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Please Embargo Until:

4-28-23 (Arbor Day Holiday)

HisTREE Repeats This Arbor Day Lost 90's Cult Film Reappears After 30 Years

This Arbor Day, the root of all evil will chop its way back through a pathway of bloody limbs & stumps after almost 30-years lost in the woods, so to speak. That's when *Arbor Day*, the 1990 satire of low-budget slasher films of the 80's, will be made available for home video *for the first time ever*. The midnight cult-favorite has undergone a 4k restoration, after the original A/B negative was recovered from a defunct NYC film lab.

Promoted as Jason Get's Aboard Airplane at the time, the American film produced by Colossal Mountain Productions parodied the rash of holiday horror movies of the 1980's. Though a cult comedy, the film was the first feature by documentarian Joseph Sikorski (TOWER TO THE PEOPLE - Tesla's Dream at Wardenclyffe, INVISIBLE THREADS - From Wireless to War). While spoofing the exploitive and gratuitous shock horror genre, Arbor Day also paid homage to motion picture classics like Citizen Kane and The Wizard of Oz.

The film grew a following of devotees called *DAYzee's* (the nick-name given to traveling fans of the film) as it played independent movie theaters/art houses, colleges and even comedy clubs for almost two years after its premiere. Throughout 1992, it was a popular weekly Midnight Movie at the *South Bay Cinemas* in West Babylon, NY. It finally ended its run in late 1993, when the filmmakers shifted to screening their newly completed mock-documentary on Elvis sightings; the underground satire *The Return of the King?*. Soon after, *Arbor Day* had completely vanished from the scene.

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The plot features Elmer Jacobs, who as a boy, witnesses the horrifying slaughter of his

parents by a grizzly bear while planting a tree as part of an Arbor Day celebration.

Catatonic for the next 20 years, he is taunted by apathetic doctors and a cruel hospital

staff. Ultimately, he snaps like the branch of a tree, and begins a vengeful slaughter,

reaping a crop of victims utilizing gardening tools.

Unaware of Elmer's rampage, a group of teens party in his abandoned home only to

be chopped down one by one (despite the warning from a high-strung Cassandra

figure). Among the group are the stereotypical victims, including an oafish stoner, a

promiscuous temptress, portly prankster and undeserving hero Rachel, whose little

brother Bobby is a boy genius. Pursued by a sloppy, no-nonsense detective, Elmer

shows both his brutal and softer sides throughout his murderous ordeal.

Arbor Day, which starred Janine Carney, William Walsh and Timmy O'Shaugnessy, be-

gan as a half-hour parody of commercials that were to be interrupted periodically by a

feature film. The cheesy, tv-horror film evolved into its own entity to become the fea-

ture-length Arbor Day. Shortly after its NY premiere, it won Best Satire at the 1991

Long Island Film Festival.

In recent years, enthusiasts have sought out the title over the internet only to come up

empty. In the fall of 2022, a crowdfunding campaign helped the filmmakers create a

full restoration from the original negative. The new released version is the highest

quality master of Arbor Day ever available with a 4k scan, restored colors and signifi-

cantly reduced grain.

Arbor Day will be available for streaming on April 28th, 2023 (the actual Arbor Day

holiday) through Amazon Prime, Vimeo, Tubi, VHX and Thrilz TV.

For fans of physical media, a 4K UHD special edition disc, complete with extras and

alternate versions will be distributed by **Terror Vision Films** later this year.

TRAILER, PHOTOS & ADDITIONAL PRESS MATERIALS HERE

"This is honestly one of the silliest, most batsh*t movies we have seen."
"Easily one of our favorite films about a secular holiday." HorrorBuzz.com

"Absolutely Hilarious!" Susan Howard, NEWSDAY

CREDITS

Main Cast:

William Walsh Elmer Jacobs

Janine Carney Rachel

Michael Calomino Detective

Timmy O'Shaugnessy Bobby

Chris Calomino Pitbull

Lynn Smith Jennifer

John Dorcic Charlie / Beatnick

Dawn Graziano Stacey

El Diablo Sir Nigel Rivendale III

Nicholas Riccuiti Young Elmer

Scott Bradshaw Mr. Jacobs / Doctor

Daniel Walsh Mrs. Jacobs / Briggs

Paul Walsh Cassandra / Lab Worker

Music: John Dorcic, Pete Kata, Chris Calomino

Joseph Sikorski Ranger / Doctor

Camera / Lighting: Hubie Giblets

Editor: Joseph Sikorski

Assistant Director: Scott Bradshaw

Written By: Michael Calomino, Joseph Sikorski

Directed By: Joseph Sikorski

www.ArborDayTheMovie.com/press

Request an online screener: info@arbordaythemovie.com