

SIXTIES (1961-1970) HO-I
All reviews by Michael J. Weldon

THE HOOKERS (SW, 67) P/D Jalo Miklos Horthy, S William Rose

Three women each have their own segment in this downbeat b/w movie. A black secretary (Fleurette Carter from AROUSED and THE NAKED ZOO) charges an office worker \$25 for sex. (She's also seen being raped by drunks in a disturbing flashback). A young blonde (Barbara Wood) is conned by a pimp into posing in her underwear. She ends up having sex with a sweaty blonde "Samoan fire dancer" (Linda Lavell) who eats fire and juggles. And for a change of pace, a lazy bitchy blonde housewife (Monica Davis) owes money to her sadistic loan shark. The narrator goes on about "the rough, bitter, bleak trail to depravity..." Historical local scenes include the Pan Am Building, the candy store at 42'nd and Bway and The Rialto showing (I, A WOMAN). The music sounds like early John Barry instrumentals.

THE HORROR OF IT ALL (VSOM, 64) D Terence Fisher, S Ray Russell, P Robert Lippert

American encyclopedia salesman Jack (Pat Boone) arrives at the remote mansion of the eccentric and cursed Marley family to seek the hand of Cynthia (Erica Rogers) and is welcomed by Reginald (Valentine Dyll). Natalia (Andree Melly from Fisher's THE BRIDES OF DRACULA) is a seductive vamp who drinks Bloody Marys. Percival (Jack Blich) is busy trying to invent the electric light. While in his lab Jack suddenly sings the comic theme song with lines like "It's been said that the best things in life are dead." He also has to deal with tarantulas and a shrinking room. There's also the Shakespearean actor cousin (Dennis Price, who disappears too fast), the deaf grandpa (Eric Chitty), and the insane locked up bearded Muldoon (Archie Duncan). The b/w horror comedy with silly music followed the very similar WHAT A CARVE UP! (62) (PV #25), also with Price and THE OLD DARK HOUSE (63). 20th Century Fox released it here on a double bill with WITCHCRAFT (PV #35).

HUNCHBACK OF SOHO (SW, 66) D Alfred Vohrer, S Herbert Reinecker, P Horst Wendlandt

(DER BUCKLIGE VON SOHO) Many characters are murdered in this color Edgar Wallace adaptation. A big female warden with a whip runs the laundry room in secret caverns under a "home for troubled girls." Pinkas Braun and Eddi Arent (as a fake reverend) are the main bad guys. The latest inmate, a kidnapped heiress (Monica Peitsch), is impersonated by another woman and Scotland Yard Insp. Hopkins (Gunther Stoll) investigates. After many plot twists, it's notable that the real villain in this W. German movie is a childish old English WWII General (Hubert Von Meyerinck) who had been in charge of German POWs in N. Africa (!). The wacky Morricone with voices style soundtrack is memorable, as is the fact that this US TV version still has some singing in German. With Agnes Windeck as the home's sponsor, Siegfried Schurenberg as the foolish Sir John, and Richard Haller as the unconvincing limping hunchback. The print is worn.

THE ICE HOUSE (SW, 69) D Stuart E. McGowan, P Dorrell McGowan.

A violent ex cop (Robert Story) turns psycho killer after he's smashed with a bottle by Venus (the British Sabrina from SATAN IN HIGH HEELS), the star dancer at the Magic Mushroom club. Every time he's about to kill women we see freak out FX. He hides bodies in his ice house (I wonder if the makers of FISTS OF FURY saw this?). Meanwhile his "square" cop identical twin (David Story, also in MANTIS IN LACE) is put on the case (they look like two Ken Wahls). The most memorable part

is when lots of totally naked dancers act like they're in a rock musical while a band pretends to play the ridiculous "Do The Scrub." With pot smoking, sex with underwear on, a long motorcycle chase and some hilarious obvious dummies for bodies. The name stars are Scott Brady as the police Lt., and Jim Davis as the club owner. Marsha Jordan is glimpsed and (I think) John Holmes appears. The songs are by Texan Ray ("Tell Laura I Love Her") Peterson. I actually saw this in a theatre (the Standard or the Roxy) in Cleveland. It's improved with time but the print wasn't so worn then. A Frank Henenlotter Sexy Shocker.

THE "IMP"ROBABLE MR. WEEGEE (SW, 66) D/S Sherman Price
In NYC, famous photographer Weegee makes headlines by marrying a mannequin. A gay cop provides comedy in the police station. Then our star narrates his (true) story to a shrink. This serious segment about celebrity and crime photos (real dead bodies are shown) in the naked city is the best part of the otherwise silly color "adults only" slapstick movie. After some time wasting scenes of Manhattan, he goes to London where he sees a naked woman shaving, then Paris where he sees some women in negligees and he takes a bath (not a pretty sight). Weegee plays himself but somebody else provides his narration. Note the Alfred E. Newman pic on the wall. Weegee also showed up in several nudist colony movies. Joe Pesci played him in PUBLIC EYE (92).

INGA (SW, 68) D/S Joe Sarno, P Donald Dennis
(JAG - EN OSKULD) 32 year old Greta (Monica Strommerstedt) supports her younger would be writer boyfriend Karl. She has an affair with the "letch" Einar, then fixes him up with her visiting virginal underage opera fan niece Inga (Marie Liljedahl) for money. Inga tries on her first bikini, takes a steam bath and a shower and has her first orgasm. Greta's twisted plan backfires. The theme is a rock song and rock instrumentals (with noisy fuzz and wah wah guitars) are heard during parties. Although set mostly in the countryside, this includes a good look at the old part of Stockholm. Originally a Jerry Gross Cinemation release, this b/w Swedish movie is featured in John Waters new Directors Cut book. Sex symbol Liljedahl went on to star in EVA, ANN AND EVE, EUGENIE (by Franco), GRIMM'S FAIRY TALES FOR ADULTS and DORIAN GREY.

INTERNATIONAL SMORGASBROAD (SW, 65) P/D/cine. Barry Mahon
In one of Mahon's best, most obsessive nudies, a female narrator scolds Bernie (chubby comic Bernie Allen, later in THE PRODUCERS), a cook who daydreams about naked women. Most of this movie is non-stop naked bodies, lovingly photographed. Beautiful women smile, talk on the phone, lounge in beds, sit on barstools drinking champagne, even adjust a TV set. Models include the Swenson Twins and a young, pre porn star "Aunt Peg" (billed as "Gigi the German bombshell") who swims, walks around and sunbathes with some friends. Sometimes you just see torso close-ups. Occasionally Bernie returns, tries to cook, and asks the waitresses out. It ends with 5 naked women meditating on a bed. Brilliant.

IN THE YEAR 2889 (SW, 67) P/D/edit Larry Buchanan, S Harold Hoffman
Many H bombs are seen exploding, a biblical quote is heard and a radio announcer says that the first of "1000 bombs" fell on Formosa. Captain Ramsey (Neil Fletcher) had planned to survive in his remote house in a valley with his daughter Joana (Charla Doherty), but intruders show up. He says "Sometimes I

have a feeling of doom" (a major understatement). Red haired exotic dancer Jada (Quinn O'Hara) is with her "cheap hood" manager Mickey (Hugh Feagin), Steve (top billed Paul Petersen) arrives with his dying brother, and the moonshine guzzling Timothy (Bill Thurman) stumbles in. Mickey sings "Ten Little Indians" as he starts to kill off survivors. Jada drinks with Timothy, and she and Joana swim in bikinis as mutants lurk around. Parts are too dark and the mutants with long white hair wigs could have been scarier, but this made in Texas direct to TV remake of DAY THE WORLD ENDED (56), is otherwise as good as Corman's original. Patersen had just finished his long run on THE DONNA REED show, Doherty, from Cleveland, died young in a car crash, O'Hara was known for several beach movies, and Feagin was also in S. F. Brownrigg movies.

INVASION OF THE ANIMAL PEOPLE (Loonic, 59/62) D Virgil Vogel, S Arthur C. Pierce, P Bertil Jernberg, P/D/edit Jerry Warren
(RYMOINVASION I LAPPLAND) Like other Warren imports, boring and confusing new scenes of people talking in rooms were added. John Carradine delivers a long scientific intro, then narrates the rest of this unique Swedish sci fi movie, partially filmed in Lapland. Diane (Barbara Wilson), an Olympic skater, makes headlines after suffering a mysterious seizure, then heads to "Switzerland" (!?), and stows away in a small plane of scientists who fly north to where a meteor (actually a metallic spacecraft) had landed. A bald alien (like the one in FRANKENSTEIN MEETS THE SPACE MONSTER) controls a Kong size hairy/scary abominable monster with fangs that demolishes a local village while reindeer panic. With Robert Burton (THE SLIME PEOPLE) as a geologist, Stan Gester and Bengt Blomgren. Brita Borg sings "Midnight Sun" backed by vibes. Some dialog is in Swedish. Originally 73 mins., this U.S version only runs 55.

THE INVINCIBLE SIX (Continental, 69) D Jean Negulesco, S Guy Elmes, P Mostafa Akavan
After a botched robbery in Teheran, the unemotional American Tex (Stuart Whitman) goes to a remote village near a rebel bandit camp. He eventually falls in lust with a wild dancer (Elke Sommer with heavy eye make-up), who was the mistress of the late rebel leader. The new boss (Jim Mitchum) wants her back and she's after a secret fortune. It's all like a violent (for the time) international western with battles using horses, motorcycles, armed trucks, machine guns and explosives. Locals (and Elke) do folk dances (choreographed by Rudolph Nureyev!). The other five of the title are an eccentric German thief (Curt Jurgens), a young Brit (Ian Ogilvy), who is gang raped offscreen, an Italian (Isarco Ravailoi from DANGER DIABOLIK), a black guy (Lon Sutton) and a local (Behrooz Vosugi). The director is Romanian. The Shah (seen in photos on walls) who had ruled since 1941, probably enjoyed a private official screening.

IT'S A BIKINI WORLD (Video Beat, 66) D/S Stephanie Rothman, P/S Charles S. Swartz
Several classic hits are in the only 60s teen musical directed by a woman but by the time AIP/Trans American released it in '67, they seemed like oldies. The Animals do "We Gotta Get Out Of This Place," The Castaways (from Minneapolis) do their wonderful "Liar Liar," The Toys (from Jamaica, NY) do "Attack," and The Gentrys (from Memphis) do "Spread It On Thick." Native Americans Pat And Lolly Vegas didn't have hits until Redbone, but they do "Walk On (Right out of my Life)." Most acts play at the actual Haunted House club (also seen in Ted Mikel's GIRL IN GOLD BOOTS) with a stage inside a big demon face with steaming nostrils. Daddy (Sid Haig - PV #3) says "it's a gas" and "groovy," introduces the acts and plans a long distance race (boat, car, motorcycle, skateboard, camels) with publisher Mr. Pulp (Jack Bernardi). Delilah (Deborah Walley) can beat any guy in the race but she wants a sensitive intelligent boyfriend so Mike (Tommy Kirk) pretends to be his own bowtie wearing brother (Kirk again). The results are not hilarious. With William O'Connell as Pulp's comic assistant McSnigg, Suzie Kaye as Pebbles, Bobby ("Boris") Picket (PV # 32) as Woody, and Lori Williams (from

FASTER PUSSYCAT!). Cartoon credits and a pop art house show a BATMAN influence and a marquee announces ATTACK OF THE CRAB MONSTERS.

IT'S A REVOLUTION, MOTHER (SW, 70) D/edit Harry Kerwin, S Tom Casey
 A look at three contrasting late 60s counterculture groups, this narrated documentary is fascinating despite being cheap exploitation. The main footage is of the Aliens (of New Jersey) bikers, "a brotherhood like the Mafia, a product of a sick society." They complain about cops and landlords in their cramped headquarters and beat a guy with chains (probably staged) at their beach party. Their "old ladies and mamas" smoke pot, swig booze, cook and polish bikes. A band plays but other music is dubbed in. This is intercut with footage of the huge Nov. 69 D. C. peace march where coffins contain the names of 40,000 dead U. S. soldiers and the voice of Dick Gregory is heard making fun of Agnew. Finally we see "50,000" young people trudging through the mud and "grooving on freedom" at an unidentified 3 day southern rock festival. No bands are seen or heard. Only the biker segments feature on screen interviews. The rest is silent footage with voiceovers. Several people credited here also worked on Florida marvels like FLESH FEAST and SCREAM, BABY SCREAM, but this is much scarier. It's a Johnny Legend Untamed Video.

IT'S A SICK, SICK, SICK WORLD (SW, 65) D "Antonio Scarpati," P "Jose Scannapieco"

This fake b/w mondo movie was filmed mostly in NYC (despite the Euro settings) and has more stripper scenes than anything else. After a tour of Times Square, a would be rapist (familiar actor Richard B. Shull) attacks in Central Park, gays prance around Washington Sq. Park and drag queens are seen on a rooftop. An awkward guy (Sammy Petrillo!) pays to take photos of women in bikinis who spank and whip each other. After a pimp and his woman shoot up at a twist party we're off to Europe where various strippers (one is black) take it all off. Other (obviously faked) scenes show a street fight over a woman, a drug deal murder and a guy smoking pot (REEFER MADNESS style) during a belly dance show "in the Middle East." A look at some still standing concentration camps in Germany seems out of place. The sarcastic, judgmental offscreen narrator repeats the sick title after many scenes. The tape also includes some choice trailers.

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