

MOVIE REVIEW | 'FRANKENSTEINS BLOODY NIGHTMARE'

A Deranged Doctor in a Psychedelic Laboratory

Frankensteins Bloody Nightmare Directed by John R. Hand | Horror | 1h 17m

By **Laura Kern**

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The lack of apostrophe in the title is just one of the many confounding things about “Frankensteins Bloody Nightmare,” a 1970’s-style horror oddity that could pass for a perverse experiment masterminded by a mad scientist.

Reportedly made for less than \$2,000, the film stars John R. Hand, who also wrote, directed, produced and edited, as Victor Karlstein, a giggling, increasingly deranged doctor. Victor builds a robotlike creature that murders so he can obtain body parts to reassemble and eventually revive his dead girlfriend. Or something like that.

More interested in trippy visuals than storytelling, Mr. Hand’s peculiar assemblage of quick cuts, slow pans and extreme close-ups, shot on Super 8 and mini-DV, is either so grainy or so saturated in reds, greens, blues and purples that it’s often difficult to make out exactly what’s happening on screen. And the sound is so frightfully bad it’s even harder to decipher the dialogue spoken by the amateurish actors.

Yet purely for curiosity’s sake this unusual, intermittently hypnotic quasi monster flick is worth checking out, at least until the initial “what is this?” effect wears off and it becomes as tiresome as listening to someone relate long-winded tales about nightmares or drug-induced exploits.

FRANKENSTEINS BLOODY NIGHTMARE

Opens today in Manhattan.

Written, produced, directed and edited by John R. Hand; music by the Greys; released by JRH Films. At the Two Boots Pioneer Theater, 155 East Third Street, at Avenue A, East Village. Running time: 77 minutes. This film is not rated.

WITH: John R. Hand (Victor Karlstein), Amy Olivastro (Victoria/Tara Vermillion), Chester Delacruz (Andrew Milligan), Chip Chism (Inspector Morgan) and Wade Best (Billy).

Frankensteins Bloody Nightmare

Director John R. Hand

Writer John R. Hand

Stars John R. Hand, Amy Olivastro, Chester Delacruz, Chip Chism, Mike Ensley

Running Time 1h 17m

Genre Horror