Written by Tony Timpone
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First Look Studios, whose past genre releases include TRIANGLE, ISOLATION and INFESTATION, has acquired director/co-writer Tim Sullivan’s sequel 2001 MANIACS: FIELD OF SCREAMS, the latest installment of the gory horror-comedy cult franchise derived from H.G. Lewis’ original 1964 splatter classic TWO THOUSAND MANIACS! Lensed in Iowa, FIELD OF SCREAMS will premiere at the Texas Frightmare Weekend convention this April.

In the follow-up to 2005’s remake, which also inspired an Avatar Press comic book, the Southern residents of Pleasant Valley take their cannibalistic Guts N’ Glory Jamboree on the road to Iowa, where they encounter spoiled Northern heiresses Rome and Tina Sheraton and the cast and crew of their ROAD RASCALS reality show. Performing “The Bloodiest Show on Earth,” the Southern psychos prove to be more than ratings killers in what AMERICAN WEREWOLF director/Sullivan pal John Landis calls “one of the rare sequels that surpasses the original.”

“This franchise’s rabid fan base makes this acquisition a no-brainer for First Look,” said Steve Break, the company’s vice president of product, in a statement. “We are so excited to bring this installment of 2001 MANIACS to the fans!”

2001 MANIACS: FIELD OF SCREAMS will make its U.S. debut at Texas Frightmare on April 29 at 9 p.m. at the Studio Movie Grill-Lewisville in Dallas. The sequel reunites original maniacs Lin Shaye, Christa Campbell (pictured above), Ryan Fleming and Adam Robitel, this time joined by Bill Moseley as Mayor Buckman (in the role originated by Robert Englund). REPO! THE GENETIC OPERA’s Nivek Ogre appears as Doc Harper.

“I am so excited to be working with First Look on the next installment of MANIACS,” Sullivan tells Fango. “They get it, are aggressive and truly believe in the future of the franchise. We are already talking a third, as well as licensing the first one from Lionsgate so I can finally do my director’s cut. Add to the mix the U.S. premiere in Texas on April 29, and the only thing missing is a New York premiere hosted by Fango. Hint hint!” You can find out more about 2001 MANIACS: FIELD OF SCREAMS here .

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