

Trash from page B1

Souls, starring the great Charles Laughton, features gruesome scenes of vivisection. That was in 1932.

■ Some diehards worked to keep horror films true to their roots — amid the sleaze of the gutter.

And through it all, the audiences have asked for more. *The Night of the Living Dead*, *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre*, *A Nightmare on Elm Street* captured the attention of general audiences. They, in turn, spawned mainstream mega hits like *Silence of the Lambs*, *Se7en*, *Scream* and even *The Mummy*, which isn't that far removed from, well, *The Mummy* (1932-style).

But even as those films dragged the genre of horror up

toward respectability, some diehards worked to keep horror films true to their roots — amid the sleaze of the gutter. So for every mainstream horror movie there are dozens of those that never make it farther than direct to video. Many are never released in the United States and can only be acquired in the form of often foggy copies. But for the true horror fan, those are the real soul of film horror.

Top Ten from page B1

addiction. **■ Basket Case:** The tender tale of a man and his mutant brother, whom he keeps in a wicker basket. A wonderful atmosphere of the slums of New York pervades this film, which was shot in Times Square prior to its unfortunate rehabilitation.

■ Demons: Done by Italian master Dario Argento, this is one of his least complex films. It is also one of his most outrageous. A group of people are invited to a theater premiere where they are possessed by and turned into gory demons. Much blood-letting and spewing of

mucous. **■ Bad Taste:** The name says it all. It's about aliens who have the worst personal hygiene in the universe. **■ Andy Warhol's Dracula:** Andy produced, not directed. This is both hilarious and stunning in its grossness. Udo Kier is

seeking "whergins" to feast upon. There are many others, of course. Some make these look like Disney films. But those test the mettle of even the most ardent horror film fan and shouldn't be mentioned in a family newspaper.

Festival from page B1

School graduate, took on the Maid Marion role.

"I think the heroic elements of the show are a universal theme that always work with our people," Stamberger said. "The joust

this year is a morality play. But it's really about true heroism. We find that even in the bad guy, there can be some good."

Cast of thieves

MacMillan, who performs with Imagination Theatre and the Children's Theatre of Michigan, agrees. He battled crime as deputy sheriff of Holly Grove for four years, before joining its cast of thieves last season.

"I was asked to play the role of Guisborne this year," he explained. "It's almost magical. There's nothing like getting down to the level of a child, even if you're the bad guy like I'm supposed to be. There's something you can do for everyone that will put a smile on their faces."

Or a tremble in their hearts.

"You can always tell the ones who went to Catholic school," said Angela Hill of Detroit, who plays Mother Superior.

They habitually straighten their posture as Hill, decked out in flowing robes adorned with crucifixes, draws near to measure a mini skirt and admonish its owner.

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Colin MacMillan
Actor

"I'm not Catholic. So everything I've done, I've researched," she noted. "My character has no problem coming into your personal space. I can get away with a lot more than a lot of characters can."

Holy arsenal

Her holy arsenal includes two rulers connected with string, "nun-chucks," and paper certificates that guarantee a clean slate for any sinner brave enough to ask Mother Superior for an "indulgence."

How does she deal with Holly Grove patrons?

"I'm glad you asked," Mother Superior said, adding in a megaphone voice: "YOU ARE SO VILE. SO LOW. YOU ARE A FESTERING BOIL ON THE BACKSIDE OF THE CARCASS OF A DYING COW. BUT SOMEONE OUT THERE HAS FOUND A WEE BIT OF GOODNESS IN YOUR HEART AND THEY HAVE PAID YOUR WAY TO THE GATE OF HEAVEN."

"CAN I GET AN AMEN?" she boomed to the crowd.

Visitors understand the tongue-lashing is all in fun. It's a small price to pay for a day's worth of swashbuckling, romance, comedy and feasting.

Artrain celebrates 30th year

Artrain USA, America's museum in motion, is celebrating 30 years as a cultural institution.

Artrain has visited more than 675 communities across the country. Known originally as Michigan Artrain, Artrain USA was envisioned by former First Lady of Michigan, Helen Milliken, in 1971 to serve the tens of thousands of people who were not being reached by traditional museums and art education programs. Artrain USA launched its first national tour in 1979.

In celebration of this landmark year, Artrain USA is returning to its home state of Michigan for the 30th Anniversary Michigan State Tour. The 13-stop tour will feature the Artistry of Space exhibit and will celebrate Michigan's impact on Artrain's success.

Artrain will officially celebrate the anniversary Nov. 17-18 at Greenfield Village in Dearborn. For more information, visit www.ArtrainUSA.org

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