

More fun than a barrel of dead monkeys, it's:

## Five fantastic slaughterhouse specials

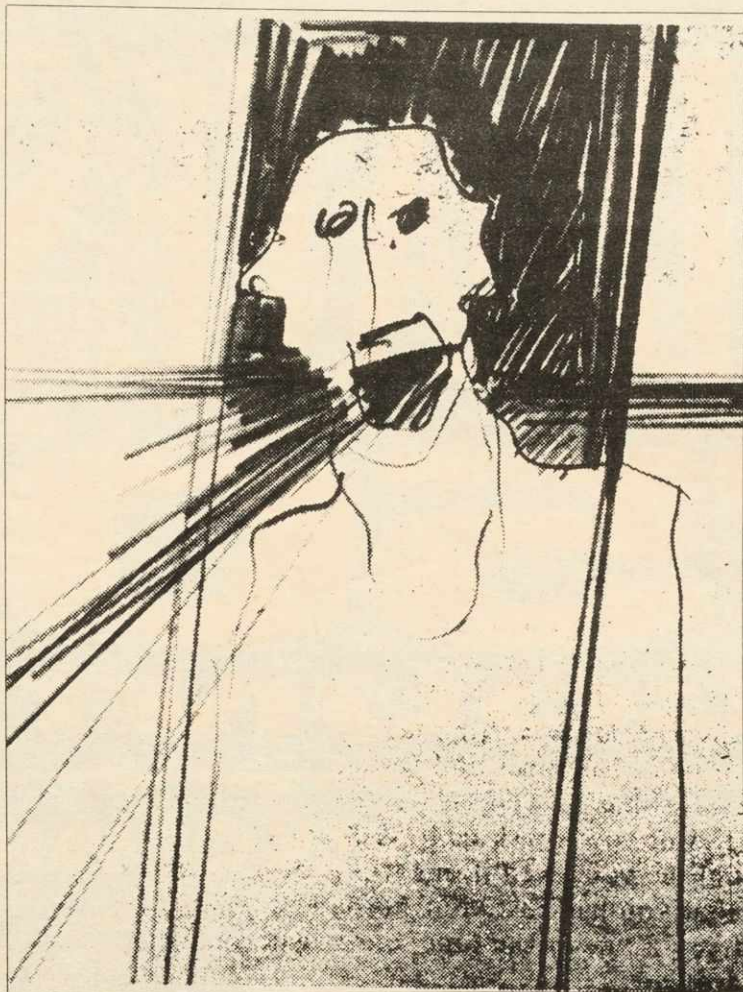
by Gurn Blasten

With Halloween being this week, it is a perfect time to rent some overlooked horror films on video. Here are five of my favourite cult classics:

If zombies are your cup of tea try "Dawn of the Dead". This is George Romero's lesser known 1979 sequel to his classic "Night of the Living Dead". It is also the best horror sequel since "The Bride of Frankenstein" (1935). Not only is it gory, suspenseful and terrifying, but it is also very humorous. Romero uses his living dead this time as a metaphor for the modern consumer. This is a film only for viewers that can take a lot of blood with their message. Those who are willing to take a chance on this one will not be disappointed.



My all-time favourite horror film is "Re-Animator". This is a movie that is extreme in every way. There is both extreme gore, and extreme humour, often in the same scene.



Scary monster/Mardi Gras reveller?

The film stars the brilliantly maniacal Jeffery Combs as Herbert West, a scientist who discovers a

it will receive the attention it deserves. With a tour-de-force performance by Terry O'Quinn, this movie creates one of the best portraits of madness since "Psycho". An edge-of-your-seat thriller with liberal doses of black comedy, "The Stepfather" is a superb video rental. Afterwards rent "Stepfather 2", a good sequel with O'Quinn reprising his chilling role.

Without a doubt the best British horror film of the Eighties was Ken Russell's "The Lair of the White Worm". It is a hermaphroditic tale of pagan worship that is based on the last story written by Bram Stoker. Filled with the typical



luminous green fluid that can reanimate dead organic tissue. Needless to say, this eventually turns into a veritable zombie-fest by the end. But along the way, be prepared to laugh out loud at the wonderously goofy dialogue delivered by the dead pan cast.

Beware: there are two versions of this film on video. One is the longer R-rated version that has much of the gore removed. The other is the shorter unrated version that includes all the gore and the famous off-colour scene, where the heroine has a very bizarre moment with a severed head. Both versions are entertaining but the unrated one is the original theatrical release and was the directors' intended original.

"The Stepfather" was released in 1987 to critical praise and a lukewarm box-office. Perhaps on video



Russell ("Gothic", "Altered States") touches of humour and violence and sex, this is a must-see!

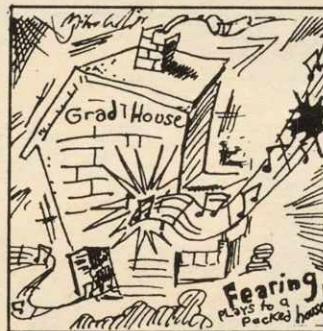
Finally, "Evil Dead 2" was the film that director Sam Raimi did before last summer's "Darkman". Basically a remake of his original 1983 film, this 1987 production boasts stunning cinematography and great special effects. It is also a gory slapstick comedy that has some of the funniest scenes ever done in the horror genre. If you liked "Darkman", then rent this!

## Fearing Canadian folk

Stephen Fearing  
Live in the Grad House  
Saturday, October 27  
by Paul Webster

A sell-out crowd packed the Grad House Saturday night to hear Stephen Fearing play two sets of torchy ballads in a show which clearly articulated his inspirational direction for Canadian folk.

Halifax has seen some of Canada's best young musicians this week. Crash Vegas, Spirit of the West and Fearing all demonstrate well the cultural coherence of a country increasingly at odds with itself. The Harbour Folk Society, who brought Fearing to Halifax, should be thanked for giving us insight into the state of folk rock in Canada.



Fearing has been playing the folk circuit for several years. He has obviously garnered an attentive following who are appreciative of a voice that is as, at times lulling, and at times as harsh as Jim Carroll's, that is sometimes inflected with a strong Irish brogue, and other times as Canadian as Bruce Cockburn. His guitar is similarly versatile, evocative again of Cockburn, Marc Knopfler, Ry Cooder, and Medieval Madrigal.

If Fearing's work is most obviously characteristic of the best elements of strength and passion in Canadian folk, then he also plays with what might be called a geographical palette, weaving stories and music across the Canadian landscape from Vancouver to Halifax. Similarly, he displays a political sensitivity to issues of poverty, violence, sexism and education.

ATTENTION ARTS STUDENTS

### NOTICE

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6:00PM

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CARIBBEAN  
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Admission \$6.00

All Members Welcome

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