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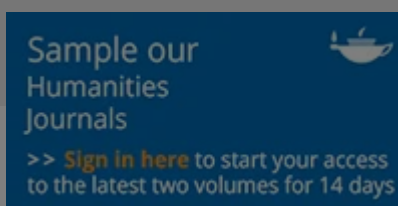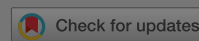► "More than Rutting Bodies": Cambist Film ….

Articles

"More than Rutting Bodies": Cambist Films, Quality Independents, and the "Lost" Films of George A. Romero

Tom Fallows

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Notes

1. By the end of the decade, mainstream exhibitors became more open to screening adult films, with Loew's singled out by MPAA head Jack Valenti for showing the soft-core Danish film Without a Stitch (Dir. Annelise Meineche, 1968). As Jon Lewis writes, "the message was clear: even the biggest and best theatres were willing to book soft-core titles as long as the money was right" (168).

2. Jacqueline Pinkowitz's "Down South" also gives a thorough overview of the exploitation sector.

3. The US Supreme Court overturned the decision one year later.

4. As Otis H. Stephens, Jr., and John M. Scheb III have noted, this definition was ambiguous at best, since the Supreme Court "could never reach an agreement on what constitutes a prurient interest. The term 'redeeming social importance' also failed to generate consensus. A majority of the Court, in the years immediately following Roth, could not even agree on whether 'community' referred to the nation as a whole or to individual states or localities" (160). Put more succinctly, theatre owner James S. Maurer called the obscenity law "filthy with vagueness" ("Pennsylvanians").

5. The Crazies was in accord with an increase in screen violence during this period. J. David Slocum cites the end of the production code, audience fragmentation, and the "familiar social markers" of the war in Vietnam, racial conflicts, and political assassin

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Notes on contributors

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Tom Fallows is a postgraduate researcher in the Department of English and Film at the University of Exeter. He has written on the subject of regional film production, cult stardom, and genre from a media industries perspective and is currently exploring an intersection between the American independent, cult, and authorship. He has taught extensively on film history and form and is co-author of George A. Romero (The Pocket Essential series, Oldcastle Books, 2009).

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