATH*, the wonderful Brazilian thriller *MORGUE STORY* and our exciting closing night throwback *MURDER LOVES KILLERS TOO*.



Documentaries, avant-garde, experimental and animated films are once again part of the program, as are our ever familiar (and popular) slate of vampires, ghouls, ghosts and psychotic maniacs. On **Sunday, October 25** at 11:00 a.m. there will be a one hour block of short films, suitable for anyone 10 and over (free of charge); the ubiquitous zombie genre is also well represented, as the living dead once again invade the screen at Cinema Arts, **Friday, October 23**, for our annual Zombie Grind house Double Feature tradition (as always, hosted by television and film personality, "Count Gore De Vol").

This will be the Count's second of three public appearances in association with the festival this year – fans will also get a chance to be bitten by him Opening Night at the AFI Silver (October 21) when he will be on hand to introduce Herschell Gordon Lewis, and then again after the festival (**Monday, November 2**) at the AFI for the encore screening of the documentary on his career *EVERY OTHER DAY IS HALLOWEEN*, where he will help announce the winners of the inaugural Spooky Movie "DarkHart Screenplay Award," a competition launched this year where two lucky screenwriters (out of almost 100 entrants) will have their works published by DarkHart Press, one of the leading independent horror publishers in America.

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SPOOKY MOVIE: 2009 – THE 4th ANNUAL WASHINGTON, D.C. INTERNATIONAL HORROR FILM FESTIVAL is presented by Spooky Fests, LLC. The festival will be held at the AFI Silver Theatre (www.afi.com/silver) on opening night (October 21) and once again at Cinema Arts Theatre at Fair City Mall in Fairfax, Virginia (www.cinemaartstheatre.com) Thursday, October 22 through Sunday, October 25, 2009. Admission for opening night and our Friday and Saturday evening double-feature are \$12.00; admission for each film block Thursday and Sunday is \$8.00. A \$20.00 Fest Pass, good for all screenings at Cinema Arts Theatres, is available at the Cinema Arts box office or on-line. All films are un-rated, and unless specifically noted no one under 17 will be admitted without a parent or guardian's accompaniment or permission. For more information on THE 2009 SPOOKY MOVIE FILM FESTIVAL, as well as news about other related events, please visit our website: www.thespookymovie.com.

About the American Film Institute: AFI is a national institute providing leadership in screen education and the recognition and celebration of excellence in the art of film, television and digital media. Additional information about AFI is available at AFI.com.

Photos: Herschell Gordon Lewis directing his new film "The Ub-Oh Show," courtesy of Herschell Gordon Lewis; and "Spooky Movie 2009 Program Guide" cover artwork by John Dimes.

COMPLETE SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21 | AFI SILVER THEATRE (SILVER SPRING) | 9:00 pm
\$12.00/\$9.00 AFI MEMBERS | TICKETS ON SALE AT THE AFI SILVER THEATRE

- *PSYCHO HILLBILLY CABIN MASSACRE!* – A bloodbath erupts when a group of Ivy League students discover an isolated hillbilly cabin in the woods. (17m, U.S.A.)
- *TWO THOUSAND MANLACS!* - Three vacationing couples are surprised to learn that they are the guests of honor for a mysterious Southern town's centennial celebration. *Mayhem* is just below the surface, as the twisted realities of violent and grisly revenge play out in what many consider to be one of the most influential independent horror films of the modern era, and one that still manages to shock and disturb audiences 45 years later. (87m, U.S.A.)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22 | CINEMA ARTS THEATRE (FAIRFAX) | 9:00 pm
\$8.00 | TICKETS ON SALE AT CINEMA ARTS

- *ATTACKZOIDS, DEPLOY!!* – War is declared on the off world settlement! Everyone from suburban homemakers to super scientists are uniting to deploy an army of the giant killer robot *ATTACKAZOIDS!!* Brian Lonano's wonderful follow up to this insanely popular festival hit *ATTACKZOID!!* which screened at Spooky Movie 2008. (5m, U.S.A.)
- *ALLURE* – Club Allure, where all of your dreams come true, where everyone wants to be. Everyone, except Lint, a sailor on shore leave who ditches the typical hookup scene for the promise of something deeper. (11m, U.S.A.)
- *MAMA* – Two sisters dread the arrival of "Mama." One of the most compelling and creepy ghost stories you will ever see. (3m, Spain)
- *TINGLEWOOD* – When a family sets up camp deep in the Tinglewood forest, the last thing they expect is company and a violent struggle to survive the night. Heart stopping and unforgettable! (18m, Australia)
- *EVIL ANGEL* takes the ancient myth of Lilith into the 21st century with a murderously sexy and seductive villainess who, as the earth's first woman, proudly lays claim to being the world's first serial killer. Ving Rhames (*Pulp Fiction*, *Dawn of the Dead*) stars as John Carruthers, a tough and resourceful detective in hot pursuit of this unstoppable ancient killer, as things get nastier and more grisly the more personal it becomes. Truly an outstanding achievement, writer and director Richard Dutcher has created a stunning work of indie horror art. (123 m, U.S.A.)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23 | CINEMA ARTS THEATRE (FAIRFAX) | 10:00 pm
\$12.00 | TICKETS ON SALE AT CINEMA ARTS

- *ZOMBIES AND CIGARETTES* – A fantastic, classic zombie survival short: edge of your seat fun! (18m, Spain)
- *LAZARUS TAXON* – The feared consequences of global warming are at its peak when one man crosses the New Sea trying to save his daughter from the clutches of death. A tale about going beyond the limits of the human race and the survival of the species. (15m, Spain)
- *RISE UP! THE STORY OF THE ZOMBIE RIGHTS MOVEMENT* – Amidst the political and cultural turmoil of the 1960's, some groups remained voiceless. *Rising Up* chronicles the oft-neglected *Zombie Rights* movement, and the tragic story of its heroic leader. (28m, U.S.A.)
- *GEORGE'S INTERVENTION* - George is a zombie. And his friends are hoping to convince him to stop eating people and to enter 'zombie rehab'. It's morally wrong to eat people. Plus, it's unhealthy. The meat is raw. And who knows where these people have been. With the help of a professional interventionist, George's friends confront George regarding his 'addiction'. But, over the course of the night, George's friends begin to disappear. Have they given up hope that the intervention will be successful? Or have they become dinner? "I am reminded why I am a fan of independent cinema ... there are truly original stories out there being told by incredibly creative and daring filmmakers such as J.T. Seaton." – *HorrorSociety.com* (92m, U.S.A.)
- *DOCTOR "S" BATTLES THE SEX CRAZED REEFER ZOMBIES: THE MOVIE* - In a quiet American town a small group of scientists have unwittingly unleashed a horrible force upon the town. Mary Jane, the all American sweetheart, parks on Make Out Hill with her boyfriend Billy. He smokes some of the reefer and is suddenly transformed into a sex-crazed reefer zombie. What follows is a blood-soaked, fight-filled, extravaganza of pain, gore, and butchery that will bring an uncertain end for Crystal Oaks and the world as we know it. (80m, U.S.A.)



- *MORE CONTROL* – Indie band *The Heist And The Accomplice* enters an abandoned movie theater to shoot their first music video, only to be stalked by an amorphous, black horror. (5m, U.S.A.)
- *ALTAR* – A janitor re-examines his life when a toilet he cleans daily becomes possessed. (18m, U.S.A.)
- *THE NIGHTMARE* kind of sums up mood of tonight's short block - childhood horrors come true! (?m, U.S.A.)
- *BECOMING ROMAN* – A classic story of the struggle for power and the pitfalls inherent therein. (7m, U.S.A.)
- *AWARENESS* is a journey through our most intimate fears, thoughts, feelings. It is a path to learn in suffering and darkness. (6m, Germany)
- *PHENOMENAUTS* – An inept team of supernatural investigators research the unexplained, driving to find the truth, or something that will pass for it. One of our favorites, and a local film to boot! (15m, U.S.A.)
- *AUDIE AND THE WOLF* - A wolf turns into a savage, bloodthirsty man by the light of the full moon and goes on a killing spree in a Hollywood Hills mansion. A grocery delivery girl with a wicked sense of humor falls mutually in love with the wolf-in-man's-body, and together they fight zombies and his monthly full-moon problem. Destined to become an American *SHAUN OF THE DEAD*! "A rollicking fun horror film that is reminiscent of early Sam Raimi and Peter Jackson." Todd Lwoto, Sundance Film Festival Programmer (75m, U.S.A.)
- *FINALE* is the shocking vision of Helen's descent into madness after finding her son banged. With her own family convinced he committed suicide; she alone unravels the blood-soaked mystery. Is her daughter's high school a recruiting ground for occult rituals and grisly murders? Torn apart by denial and paranoia threatening her own sanity and her daughter's life, Helen's only escape is the very route attempted by her dead son – to confront the demon lurking in mirrors. Winner: Independent Spirit Award, *A Night of Horror*, Sydney Australia. (94m, U.S.A.)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25 | CINEMA ARTS THEATRE (FAIRFAX) | 11:00 am
FREE | TICKETS AVAILABLE AT CINEMA ARTS

SPECIAL FREE PROGRAM - AGES 10 AND UP! - Before things get too crazy, bring the youngins on down for a fun filled hour of six short films (including three favorites from previous years of the Spooky Movie Film Festival), all at no cost! What better way to exploit that extra time you've gained from Daylight Savings than by sharing a wonderful program of animated spooky shorts, followed by a fascinating documentary, with your favorite little ghouls? Free admission!

- *THE LEGEND OF FARMER JENKINS – Still a favorite, ever since our 2006 inaugural Spooky Movie Film Festival. In order to get rid of his pesky brother, Ryan tells the story of a local legend named Farmer Jenkins who hunts kids to feed his fertilizer machine. In the end, the boys get more than just a scare. “An amazing film!” - Wes Craven. (7m, U.S.A.)*
- *FRANKENSTEIN VS. THE WOLFMAN – Leeta, Milo and Eddie are three young orphaned pickpockets who discover their woody mountain community has become the hunting ground for a werewolf. Enlisting the help of the Frankenstein Monster, now living in solitude after the death of his creator, they seek to discover who the Wolfman is in human form... and how to stop it before it kills again! (20m, U.S.A.)*
- *SCOURGE OF THE VAMPIRE – A B-Movie, silent film is being shot, but keeps running into production problems. Beautiful and inspiring animation from the 2007 Spooky Movie Film Festival. (3m, U.S.A.)*
- *THE SNOW PRINCESS – Snow Princess Gnyneira has spent an eternity dreaming of the World of Spring, but one has to be careful what you wish for! When Gnyneira tumbles down her mountain top into this exotic world she will find adventure and a new friend, but at what cost? (7m, U.S.A.)*
- *BACK TO LIFE – Resurrection narratives are as old as...well...you know; discovering a new twist to an old favorite, however, can be as refreshing as getting something off your chest. One of the favorites from the 2008 Spooky Movie Film Festival. (3m, U.S.A.)*
- *HOUSE OF HARRINGTON – Curtis Harrington began making films as a teenager in the 1940s, beginning with his take on Edgar Allan Poe’s “The Fall of the House of Usber” on 8mm. During his fifty year career as a director, Harrington made many horror films dealing with the unseen and the macabre, featuring legendary Hollywood stars. “House of Harrington” profiles Curtis’ fascinating career, which ended with a full-circle return to the work of Edgar Allan Poe in 2002. (20m, U.S.A.)*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25 | CINEMA ARTS THEATRE (FAIRFAX) | 12:30 pm
\$8.00 | TICKETS ON SALE AT CINEMA ARTS

- *DEATH IN CHARGE – Don’t tell Mom the babysitter’s Death...The Grim Reaper is mistaken for a babysitter and learns a thing or two about life. (15m, U.S.A.)*
- *THORNS – A gorgeous woman and an eccentric man spend a romantic evening together. The man is haunted by the memory of his past lover, and the woman’s seduction yields unexpected results. (7m, Czech Republic)*
- *ORLA’S SONG – A sacrificed child calls for revenge from beyond the grave. (20m, United Kingdom)*
- *ELDER SIGN – If you suffer from an overwhelming sense of dread brought on by the realization of your own insignificance in the universe, then you need Elder Sign. (2m, Canada)*
- *THE DEATH OF ALICE BLUE - Alice Blue is a new creative intern at Raven Advertising. Unfortunately for her it’s run by vampires. A group of eccentrics enlist her aid in thwarting their nefarious schemes. But there’s a complication. There’s the possibility that she herself may be genetically predisposed to being the greatest vampire ever, and the only one who can save the dying breed. Alice is forced to confront herself and make a stand, whatever the outcome. One of the most original and exciting features that we have screened. (86m, Canada)*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25 | CINEMA ARTS THEATRE (FAIRFAX) | 3:00 pm
\$8.00 | TICKETS ON SALE AT CINEMA ARTS

- *THE SAVANNAH STORY* – A young woman recounts her experience with paranormal activities upon moving to the notoriously haunted city of Savannah, Georgia. (2m, U.S.A.)
- *INITIATION* – By carrying out a mission that will make him a part of the gang, Vincent is taken in by another brotherhood, one from which he can't come back (23m, Canada)
- *THE UGLY FILE* – Photographer Roy Hubbard makes a living taking pictures of hideously deformed children. (10m, U.S.A.)
- *SHROVE TUESDAY* is a horrifically dark fairytale, a homage to the Brothers Grimm, and to the slasher films of the 1970s and 1980s. Outstanding! (22m, United Kingdom)
- *MUST LOVE DEATH* - Disappointed by love, suicidal Norman arranges to meet some like-minded people. But when he arrives at the meeting the alleged suicides turn out to be unscrupulous killers looking for a willing victim. A macabre fight against death begins... A sadistic, macabre and bizarre struggle against his torturers begins leading to the violent and bloody showdown. "A bright, bally, and unexpectedly bizarre German import. Must Love Death makes most pitch black comedies look like kids' cartoons ... and I mean that as a rather enthusiastic compliment!" - Scott Weinberg, FearNet (92m, Germany – in English)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25 | CINEMA ARTS THEATRE (FAIRFAX) | 5:45 pm
\$8.00 | TICKETS ON SALE AT CINEMA ARTS

- *X-MES DETRITUS* – MTV and SciFi Channel veteran, Voltaire (*Transsexia, Spooky Movie 2008*), takes a dark look at gift-giving and the negative effect it has on the Earth in this one-minute Christmas parable. Animated in stop-motion by Voltaire and narrated by Gerard Way of My Chemical Romance. (2m, U.S.A.)
- *A MERE ET MAREES* – Fred's life takes a tragic turn as he begins to turn into something inhuman. (19m, Canada)
- *HUNGER (UK)* – Stranded for the night in a foreign city, Saul retreats into its labyrinthine backstreets, where a chance encounter with a mysterious and seductive woman seems to offer an escape...but the woman it seems, has quite different plans for him. (14m, United Kingdom)
- *DEAD CREEK* – Two sisters, lost in the Vermont woods, must attempt to cross a vast marsh before sundown and come to grips with the terrible tragedy that took place there when they were children. (16m, U.S.A.)
- *MORGUE STORY* - Ana Argento, an accomplished cartoon artist yet frustrated with her relationships, meets two other strange characters with peculiar lives. Tom is a chronic cataleptic who ironically is a life insurance salesman, and Daniel Torres is a sociopath and rapist coroner who has a peculiar method. He induces catalepsy by pouring a voodoo potion on girls drinks and they are sent to the morgue. When they are sent there, he is waiting for them to rape and strangle them unsuspectingly. His plans tend to go wrong when Tom wakes up from his catalepsy when Daniel is in the Morgue. Brilliantly written and directed, *MORGUE STORY* is an exceptional and warped modern classic. (78m, Brazil)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25 | CINEMA ARTS THEATRE (FAIRFAX) | 8:15 pm
\$8.00 | TICKETS ON SALE AT CINEMA ARTS

- *SEANCE* is the story of three people trying to find the fortune of a deceased baroness through the spiritualistic séance. But things will go a bit differently than they planned. (19m, Czech Republic)
- *LANGLIENA* – A young man discovers a horrible secret hidden inside a cabin in the woods. (7m, Italy)
- *SIDE EFFECT* – Lauren is an attractive, over-achieving, young woman and the new babysitter for the upper-middle-class couple, The Allens. With the trusted Lauren in charge of their adorable children, the couple head out for the night. One of the most honored and disturbing short films of recent years! (13m, U.S.A.)
- *HUNGER (US)* – A corrupt politician wakes up in a desolate field one day to find himself being chased by a cult of cannibalistic farmers hell bent on revenge. Is he dreaming or is he paying his debt to the people whose lives he's ruined? (17m, U.S.A.)
- *MURDER LOVES KILLERS TOO* - Big Stevie has a sexual problem. Murder is how he has sex. And Big Stevie knows that there is no better way for a repressed killer to blow off steam than killing a bunch of care-free free-spirited teens. After her friends are all chopped, carved, and slashed, sweet young Aggie is left alone to face off against this unreasonable psycho. Now she's got a pervert on her hands. A big one. And Big Stevie's problem could become Aggie's problem real fast. Directors' Choice Award: Best Feature Film: A Night of Horror International Film Festival, Sydney, Australia. (78m, U.S.A.)