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Reviews

STAR RATINGS EXPLAINED

- ★★★★★ Classic
- ★★★★☆ Excellent
- ★★★★ Good
- ★★★☆☆ Fair
- ★★☆☆* Tragic

FILM DETAILS

Certificate

18

Cast

Madeline Zima
 Andrea Roth
 Josh Stewart.

Directors

Marcus Dunstan.

Screenwriters

Running Time

90 minutes

LATEST FILM REVIEWS

- » Black Death
★★★★★
- » Trash Humpers
★★★★★
- » Heartbreaker
★★★★★
- » Hierro
★★★★★
- » Greenberg
★★★★★

5 STAR REVIEWS

- » Bad Lieutenant
★★★★★
- » Lebanon
★★★★★
- » Cléo From 5 To 7
★★★★★
- » Kick-Ass
★★★★★
- » Girl With The Dragon
Tattoo, The
★★★★★

The Collector (18)

★★★★★

Plot

When debt-ridden Arkin (Josh Stewart) breaks into his employer's family home, he finds himself substantially out-maniacled by Juan Fernández's masked man. But can he escape the house, and the traps laid within it, alive?



Review

Arkin (Josh Stewart), a professional thief, breaks into a remote house, only to find a masked maniac (Juan Fernández) has already invaded and set cruel traps throughout the place. Arkin is torn between fear for his own skin and an impulse to help the family targeted by the killer. Director Marcus Dunstan and co-writer Patrick Melton cut their teeth on Saw sequels and the Dungeon-friendly Feast franchise, but here create their own surefire horror standalone. The conflicted criminal hero is a twist which freshens the home-invasion drama (à la The Strangers), as are the flinch-making DIY tortures (dangling fish-hooks, a carpet of bear-traps). It's pared down to the bone, and its weird-looking villain is ultimately just another loon in a mask, but it's a piranha of a thrill-ride: fast, ruthless and with lots of teeth.

Verdict

A nerve-fraying new take on the home-invasion horror.

★★★★★

Reviewer: Kim Newman

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