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QUICKEN THE DEAD

By V.A. MUSETTO

Rating: ★★☆☆

October 11, 2006 -- 'FRANKENSTEINS Bloody Nightmare' (the director, John R. Hand, has seen fit to drop the apostrophe in the first word) is a movie that you will hate and/or admire.

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There is a plot. A young woman (Amy Olivastro) dies while under the care of her doctor-boyfriend, Victor Karlstein (the director himself), at an eerie sanitarium that he runs. Overflowing with grief, Victor builds a monster to collect body parts of young women so as to bring his beloved back to life.

Please note that I didn't learn the plot while watching the movie - twice. The plot came to me via diligent research on the Web.

Hand takes these raw facts and throws them into a giant blender with vivid colors (blue, red, orange, green, auburn), bucolic visions (with birds chirping in the background) and funky music by the Greys (actually Hand and some keyboards). Every once in a while, he throws in something resembling conventional narrative.

More a black comedy than a horror film, "Frankensteins Bloody Nightmare" was shot on super-8 film, with the frequent help of color filters. The result is mystifying - intentionally so - and frustrating. But it's worth a look.

Hand said the movie cost \$2,000 to make. If he can do so much with so little, it would be interesting to see this 20-something get his hands on a real budget.

FRANKENSTEINS BLOODY NIGHTMARE

Running time: 77 minutes. Not rated (violence). At the Two Boots Pioneer Theater, Avenue A and Third Street, East Village.

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