Mad Dog Movie Masters say: kill The Pope

THE POPE MUST DIE
Directed by Peter Richardson.
Written by Peter Richardson and Pete Roberts.
Starring Robbie Coltrane and Beverly D'Angelo.
Now playing at the Loews Charles.

By BRIAN ROSE
and ROY CANTU

In our constant quest for the Lord's forgiveness, the Mad Dog Movie Masters chose to renew our faith with The Pope Must Die. But we must confess — after this movie, we tattooed our heads on our heads and made reservations in Hell. Tempted by the We must confess — after this movie, we tattooed our heads on our heads and made reservations in Hell. Tempted by the temptation of Satan's very den. Needless specifying into Satan's very den. Needless saying, the movie was a total waste of time.

The Mad Dog Movie Masters were pumped as we cruised into the theater last week with Gataorde in one hand and French foie in the other. We had 296 seats all to ourselves.

The Pope Must Die opens as our dear Pontiff lay on his death bed, surrounded by his cardinals. Cut to a scene of Father Albanizzi (Robbie Coltrane), a very large man of the cloth, singing to children in a run-down orphanage on an Italian hillside. As all this is going on, the Vatican's corrupt treasurer, Cardinal Rocca (Alex Rocco), arranges to place a Pope in power in order to assist the illegal financial transactions of the Vatican Bank and Vittorio Cucchi (Gianluigi Pascoli), the Pope's personal dealer and all-around bad dude. Unfortunately for them, a mob-up occurs, and the cardinals select the wrong Pope. And who turns out to be the new Pope? Our man Albanizzi, the orphan entertainment. The plot twists really caught us off guard.

When Albanizzi, now Pope David I, finally uncovers Rocca's sinister plot, he begins a noble and heart-warming cleaning of the Vatican's bad seeds. But wait... the bad guys strike back, and the Pope is kicked out of office when an enormous threat is uncovered. The woman involved: none other than Veroncica Dante, played by Beverly D'Angelo.

Rocco has a cute daughter, Luciela (Khadidja Saadi), who is the Pope's heart with her rendition of "Daddy, I'm scared. I think I'm going to take a nap." Cut straight to her in a full metal stud jacket playing footbag with Gene Simmons' propogate, Joe Don Dunz (Balthazar Getty), who just happens to be Veroncica's and the Pope's love child. Catch all that? We almost died laughing at all this unfolded before our eyes.

Not Director Peter Richardson must take his audience for a bunch of idiots and certainly not true Mad Dogs, for anyone with a brain the size of one of our Malad Dogs would surely be insulted by this movie's flatting attempts at humor. As for the acting, Coltrane's compassion for the orphan's unsuccess, and his comedy lacks consistency. He doesn't impress either one of us as anything more than a John Goodman wannabe. At times, he appears to think that he is King Ralph, but in any event, the Pope sends him out at every turn. Coltrane's attempts at drama and tenderness left us using his head for a bull's eye as we tossed French bread at the movie screen.

Alex Rocca succeeds in delivering the mortal blow to this cackless animal of a movie. Agreed, he has two strikes against him first by being in this film, and then by taking on such a pitiful role — but this boy's back of the scenes try to do it all the way to the dugout. Rocco's paint-by-numbers acting is enough to turn inspirational pep talks into corny clichés. As with Coltrane, Rocco's sense of comedy quickly loses focus, and surprisingly yields few, if any, laughs. We both agreed that Rocco was kidnapped by the Pope to pollute the wide screen in every B-movie ever created. . .

The Mad Dog Movie Masters rate Beverly D'Angelo's attempt at portraying the Pope's long-lost niece as mediocre at best. If the writers had tried even a little, they could have elevated this role into something genuinely funny. However, D'Angelo appears to have walked onto the set of The Pope Must Die only to pay next month's rent.

As for Richardson's direction, stock footage of people cheering the Pope does not get the Mad Dogs' blood pumping, nor does a special effects budget consisting of epoxy and ketchup. Nothing revolutionary here.

Yes, it's true, The Pope Must Die must die. This flick is so littered with B-actors from the cast of afternoon sitcoms that it must have been designed with the video store in mind. In fact, The Mad Dog Movie Masters want to put this puppy to sleep with a pitiful one out of four Mad Dogs. But readers, do not despair, for the Mad Dog Movie Masters will be back with an angry fury — our next movie is sure not to disappoint.

Ocean Blue shines at lagoon gig

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Our cruise to the west coast of the United States included a trip to the Pacific Ocean to see the2006 tour of the band Ocean Blue. This was the second time we had seen them, and we were looking forward to catching up with old friends and seeing what new tricks they had up their sleeves.

The concert was held at the famous Lagoon gig, a popular venue known for its intimate atmosphere and up-close performances. The venue was packed with fans from all over, and the energy was electric.

The band took the stage, and the crowd erupted in cheers. Ocean Blue began their set with their hit song, "Tell Me the Truth," which set the tone for the rest of the evening. The audience was captivated by the band's dynamic能量 and the powerful vocals of the lead singer.

As the night progressed, the band delivered a diverse setlist, showcasing their range of styles and tempos. "Someday," "The Last Time," and "Blue Eyed Girl" were among the highlights of the performance, leaving the audience on the edge of their seats.

The highlight of the evening came when Ocean Blue performed "The Best Thing," a song they had written for their 2006 album. The crowd was on their feet as they sang along, and the energy was palpable.

After the performance, the crowd was left breathless. Ocean Blue had managed to captivate their audience once again with their incredible musical talent and infectious energy.

As the lights dimmed and the band made their exit, the audience continued to cheer and applaud. This performance was a reminder of why Ocean Blue has been a beloved band for over three decades. Their music continues to inspire and uplift, and we can't wait to see them perform again.