My Bloody Valentine, starring Don Francks, Paul Kelman, and Neil Affleck, produced by Stephen Miller, directed by George Miller. A Paramount Pictures release, now showing at the Sack 57.

My Bloody Valentine, as the English would say, is a bloody bad film. One of a seemingly innumerable genre, its main attraction is shock and horror. Unfortunately, that is its only attraction. The audience sits and waits for the “good” parts. They come with disheartening regularity, at least a dozen times, usually.

I don’t particularly care for this subject matter; in fact, I wonder about people who do. There have been films, like Psycho, that have used brutality effectively, but there we had a story and characters (what characters!) to interest us. The recent film, like My Bloody Valentine or Friday the 13th, to name another, are really different...

...the sole raison d’etre of My Bloody Valentine is re-engaging us. We are often asked in these films, through the subjective camera angles (letting us see the action through the eyes of the attacker), to identify with the killer. For ex-murderers and other anti-social elements, this is a vicarious thrill. For many people, this is a chance to cleave our eyes or do a crossword puzzle. Further, the victim, often impotent to counter their fates, by acting provocatively or foolishly.

My Bloody Valentine isn’t even successful as one of these films. If you do happen to like them, you never really get to see the action, such as it is, which is promised us. One could probably do better by watching the local news, where every night we see the aftermath of tragedy, with the added fillip of reality. Like My Bloody Valentine, the cast is unknown to us, and when we learn who the murderer is, it really doesn’t make a difference.

Linda Schaffir

I had thought before I saw this film that this genre was entirely composed of low-budget, small-studio productions. I was surprised to see that it was made by Paramount Pictures, the same people who bring you all those nice pictures (subsidary now of Gulf and Western, for your info). The producers of the film had most recently made Meatballs. I guess they had some spaghetti sauce left over.

Howard Osnin

GRADUATE STUDENTS

Hearings for seats on the Institute Committees will be held February 24th and 25th. Interviews will be held for positions on the following committees:

Equal Opportunities Committee
Medical Advisory Board
IAP Policy Committee
Committee on Safety
Committee on Toxic Chemicals
Committee on Shareholder Responsibility
Dining Advisory Board

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