The Museum of Modern Art

Horror: Messaging the Monstrous June 23–September 5, 2022 The Roy and Niuta Titus Theaters

SCREENING SCHEDULE

Opening Night Screening

Horror: Messaging the Monstrous opens with a rare 3-D screening of George A. Romero's zombie opus, Dawn of the Dead. This is the original, unrated 1979 US theatrical release version of Dawn of the Dead, lovingly and meticulously adapted to a 3-D format under the frame-by-frame supervision of Dawn's original producer, Richard P. Rubinstein. Romero's original editing remains untouched.

Romero's follow-up to 1968's *Night of the Living Dead* dashes all hope that things have turned out all right. In *Dawn of the Dead*, the zombie apocalypse is pervasive, with no chance of escape and no further hopes pinned to the police, government, science, or neighbors. The film opens on a news station's last gasp, as a quartet of survivors hijacks a helicopter that takes them to a familiar location in late 1970s America: the mall. Though they quickly settle into the comforts and routine of the old world provided by the mall stores, the slow realization that life has unalterably changed creeps into our protagonists' minds. A biting critique of the power of capitalism and consumerism—what's worse than being undead and still wanting to go shopping?— is bleak in its assessment of humanity: we're both victims and accomplices in our own decline. As with its predecessor, the film is also groundbreaking because of who gets to survive at the end.

Dawn of the Dead 3-D. 1978. USA/Italy. Written and directed by George A. Romero. With David Emge, Ken Foree, Scott Reininger, Gaylen Ross. 127 min. **Thursday, June 23 – 7:30 PM**

Week One: Slasher Films

Born from Italian *giallo* films but distinctly American, the slasher movie has been slicing and stabbing its way into cinemas since the 1970s. Known established tropes like masked killers, black gloves, topless women, sharp knives, and "final girls," these violent whodunits are sometimes a lot smarter than they appear. Imbued with collective cultural traumas, the slasher film digests our sociopolitical climate and spits it back into our faces. Topics such as war, gas shortages, capitalism, conservatism, sexuality, lost youth, sexism, and the family form a subversive subtext wrapped up in gore, screams, and sometimes even a laugh. The slasher "signature" has become so pervasive that, for better or worse, it has become synonymous with the very idea of what a "horror film" is, and other styles of genre films often find the comparison hard to escape.

This opening section of *Horror: Messaging the Monstrous* represents the slasher's continuous cycle of influence and reproduction. Grounded by a pair of foundational works, Alfred Hitchcock's *Psycho* and Mario Bava's *Bay of Blood*, this grouping of films includes beloved classics like Bob Clark's *Black Christmas*, Amy Holden Jones's *Slumber Party Massacre*, and Wes Craven's *Scream*, and pairs them with neo-slashers like *Knife + Heart*, as well as films like *It Follows* and *You're Next*, which mold the slasher principle into something new. *We'll be right back....*



Psycho. 1960. USA. Directed by Alfred Hitchcock. Screenplay by Joseph Stefano, based on the novel by Robert Bloch. With Anthony Perkins, Vera Miles, John Gavin, Martin Balsam, John McIntire, Janet Leigh. 109 min.

Thursday, June 23 - 4 PM

Black Christmas. 1974. Canada. Directed by Bob Clark. Screenplay by A. Roy Moore. With Olivia Hussey, Keir Dullea, Margot Kidder, John Saxon. 98 min.

Friday, June 24 - 5 PM

Slumber Party Massacre. 1982. USA. Directed by Amy Holden Jones. Screenplay by Rita Mae Brown. With Michele Michaels, Robin Stille, Michael Villella. 76 min.

Friday, June 24 - 7 PM

You're Next. 2011. USA. Directed by Adam Wingard. Screenplay by Simon Barrett. With Sharni Vinson, Nicholas Tucci, Wendy Glenn, A. J. Bowen, Joe Swanberg, Barbara Crampton, Rob Moran. 94 min.

Saturday, June 25 - 2 PM

It Follows. 2014. USA. Written and directed by David Robert Mitchell. With Maika Monroe, Keir Gilchrist, Daniel Zovatto, Jake Weary, Olivia Luccardi, Lili Sepe. 100 min.

Saturday, June 24 - 4:30 PM

Scream. 1996. USA. Directed by Wes Craven. Screenplay by Kevin Williamson. With David Arquette, Neve Campbell, Courteney Cox, Matthew Lillard, Rose McGowan, Skeet Ulrich, Drew Barrymore. 111 min.

Saturday, June 25 - 7:30 PM

A Bay of Blood (aka Twitch of the Death Nerve). 1971. Italy. Directed by Mario Bava. Screenplay by Bava, Giuseppe Zaccariello, Filippo Ottoni. With Claudine Auger, Luigi Pistilli, Claudio Velonté, Laura Betti, Leopoldo Trieste, Brigitte Skay. In Italian; English subtitles. 84 min.

Sunday, June 26 - 1:30 PM

Friday the 13th Part 2. 1981. USA. Directed by Steve Miner. Screenplay by Ron Kurz, based on characters by Victor Miller. With Adrienne King, Amy Steel, John Furey. 87 min.

Sunday, June 26 - 4:30 PM Monday, June 27 - 5 PM

Un couteau dans le coeur (Knife + Heart). 2018. France/Mexico/Switzerland. Directed by Yann Gonzalez. Screenplay by Gonzalez, Christiano Mangione. With Vanessa Paradis, Nicolas Maury, Kate Moran, Jonathan Genet, Romane Bohringer. In French; English subtitles. 102 min.

Monday, June 27 - 5 PM Wednesday, June 29 - 4:30 PM

Shocker. 1989. USA. Written and directed by Wes Craven. With Peter Berg, Michael Murphy, Cami Cooper, Mitch Pileggi. 110 min.

Wednesday, June 29 - 7 PM Thursday, June 30 - 4:30 PM **Office Killer**. 1997. USA. Written and directed by Cindy Sherman. With Carol Kane, Molly Ringwald, Michael Imperioli, Barbara Sukowa, Jeanne Tripplehorn. 82 min.

Thursday, June 30 - 7 PM Friday, July 1 - 4:30 PM

The Texas Chainsaw Massacre 2. 1986. USA. Directed by Tobe Hooper. Screenplay by L. M. Kit Carson. With Dennis Hopper, Caroline Williams, Bill Moseley, Jim Siedow, Bill Johnson. 101 min.

Friday, July 1 - 7:30 PM

Week Two: Horror of Place

The genre's haunted and terror-filled places remind us not only that the past matters but—quite graphically—that the *dead* matter. Whether vindictive forces arise in the setting of the home, a city, a country, or a moment in time, horror films reiterate that we cannot escape our personal, national, or human past—that we bear responsibility for the sins of the father, or of the race. The consequences for those who suppress the truth or ignore history are unavoidable; the reckoning may not always be gory, but it is rarely less than tragic.

Ju-On: The Curse. 2000. Japan. Written and directed by Takashi Shimizu. With Yūrei Yanagi, Chiaki Kuriyama, Hitomi Miwa, Takako Fuji, Takashi Matsuyama. In Japanese; English subtitles. 70 min.

Saturday, July 2 - 4:30 PM

His House. 2020. USA/Great Britain. Written and directed by Remi Weekes, based on a story by Felicity Evans and Toby Venables. With Wunmi Mosaku, Sope Dirisu, Matt Smith. 93 min.

Saturday, July 2 - 7 PM

The Haunting. 1963. Great Britain. Directed by Robert Wise. Screenplay by Nelson Gidding, based on novel The Haunting of Hill House by Shirley Jackson. With Julie Harris, Claire Bloom, Richard Johnson, Russ Tamblyn. 114 min.

Sunday, July 3 - 4:30 PM

Relic. 2020. Australia. Written and directed by Natalie Erika James. With Emily Mortimer, Robyn Nevin, Bella Heathcote. 89 min.

Sunday, July 3 - 4:30 PM Monday, July 4 - 4:30 PM

The Vigil. 2019. USA. Written and directed by Keith Thomas. With Dave Davis, Menashe Lustig, Malky Goldman, Fred Melamed, Lynn Cohen, Nati Rabinowitz. In English, Yiddish. 89 min.

Monday, July 4 - 7:30 PM

Bones. 2001. USA. Directed by Ernest Dickerson. Screenplay by Adam Simon, Tim Metcalfe. With Snoop Dogg, Pam Grier, Khalil Kain, Clifton Powell, Bianca Lawson, Michael T. Weiss. 96 min.

Tuesday, July 4 - 4:30 PM

Somos lo que hay (We Are What We Are). 2010. Mexico. Written and directed by Jorge Michel Grau. With Carmen Beato, Daniel Giménez Cacho, Paulina Gaitán. In Spanish; English subtitles. 90 min.

Tuesday, July 5 - 7 PM Wednesday, July 6 - 4:30 PM

The Cremator. 1969. Czechoslovakia. Directed by Juraj Herz. Screenplay by Ladislav Fuks, Herz. With Rudolf Hrušínský, Vlasta Chramostová. In Czech, Hebrew; English subtitles. 95 min.

Thursday, July 7 - 7 PM

Family Portraits: A Trilogy of America. 2003. USA. Written and directed by Douglas Buck. With Sally Conway, Larry Fessenden, Beth Glover, Alex Splendore, David Thornton, Anderson William. 103 min.

Friday, July 8 - 7 PM with filmmaker Douglas Buck for Q&A

Week Three: Gender and Horror

Anxiety around sex and sexual difference has been a dominant, if subtly coded, theme in horror films since well before Alfred Hitchcock made a cross-dressing mama's boy his "hero" in 1960's *Psycho*. The ways the genre has served to question the heteronormative is one of the least acknowledged characteristics of its evolution.

Burnt Offerings. 1976. USA. Directed by Dan Curtis. Screenplay by Curtis, William F. Nolan, based on the novel by Robert Marasco. With Karen Black, Oliver Reed, Burgess Meredith, Eileen Heckart, Lee H. Montgomery, Dub Taylor, Bette Davis. 116 min. **Saturday, July 9 - 7 PM**

Carrie. 1976. USA. Directed by Brian De Palma. Screenplay by Lawrence D. Cohen, based on the novel by Stephen King. With Sissy Spacek, John Travolta, Piper Laurie. 98 min. **Sunday, July 10 - 2 PM**

Let's Scare Jessica to Death. 1971. USA. Directed by John Hancock. Screenplay by Hancock, Lee Kalcheim. With Zohra Lampert, Barton Heyman, Kevin O'Connor, Gretchen Corbett, Mariclare Costello. 89 min.

Sunday, July 10 - 4:30 PM

Heartless. 2009. Great Britain. Written and directed by Philip Ridley. With Jim Sturgess, Joseph Mawle, Noel Clarke, Clémence Poésy, Nikita Mistry, Timothy Spall. 114 min. **Tuesday. July 12 - 4:30 PM**

The Reflecting Skin. 1990. Great Britain/Canada. Written and directed by Philip Ridley. With Viggo Mortensen, Lindsay Duncan, Jeremy Cooper. 95 min. **Wednesday, July 13 - 7 PM**

Jack Be Nimble. 1993. New Zealand. Directed by Garth Maxwell. Screenplay by Maxwell, Rex Pilgrim. With Alexis Arquette, Sarah Smuts-Kennedy, Bruno Lawrence. 92 min. **Tuesday, July 12 - 7 PM with filmmaker Garth Maxwell for Q&A**

Wednesday, July 13 - 4:30 PM

Teeth. 2007. USA. Written and directed by Mitchell Lichtenstein. With Jess Weixler, John Hensley, Josh Pais, Hale Appleman, Ashley Springer, Lenny Von Dohlen. 94 min. **Thursday, July 14 - 4:30 PM**

Ginger Snaps. 2000. Canada. Directed by John Fawcett. Screenplay by Karen Walton, Fawcett. With Emily Perkins, Katharine Isabelle, Kris Lemche, Mimi Rogers. 108 min. **Thursday, July 14 - 7 PM**

Brain Damage. 1988. USA. Written and directed by Frank Henenlotter. With Rick Hearst, Jennifer Lowry, Gordon MacDonald. 86 min.

Friday, July 15 - 7 PM with filmmaker Frank Henenlotter for Q&A

The Stepford Wives. 1975. USA. Directed by Bryan Forbes. Screenplay by William Goldman, based on the novel by Ira Levin. With Katharine Ross, Paula Prentiss, Peter Masterson, Nanette Newman, Tina Louise, Patrick O'Neal. 115 min. **Saturday, July 16 - 2 PM**

We're All Going to the World's Fair. 2021. USA. Written and directed by Jane Schoenbrun. With Anna Cobb, Michael J. Rogers. 86 min. Saturday, July 16 - 4:30 PM

Hellraiser. 1987. Great Britain. Written and directed by Clive Barker. With Andrew Robinson, Claire Higgins, Ashley Laurence. 93 min.
 Friday, July 15 - 4:30 PM
 Saturday, July 16 - 7 PM

Week Four: Race and Horror

The "otherness" associated with race in horror films made before the late 1960s is only now in the process of remission. Progress has been slow, but Duane Jones's leading roles in George A. Romero's *Night of the Living Dead* (1968) and Bill Gunn's *Ganja and Hess* (1973) established them as landmarks in the history of horror noire. While the genre inched forward through the 1990s with key works from Black directors like James Bond III and Randy Cundieff and white filmmakers like Wes Craven and Bernard Rose, it was Jordan Peele's *Get Out* (2017) that most effectively opened up the genre to a new generation of Black filmmakers. And while the wait for Indigenous people to gain some control over their representation in horror films has been even longer, the cultural perspective that Mi'kmaq director Jeff Barnaby has brought to the genre in the last decade demonstrates that its messaging potential remains strong.

The People Under the Stairs. 1991. USA. Written and directed by Wes Craven. With Brandon Adams, Everett McGill, Wendy Robie, A. J. Langer. 102 min. **Sunday, July 17 - 2 PM**

Wolfen. 1981. USA. Directed by Michael Wadleigh. Screenplay by David M. Eyre Jr., Michael Wadleigh, Eric Roth, based on the novel by Whitley Streiber. With Albert Finney, Diane Venora, Edward James Olmos, Gregory Hines, Tom Noonan. 114 min. **Sunday, July 17 - 4:30 PM**

Master. 2022. USA. Written and directed by Mariama Diallo. With Regina Hall, Zoe Renee, Amber Gray, Molly Bernard, Nike Kadri.

Hair Wolf. 2018. USA. Written and directed by Mariama Diallo. With Kara Young, Taliah Webster, Madeline Weinstein. 12 min.

Monday, July 18 - 4:30 PM with filmmaker Mariama Diallo for Q&A

Beloved. 1998. USA. Directed by Jonathan Demme. Screenplay by Akosua Busia, Richard LaGravanese, Adam Brooks, based on novel by Toni Morrison. With Oprah Winfrey, Danny Glover, Thandiwe Newton, Kimberly Elise, Beah Richards, Lisa Gay Hamilton, Albert Hall. 172 min.

Monday, July 18 - 7 PM

Tales from the Hood. 1995. USA. Directed by Rusty Cundieff. Screenplay by Cundieff and Darin Scott. With Corbin Bernsen, Rosalind Cash, Rusty Cundieff, David Alan Grier, Anthony Griffith, Wings Hauser, Lamont Bentley, Paula Jai Parker, Joe Torry, Clarence Williams III. 98 min.

Tuesday, July 19 - 7 PM

Ganja & Hess. 1973. USA. Written and directed by Bill Gunn. With Marlene Clark, Duane Jones. 78 min.

Suicide by Sunlight. 2019. USA. Directed by Nikyatu Jusu. 17 min.

Wednesday, July 20 - 7 PM with *Ganja & Hess* star/composer Sam Waymon for Q&A Thursday, July 21 - 4 PM

Get Out. 2017. USA. Written and directed by Jordan Peele. With Daniel Kaluuya, Allison Williams, Bradley Whitford, Caleb Landry Jones, Stephen Root, Catherine Keener. 104 min.

Thursday, July 21 - 7 PM Friday, July 22 - 4:30 PM

Candyman. 1992. USA. Written and directed by Bernard Rose, based on novel by Clive Barker. With Virginia Madsen, Tony Todd, Xander Berkeley, Kasi Lemmons. 101 min. **Friday, July 22 - 7 PM**

Rhymes for Young Ghouls. 2013. Canada. Written and directed by Jeff Barnaby. With Kawennáhere Devery Jacobs, Glen Gould, Brandon Oakes. 88 min.

Saturday, July 23 - 4 PM with filmmaker Jeff Barnaby for Q&A

Blood Quantum. 2019. Canada. Written and directed by Jeff Barnaby. With Michael Greyeyes, Elle-Máijá Tailfeathers, Forrest Goodluck, Kiowa Gordon, Brandon Oakes, Olivia Scriven, Kawennáhere Devery Jacobs, and Gary Farmer. In English, Mi'kmaq. 96 min. **Saturday, July 23 - 7 PM with filmmaker Jeff Barnaby for Q&A**

Saturday, July 23 - 7 PM with filmmaker Jeff Barnaby for Q&A Sunday, July 24 - 1:30 PM

Week Five: The Undead

Horror cinema is the house the undead built. Zombies, ghouls, and vampires, have been abundant on screen since the birth of film, but it wasn't until 1968 that the undead became the scariest thing of all: us. When George A. Romero released *Night of the Living Dead* that year, the postmodern horror era began. No longer were monsters relegated to living in faraway castles; now they were our friends, neighbors, and family. As horror hit closest to

home, we saw the undead become perfect vessels into which filmmakers could project our sociopolitical reality. The representations of racism, capitalism, fear of science, declining cities, and war in these films are as relevant today as they were 50 years ago—and perhaps even more so since the COVID-19 pandemic turned our world upside down. Importantly, the undead also allow us to transcend the unknowability of life after death and, ultimately, ask us to question what it means to be alive.

This section of *Horror: Messaging the Monstrous* is anchored by the quintessential (and unabashedly political) "Dead" trilogy from the father of the modern zombie, George A. Romero, as well as Stephanie Rothman's sun-soaked bloodsucker classic *The Velvet Vampire*. Underseen works like Bob Clark's *Deathdream* are included alongside contemporary films like Tomas Alfredson's *Let the Right One In* and Rob Jabbaz's *The Sadness*. There's also the essential demonic cabin-in-the-woods nightmare of Sam Raimi's *Evil Dead* ...because Bruce Campbell's Ash lives forever.

Låt den rätte komma in (Let the Right One In). 2008. Sweden. Directed by Tomas Alfredson. Screenplay by John Ajvide Lindqvist. With Kåre Hedebrant, Lina Leandersson, Per Ragnar, Ika Nord, Peter Carlberg. In Swedish; English subtitles. 114 min. **Sunday, July 24 - 4 PM**

The Velvet Vampire. 1971. USA. Directed by Stephanie Rothman. Screenplay by Rothman, Charles S. Swartz, Maurice Jules. With Celeste Yarnall, Michael Blodgett, Sherry Miles, Gene Shane, Jerry Daniels, Sandy Ward, Paul Prokop. 80 min.

Monday, July 25 - 7 PM with filmmaker Stephanie Rothman for Q&A Tuesday, July 26 - 4:30 PM

Kū bēi (The Sadness). 2021. Taiwan. Written and directed by Rob Jabbaz. With Berant Zhu, Regina, Tzu-Chiang Wang. In Mandarin, Taiwanese Hokkien; English subtitles. 99 min. **Tuesday, July 26 - 7 PM**

Wednesday, July 27 - 4PM

Night of the Living Dead. 1968. USA. Directed by George A. Romero. Screenplay by John Russo, Romero. With Duane Jones, Judith O'Dea, Marilyn Eastman, Karl Hardman, Judith Ridley, Keith Wayne. 96 min.

Wednesday, July 27 - 8:30 PM in the Museum's Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden

Saturday, July 30 - 1:30 PM

Deathdream. 1974. USA/Canada. Directed by Bob Clark. Screenplay by Alan Ormsby. With John Marley, Lynn Carlin, Richard Backus, Henderson Forsythe. 88 min. **Thursday, July 28 - 7 PM**

Dellamorte Dellamore (Cemetery Man). 1994. Italy/France/Germany. Directed by Michele Soavi. Screenplay by Gianni Romoli, based on novel by Tiziano Sclavi. With Rupert Everett, François Hadji-Lazaro, Anna Falchi. In Italian; English subtitles. 100 min. **Friday. July 29 - 4:30 PM**

Evil Dead. 1981. USA. Written and directed by Sam Raimi. With Bruce Campbell, Ellen Sandweiss, Richard DeManincor, Betsy Baker, Theresa Tilly. 85 min. **Friday, July 29 - 7 PM** **Dawn of the Dead**. 1978. USA/Italy. Written and directed by George A. Romero. With David Emge, Ken Foree, Scott Reininger, Gaylen Ross. 119 or 126 min. **Saturday, July 30 - 4 PM**

Day of the Dead. 1985. USA. Written and directed by George A. Romero. With Lori Cardille, Terry Alexander, Joe Pilato, Jarlath Conroy, Richard Liberty. 100 min. **Saturday, July 30 - 7 PM**

Week Six: Body Horror

Threats to the body are a basic element of the horror movie in general, and for many a hardcore fan the gorier and more imaginative the special effects employed to spill blood, the better. With body horror, filmmakers make our physical vulnerability their theme, taking the hyper-graphic spectacle of bodily harm to psychologically unnerving conclusions. Seen by some critics as a postmodern evolution of classical horror motifs, the sub-genre was pioneered by Canadian director David Cronenberg in the 1970s, followed over the ensuing decades by important works from Clive Barker, Frank Henenlotter, Takashi Miike, Eli Roth, and Shinya Tsukamoto.

The clearly metaphorical nature of the gruesome transformations that afflict bodies in *Shivers* (1975), *The Fly* (1986), *Hellraiser* (1987), *Brain Damage* (1988), *Tetsuo: The Iron Man* (1989), and *Audition* (1999) provide keys to interpreting their anatomical horrors beyond mere spectacle. The painful realism that characterizes the new wave of extreme body horror from France, by filmmakers like Pascal Laurier (*Martyrs*, 2015) and Julia Ducournau (*Raw*, 2017), makes for some of the harshest fantasy the genre has offered since the US classics *The Last House on the Left* (1972) and *I Spit on Your Grave* (1978). This is work that tests audiences' limits and attests to the damaging degree of wear and tear afflicting the body politic today.

Tetsuo: The Iron Man. 1989. Japan. Written and directed by Shinya Tsukamoto. With Tomorowo Taguchi, Kei Fujiwara, Shinya Tsukamoto. In Japanese; English subtitles. 67 min. **Sunday, July 31 - 2 PM**

I Spit On Your Grave. 1978. USA. Written and directed by Meir Zarchi. With Camille Keaton, Eron Tabor, Richard Pace, Anthony Nichols. 102 min. **Sunday, July 31 - 4 PM**

Jungfrukällan (The Virgin Spring). 1960. Sweden. Directed by Ingmar Bergman. Screenplay by Ulla Isaksson. With Max von Sydow, Birgitta Valberg, Gunnel Lindblom, Birgitta Pettersson. In Swedish; English subtitles. 89 min.

Monday, August 1 - 4:30 PM

The Last House on the Left. 1972. USA. Written and directed by Wes Craven. With Sandra Peabody, Lucy Grantham, David A. Hess, Fred Lincoln, Jeramie Rain, Marc Sheffler. 84 min. **Monday, August 1 - 7 PM Tuesday, August 2 - 4PM**

Dans ma Peau (In My Skin). 2002. France. Written and directed by Marina de Van. In French; English subtitles. 93 min.

Tuesday, August 2 - 7 PM Wednesday, August 3 - 4:30 PM

Haute Tension (High Tension). 2003. France. Directed by Alexandre Aja. Screenplay by Aja and Grégory Levasseur. With Cécile de France, Maïwen, Philippe Nahon. In French; English subtitles. 95 min.

Tuesday, August 4 - 7 PM

The Fly. 1986. USA. Directed by David Cronenberg. Screenplay by Charles Edward Pogue, Cronenberg, based on novel by George Langelaan. With Jeff Goldblum, Geena Davis, John Getz. 96 min.

Friday, August 5 - 4:30 PM

Shivers. 1975. CA. Written and directed by David Cronenberg. With Paul Hampton, Lynn Lowry, Barbara Steele. 87 min.

Friday, August 5 - 7 PM

Ōdishon (Audition). 1999. Japan. Directed by Takashi Miike. Screenplay by Daisuke Tengan, based on novel by Ryu Murakami. With Ryo Ishibashi, Eihi Shiina. In Japanese; English subtitles. 113 min.

Saturday, August 6 - 1:30 PM

Grave (Raw). 2016. France/Belgium. Written and directed by Julia Ducournau. With Garance Marillier, Ella Rumpf, Laurent Lucas. In French; English subtitles. 99 min. **Saturday, August 6 - 4:30 PM**

Week Seven: Women Make Horror

Women and their bodies have always been integral to horror. Ideas around women's survival, femininity, and capability have been established as tropes in horror by male directors, in both productive and reductive ways. Since being a woman in the world is to experience horror regularly, the Women Make Horror section highlights women filmmakers so we see the impact made when they are the ones in charge of telling their own stories. These films explore and explode notions of the "final girl," motherhood, sexuality, trauma, and gender discrimination through innovative means, creating a new and exciting language in horror cinema.

This section of *Horror: Messaging the Monstrous* is titled after Alison Peirse's eponymous 2020 book, and has a particular focus on films made since 2014, the year that saw the releases of two landmark horror films: *The Babadook* and *A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night*. From this point there was a remarkable shift in genre work by women, in which we find explorations of PTSD in films like *Violation, Knives and Skin*, and *Censor*, horror associated with motherhood in *Prevenge, You Are Not My Mother*, and *Amulet*, along with explorations of contagious ideas in *She Dies Tomorrow*. We also revisit earlier landmarks like Karen Arthur's essential 1978 film *The Mafu Cage* and Karyn Kusama's criminally overlooked *Jennifer's Body*.

Be sure to see the other post-2014 films directed by women featured in other sections of this series, like *Tigers Are Not Afraid*, *Relic*, *Master*, *Good Madam*, and *Raw*.

The Mafu Cage. 1978. USA. Directed by Karen Arthur. Screenplay by Don Chastain, based on novel by Eric Westphal. With Carol Kane, Lee Grant. 104 min.

Saturday, August 6 - 7 PM with filmmaker Karen Arthur for Q&A

Dokhtari dar šab tanhâ be xâne miravad (A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night). 2014. USA. Written and directed by Ana Lily Amirpour. With Sheila Vand, Arash Marandi, Mozhan Marnò, Marshall Manesh, Dominic Rains. In Persian; English subtitles. 101 min.

Sunday, August 7 - 1:30 PM

The Babadook. 2014. AU. Written and directed by Jennifer Kent. With Eddie Davis, Noah Wiseman, Hayley McElhinney, Daniel Henshall, Barbara West, Ben Winspear. 94 min. **Sunday, August 7 - 4 PM**

You Are Not My Mother. 2021. Ireland. Written and directed by Kate Dolan. With Hazel Doupe, Carolyn Bracken and Jade Jordan. 93 min.

Monday, August 8 - 4:30 PM

Prevenge. 2016. Great Britain. Written and directed by Alice Lowe. With Alice Lowe, Kate Dickie, Kayvan Novak, Jo Hartley, Gemma Whelan, Tom Davis, Dan Renton Skinner, Mike Wozniak, Tom Meeten. 87 min.

Monday, August 8 - 7 PM Tuesday, August 8 - 4:30 PM

Violation. 2020. Canada. Written and directed by Madeleine Sims-Fewer and Dusty Mancinelli. With Madeleine Sims-Fewer, Anna Maguire, Jesse LaVercombe, Obi Abili, Jasmin Geljo, Cynthia Ashperger. 107 min.

Tuesday, August 9 - 7 PM

Wednesday, August 10 - 4:30 PM

Censor. 2021. Great Britain. Directed by Prano Bailey-Bond. Screenplay by Bailey-Bond and Anthony Fletcher. With Niamh Algar, Nicholas Burns, Vincent Franklin, Sophia La Porta, Adrian Schiller, Michael Smiley. 84 min.

Wednesday, August 10 - 7 PM Thursday, August 11 - 4:30 PM

Knives and Skin. 2019. USA. Written and directed by Jennifer Reeder. With Raven Whitley, Ty Olwin, Marika Engelhardt. 111 min.

Thursday, August 11 - 7 PM Friday, August 12 - 4:30 PM

Jennifer's Body. 2009. USA. Directed by Karyn Kusama. Screenplay by Diablo Cody. With Megan Fox, Amanda Seyfried, Johnny Simmons, J.K. Simmons, Amy Sedaris, Adam Brody. 102 min.

Friday, August 12 - 7 PM

Amulet. 2020. Great Britain. Written and directed by Romola Garai. With Carla Juri, Imelda Staunton, Alex Secareanu. 99 min.

Saturday, August 13 - 2 PM

She Dies Tomorrow. 2020. US. Written and directed by Amy Seimetz. With Kate Lyn Sheil, Kentucker Audley, Jane Adams and Tunde Adebimpe. 84 min.

Saturday, August 13 - 4:30 PM

Saint Maud. 2019. Great Britain. Written and directed by Rose Glass. With Morfydd Clark, Jennifer Ehle. 84 min.

Saturday, August 13 - 7 PM

Week Eight: Folk Horror

Folk horror is an expansive subgenre, tracing its film foundations to 1970s Britain but universal and international as a storytelling device. Stemming from folkloric traditions in which age-old beliefs, customs, and stories of community are passed on through the generations, folk horror films portray unsettling narratives that both reflect and shape the culture. These stories are often rooted in nature and isolation, imbued with spiritual resonance, and related to powers of darkness: ghost stories, places unfamiliar, and horrors lurking just beneath the surface. Ultimately, folk horror offers us a way to check our communal moral systems by evaluating how we proceed within the world, laying bare the horrors that have been so we can avoid the mistakes of the past. Or else.

This section of *Horror: Messaging the Monstrous* offers an international selection of films (from the UK, Laos, South Africa, Mexico, Canada, the US, and Guatemala) to highlight folktales' universal relevance in horror. With foundational works like Robin Hardy's *The Wicker Man* establishing the subgenre, we look to other works steeped in the folk storytelling tradition but represented in ways as various as the lore itself: war crimes in *La Llorona*, drug cartel violence in *Tigers Are Not Afraid*, deep-seated racial oppression in *Good Madam*, curses in *I Am Not a Witch* and *Drag Me to Hell*, and the threatening (and threatened) otherness of nature in *The Blair Witch Project*, *The Company of Wolves*, and *The Wailing*.

Las maschera del demonio (Black Sunday). 1960. Italy. Written and directed by Mario Bava, based on novel Viy by Nikolai Gogol. With Barbara Steele, John Richardson, Andrea Checchi, Ivo Garrani, Arturo Dominici, Enrico Olivieri. In Italian; English subtitles. 87 min. Sunday, August 14 - 1:30 PM

The Wicker Man. 1973. Great Britain. Directed by Robin Hardy. Screenplay by Anthony Shaffer. With Edward Woodward, Britt Ekland, Diane Cilento. Ingrid Pitt, Christopher Lee. 88 min.

Sunday, August 14 - 4 PM

The Blair Witch Project. 1999. USA. Written and directed by Daniel Myrick and Eduardo Sánchez. With Heather Donahue, Michael Williams, Joshua Leonard. 81 min. **Monday, August 15 - 4 PM**

Drag Me To Hell. 2009. USA. Directed by Sam Raimi. Screenplay by Sam Raimi and Ivan Raimi. With Alison Lohman, Justin Long, Loma Raver, Dileep Rao, David Paymer, Adriana Barraza. In English, Spanish. 99 min.

Monday, August 16 - 7 PM Tuesday, August 16 - 4:30 PM *Kill List*. 2011. Great Britain. Directed by Ben Wheatley. Screenplay by Wheatley and Amy Jump. With Neil Maskell, MyAnna Buring, Michael Smiley. 95 min.

Tuesday, August 16 - 7 PM Wednesday, August 17 - 4 PM

The Empty Man. 2020. USA. Written and directed by David Prior. Based on novel by Cullen Bunn and Vanessa R. Del Rey. With James Badge Dale, Marin Ireland, Stephen Root, Ron Canada, Robert Aramayo, Joel Courtney, Sasha Frolova. 137 min.

Wednesday, August 17 - 7 PM

La Llorona (The Weeping Woman). 2019. Guatemala. Directed by Jayro Bustamente. With Maria Mercedes Coroy. In Spanish, Mayan-Caqchickel, Mayan-Ixil; English subtitles. 97 min. **Thursday, August 18 - 4:30 PM**

Mlungu Wam (Good Madam). 2021. South Africa. Directed by Jenna Cato Bass. Screenplay by Bass and Babalwa Baartman. With Chumisa Cosa, Nosipho Mtebe. In English, Xhosa. 92 min.

Thursday, August 18 - 7 PM Friday, August 19 - 4:30 PM

I Am Not a Witch. 2017. UK/France/Germany/Zambia. Written and directed by Rungano Nyoni. With Maggie Mulubwa. In English, Bemba, Nyanja. 93 min.

Friday, August 19 - 7 PM Saturday, August 20 - 2 PM

The Company of Wolves. 1984. Great Britain. Directed by Neil Jordan. Screenplay by Angela Carter and Jordan. With Angela Landsbury, David Warner, Micha Bergese, Sarah Patterson. 95 min.

Saturday, August 20 - 4:30 PM

SGaawaay K'uuna (Edge of the Knife). 2018. Canada. Directed by Gwaai Edenshaw and Helen Haig-Brown. Screenplay by Gwaai Edenshaw, Jaalen Edenshaw, Graham Richard, Leonie Sandercock. With Tyler York, William Russ, Adeana Young. In Haida; English subtitles. 100 min.

Saturday, August 20 - 7 PM

Week Nine: Eco Horror

The apocalyptic results of humankind's self-destructive tendencies is a preoccupation that horror shares with science fiction. From careless littering and reckless toxic waste disposal to the exploitation of resources by profit-driven corporations and manipulative politicians, filmmakers have visualized terrifying scenarios of the natural world's revenge that seem less fantastic and more urgent with each passing year. Relatively restrained works like *The Crazies* (1973) and *Long Weekend* (1978) laid the foundations for the more gruesome viral epidemic of *28 Days Later* (2002) and the forest's fungal vendetta in *Gaia* (2021). These films often ask whether human life is sustainable; at least one, *The Girl With All the Gifts* (2016), suggests it isn't worth the effort at all. As we experience a summer with planet-warming CO2 levels at their highest in human history, these "fantastic" films are deadly serious.

Vuelven (Tigers Are Not Afraid). 2017. Mexico. Written and directed by Issa López. With Paola Lara, Juan Ramón López, Ianis Guerrero, Rodrigo Cortes, Hanssel Casillas, Nery Arrendondo, Tenoch Huerta. In Spanish; English subtitles. 83 min.

Sunday, August 21 - 4 PM

Unearth. 2020. US. Directed by John C. Lyons and Dorota Swies. Screenplay by Kelsey Goldberg and John C. Lyons. With Adrienne Barbeau and P.J. Marshall. 94 min. **Monday, August 22 - 4:30 PM**

The Girl with All the Gifts. 2016. Great Britain. Directed by Colm McCarthy. Screenplay by Mike Carey. With Gemma Arterton, Paddy Considine, Glenn Close, Sennia Nanua. 111 min. **Monday, August 22 - 7 PM**

Gaia. 2021. SA. Directed by Jaco Bouwer. Screenplay by Tertius Kapp. With Monique Rockman, Carel Nel, Alex van Dyk, Anthony Oseyemi. In English, Afrikaans; English subtitles. 96 min.

Tuesday, August 23 - 4:30 PM

28 Days Later. 2002. Great Britain. Directed by Danny Boyle. Screenplay by Alex Garland. With Cillian Murphy, Naomie Harris, Christopher Eccleston, Megan Burns, Brendan Gleeson. 113 min.

Tuesday, August 23 - 7 PM Wednesday, August 24 - 4 PM

The Crazies. 1973. USA. Written and directed by George A. Romero, based on novel The Mad People by Paul McCollough. With Lane Carroll, W.G. McMillan, Harold Wayne Jones, Lloyd Hollar, Lynn Lowry, Richard Liberty. 103 min.

Wednesday, August 24 - 7 PM Thursday, August 25 - 4:30 PM

Pet Sematary. 1989. USA. Directed by Mary Lambert. Screenplay by Stephen King. With Dale Midkiff, Fred Gwynne, Denise Crosby, Brad Greenquist, Michael Lombard, Miko Hughes, Blaze Berdahl. 103 min.

Thursday, August 25 - 7 PM with filmmaker Mary Lambert for Q&A Friday, August 26 - 4:30 PM

C.H.U.D. 1984. USA. Directed by Douglas Cheek. Screenplay by Parnell Hall, Daniel Stern. With John Heard, Daniel Stern, Christopher Curry. 88 min.

Friday, August 26 - 7 PM

Long Weekend. 1978. AU. Directed by Colin Eggleston. Screenplay by Everett De Roche. With John Hargreaves, Briony Behets. 92 min. Courtesy of American Genre Film Archive. **Saturday, August 27 - 2 PM**

Cabin Fever. 2002. USA. Directed by Eli Roth. Screenplay by Roth, Randy Pearlstein. With Rider Strong, Jordan Ladd, James DeBello, Cerina Vincent, Joey Kern, Arie Verveen, Giuseppe Andrews. 94 min.

Saturday, August 27 - 4:30 PM

The Green Inferno. 2013. USA. Directed by Eli Roth. Screenplay by Roth, Guillermo Amoedo. With Lorenza Izzo, Ariel Levy, Daryl Sabara, Kirby Bliss Blanton, Sky Ferreira,

Magda Apanowicz, Nicolás Martinez, Aaron Burns, Ignacia Allaman, Ramón Llao, Richard Burgi. 100 min.

Saturday, August 27 - 7 PM

Week Ten: Creatures

Whether the genre's monsters are grotesque figures of the imagination that manifest nature's vengeance, insidiously humanoid in appearance, or the film's supernatural love interest, the fabulous creatures of horror are rarely less than spectacular reminders that humankind is, ultimately, the endangered species.

The Descent. 2005. Great Britain. Written and directed by Neil Marshall. With Shauna MacDonald, Natalie Mendoza, Alex Reid, Saskia Mulder, Nora-Jane Noone, MyAnna Buring. 100 min.

Sunday, August 28 - 4:30 PM

The Thing. 1982. USA. Directed by John Carpenter. Screenplay by Bill Lancaster, based on novel by John W. Campbell Jr. With Kurt Russell and Keith David. 109 min.

Monday, August 29 - 7 PM Tuesday, August 30 - 4:30 PM

Def by Temptation. 1990. USA. Written and directed by James Bond III. With James Bond III, Kadeem Hardison, Bill Nunn, Samuel L. Jackson, Minnie Gentry, Rony Clanton, John Canada Terrell, Cynthia Bond. 94 min.

Tuesday, August 30 - 7 PM Wednesday, August 31 - 4:30 PM

Spring. 2014. USA. Directed by Justin Benson and Aaron Moorhead. Screenplay by Benson. With Lou Taylor Pucci, Nadia Hilker. 109 min.

Wednesday, August 31 - 7 PM Thursday, September 1 - 4:30 PM

Cloverfield. 2008. USA. Directed by Matt Reeves. Screenplay by Drew Goddard. With Michael Stahl-David, Mike Vogel and Odette Yustman. 85 min.

Thursday, September 1 - 7 PM Friday, September 2 - 4:30 PM

Gwoemul (The Host). 2006. South Korea. Directed by Bong Joon-ho. Screenplay by Joonho, Ha Won-jun, Baek Chul-hyun. With Song Kang-ho, Byun Hee-bong, Park Hae-il, Bae Doona, Go Ah-sung. In Korean, English; English subtitles. 119 min.

Friday, September 2 - 7 PM Saturday, September 3 - 1:30 PM

Attack the Block. 2011. Great Britain. Written and directed by Joe Cornish. With John Boyega, Jodie Whittaker, Alex Esmail, Franz Drameh, Leeon Jones, Simon Howard, Luke Treadaway, Jumayn Hunter, Nick Frost. 88 min.

Saturday, September 3 - 4:30 PM

The Cabin in the Woods. 2011. USA. Directed by Drew Goddard. Screenplay by Joss Whedon and Goddard. With Kristen Connolly, Chris Hemsworth, Anna Hutchinson, Fran Kranz, Jesse Williams, Richard Jenkins, Bradley Whitford. 95 min. **Saturday, September 3 - 7 PM**

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