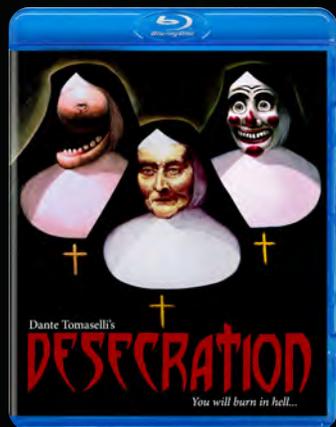


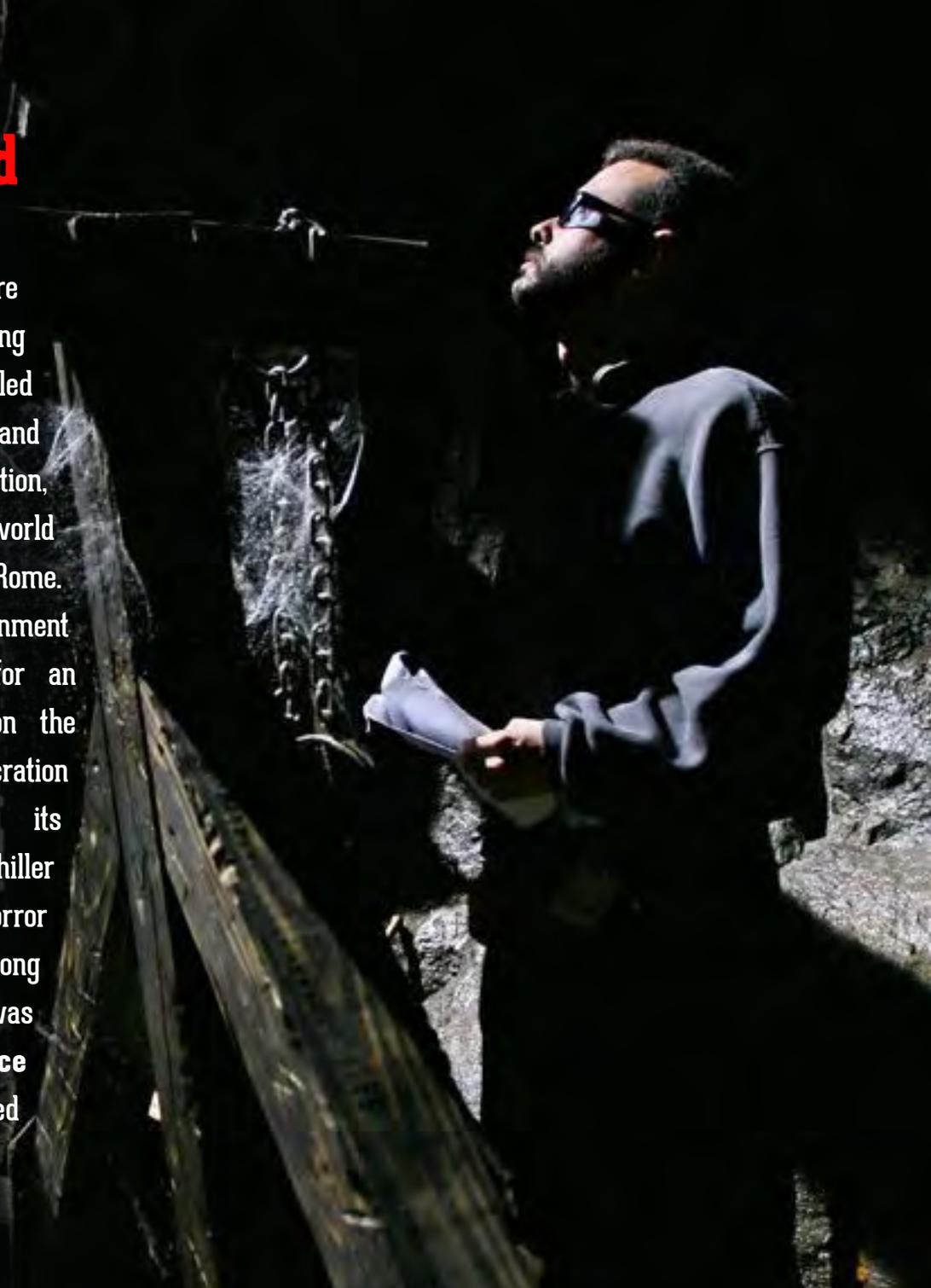
Dante Tomaselli, an American Electronic Music Composer and Film Director,

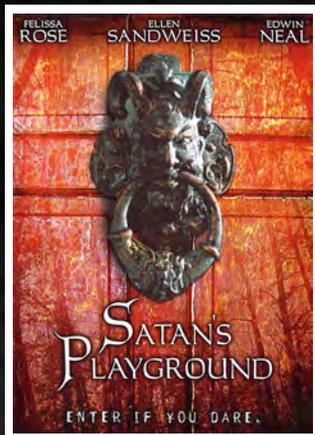
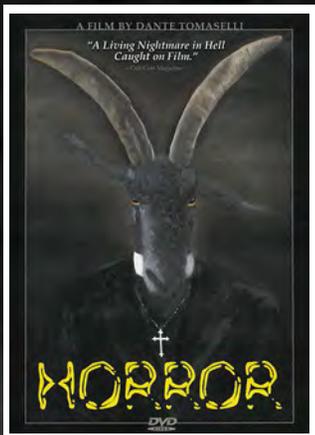
studied filmmaking at Brooklyn's legendary **Pratt Institute** before transferring to the **New York School of Visual Arts**. After earning his B.F.A., he released his first film, a 23-minute short called **Deseccration**, which was screened at a variety of horror and mainstream film festivals and venues. Tomaselli expanded **Deseccration**, which he also wrote, to feature length. In 1999, the film received its world premiere to a standing-room-only audience at the **Fantafestival** in Rome. The release of **Deseccration** [1999] on DVD by Image Entertainment



resulted in laudatory notices unique for an independent horror production. Made on the minuscule budget of \$150,000, **Deseccration** received instantaneous acclaim for its nightmarish visuals. The supernatural chiller quickly established itself as a modern horror cult favorite. **Tomaselli** has been a lifelong supernatural/horror aficionado and which was

likely inspired by his cousin, Film Director Alfred Sole, whose **Alice Sweet Alice** [1976], made its own mark in the world of Catholic-themed horror films 40 years ago.





Tomaselli's second feature film, **Horror** [2003], began with principal photography on January 15, 2001 in Warwick, New York. The final cost of production and post production was \$250,000. **Horror**, a visually arresting chiller, had a group of runaway teens escape from a drug rehab and encounter demonic forces in a rural farmhouse. In a bizarre casting stunt, the film starred celebrity mentalist/magician, **Kreskin**. **Dante Tomaselli's Horror** was released on DVD in the United States and Canada by **Elite Entertainment**.

Dante Tomaselli then went on to direct his third feature, Satan's Playground [2006]. Distributed by Anchor Bay Entertainment, Satan's Playground starred 70s & early 80s cult-horror icons Ellen Sandweiss [The Evil Dead], Felissa Rose [Sleepaway Camp] and Edwin Neal [The Texas Chainsaw Massacre].

Torture Chamber [2013], the fourth installment in **Tomaselli's** nightmarish journey exploring the imaginations of Hell and damnation, made its World Premiere at **Sitges 2012 Festival** in Spain. **Torture Chamber** was released by **Cinedigm** on January 28, 2014.



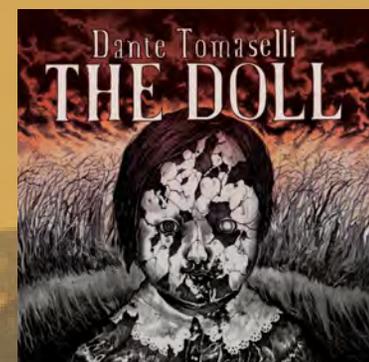
The Director/Composer's first audio CD of electronic horror music, **Scream in the Dark [2014]** was released by **Elite Entertainment & MVD Audio** January 14, 2014.

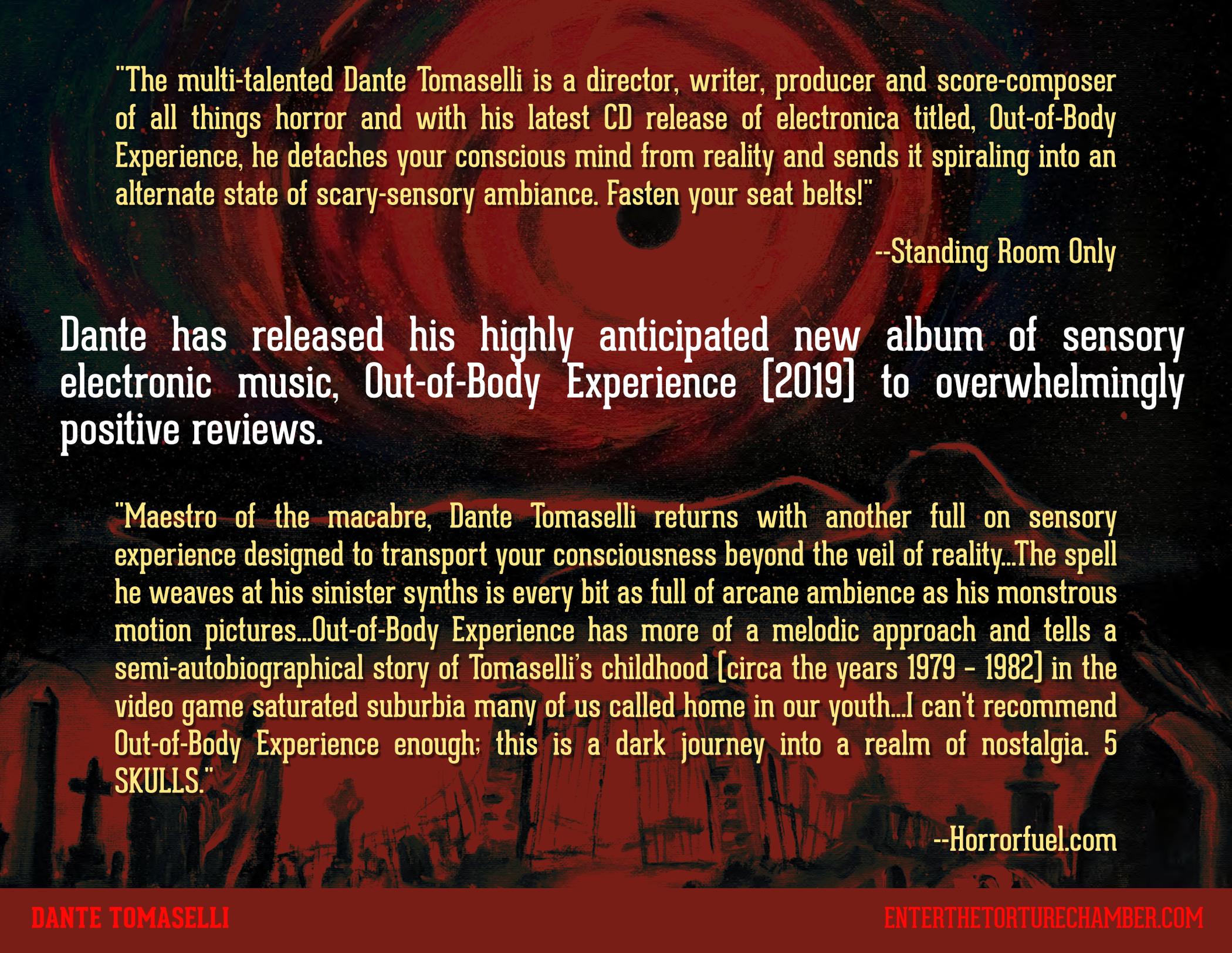
Its follow-up, **The Doll [2014]** described as "a ghoulish experiment in fear," was released on CD and Digital download by **Elite Entertainment & MVD Audio** just months later on April 15, 2014.

Tomaselli's third dark ambient album, **Nightmare** was distributed by the same label January 13, 2015.

TuneCore released his fourth dark electronic album, **Witches** March 24, 2017. **Rue Morgue Magazine** awarded **Witches** five skulls, "A meticulously crafted work...Tomaselli takes us on his most lurid sonic journey to date." **Rock! Shock! Pop!** added, "Pulsing John Carpenter-esque keyboard work...Dante Tomaselli releases his fourth album of spooky soundtrack inspired instrumental music."

Videoscope Magazine's music critic, **Tim Ferrante** stated, "All of **Witches** 13 tracks are praiseworthy...Each cut ignites theater-of-the-mind wonderment, fear and the spiritual world by deeply boring into the psyche...Tomaselli has produced a fiendish and furtive album for fans of 'mood music' of a different kind." **Dante Tomaselli's Witches** was nominated for **Rue Morgue Magazine's Album of the Year** in 2017.





"The multi-talented Dante Tomaselli is a director, writer, producer and score-composer of all things horror and with his latest CD release of electronica titled, Out-of-Body Experience, he detaches your conscious mind from reality and sends it spiraling into an alternate state of scary-sensory ambiance. Fasten your seat belts!"

--Standing Room Only

Dante has released his highly anticipated new album of sensory electronic music, Out-of-Body Experience [2019] to overwhelmingly positive reviews.

"Maestro of the macabre, Dante Tomaselli returns with another full on sensory experience designed to transport your consciousness beyond the veil of reality...The spell he weaves at his sinister synths is every bit as full of arcane ambience as his monstrous motion pictures...Out-of-Body Experience has more of a melodic approach and tells a semi-autobiographical story of Tomaselli's childhood [circa the years 1979 - 1982] in the video game saturated suburbia many of us called home in our youth...I can't recommend Out-of-Body Experience enough; this is a dark journey into a realm of nostalgia. 5 SKULLS."

--Horrorfuel.com

Music

PDF

"Pulsing John Carpenter-esque keyboard work."

--Rock! Shock! Pop!

PDF

"A meticulously crafted work... Tomaselli takes us on his most lurid sonic journey to date, integrating trance pulses, backbeats, and samples of berserk cult leader Jim Jones. 5 Skulls."

--Rue Morgue Magazine

PDF

"If there's one thing that maestro of the macabre, Dante Tomaselli brings to all he creates, it's a richness of image and a real sense of fever dream aesthetics...If you dig on the works of John Carpenter...it's truly immersive horror-scape awesomeness."

--ThatsNotCurrent.com

PDF

"Each cut ignites theater-of-the-mind wonderment, fear and the spiritual world by deeply boring into the psyche...Tomaselli has produced a fiendish and furtive album for fans of 'mood music' of a different kind."

--Videoscope Magazine

**THE NEW ALBUM
OF SENSORY
ELECTRONIC MUSIC
BY DANTE TOMASELLI**

OUT-OF-BODY EXPERIENCE
AVAILABLE ON CD AND DIGITAL DOWNLOAD



ALSO AVAILABLE BY DANTE TOMASELLI ON CD AND DIGITAL DOWNLOAD



"IGNITES THEATER-OF-THE-MIND WONDERMENT, FEAR AND THE SPIRITUAL WORLD...TOMASELLI HAS PRODUCED A FIENDISH AND FURTIVE ALBUM FOR FANS OF 'MOOD MUSIC' OF A DIFFERENT KIND."
--VIDEOSCOPE

"A JOURNEY INTO SHEER MADNESS -- LACED WITH EERIE WHISPERS, TOLLING BELLS AND TITHY HOWLS INTERRUPTED BY CREEPY, UNNATURAL LAUGHTER... 5 SKULLS."
--FANGORIA

"CLOSE YOUR EYES AND YOUR IMAGINATION TAKES YOU TO STRANGE, DARK PLACES... GENUINELY CREEPY EXPEDIMENTS IN AUDIO HORROR."
--ROCK! SHOCK! POP!

"CRAFTED LIKE AN OLD-TIME SPOOKY LP...A CAVERHOUS HAUNTED HOUSE WHERE YOU HAVE TO LISTEN AND FEEL AROUND TO REACH DAYLIGHT."
--RUE MORGUE

ENTERTHETORTURECHAMBER.COM amazon.com iTunes

Film

PDF

"Gothic surrealism...HORROR can't help but impress with its lush, unsettling textural confidence, rich in atmosphere...distinctly ominous..."

--Dennis Harvey, Variety Magazine

PDF

"An outsider; a self-confessed loner: Horror filmmaker Dante Tomaselli is a unique anomaly in the field of American horror cinema. He is a filmmaker driven by his own artistic vision and a true independent of the underground U.S. horror scene. He has built up a resume of accomplished, surrealist horror films which have been acclaimed in the horror media...His films are made up of striking images...laced with themes such as Catholic repression...and the breakdown of the family unit...Tomaselli's films ooze with atmosphere and style and layered music that creates an audio-visual nightmare for the audience."

--Matthew Edwards, Twisted Visions [McFarland book]

PDF

"Eerie, painterly...Desecration is a low budget masterpiece of dream logic."

--Maitland McDonagh, Film Comment Magazine

PDF

"Macabre art...Set almost entirely at night and existing in a freaky dream state common to Tomaselli's first two films, TORTURE CHAMBER is another challenging, personal epic of blood and thunder...The sound mix is up to the director's usual creepy ambient standards, with rear channels often rumbling and growling enough to keep you looking over your shoulder."

--Mondo Digital

PDF

"Incorporating gothic tendencies fused with the surreal use of pop-art colors...Tomaselli mainly utilizes icy blue tones and fluorescent reds in his work, drenching the landscape with an expressionistic sense of the macabre. A swirling mist is ever-present, cutting up the landscape, allowing for unknown forces to lurk within the shadows."

--Film Out of Bounds

PDF

"Director Dante Tomaselli has helmed an assortment of shocking, frightening, visceral, and surreal horror pictures over the past 16 years. He has also released a series of albums that are great listening for the Halloween season or for any occasion...His work speaks for itself and if you aren't familiar with it, you should most certainly seek out any of his creations."

--Tyler Doupe, Syfy.com

Film

PDF

"Dante Tomaselli is one of the most visually striking directors working in the horror genre...Torture Chamber is a top notch production of an ambitious film that strays far from the formulaic approach found in Hollywood today. It takes its indie roots seriously by carving out its own path, surprising viewers, unsettling them and shocking them with a visceral experience that is scary and grotesque."

--Dvdreview.com

PDF

"Magnificently eerie use of sound...a wholly original, deeply disturbing movie with an incessantly spooky atmosphere."

--The Aisle Seat

PDF

"Richly atmospheric exercise in surreal horror...The director achieves impressive overall results...complex music/ambient audio design...beautifully menacing photography...Tomaselli creates a hyper-real atmosphere of striking primal-fear images, cackling lunacy, impending doom and grotesque humor...Belying very modest means, Tomaselli has delivered a design and tech package that's first-rate."

--Variety Magazine

PDF

"Visually striking, not to mention genuinely creepy...Originality really does count, a lesson lost on many genre filmmakers but which Tomaselli clearly took to heart. Hollywood production designer Alfred Sole, who's thanked in the film's credits, directed and co-wrote the minor horror classic ALICE, SWEET ALICE [1978]; he's Tomaselli's cousin, and Tomaselli's father, who owned a bridal store, provided ALICE, SWEET ALICE's communion dresses."

--TV Guide

The Playlist of the Week
VIDEOSCOPE
WITCHES (Dante Tomaselli, 13 tracks, 40:21 mins., Amazon.com, iTunes) 3/17

Witches is a dreadfully delicious composition by multi-talented filmmaker Dante Tomaselli. Blessed with a wealth of sinister sounds, lurid wretchedness and psychological scab-picking, it partly adopts the relatively recent, synthwave-electronic music genre inspired by '80s video game and movie soundtrack composers such as John Carpenter, Jan Hammer, Fabio Frizzi, etc. Musicians are able to suggest the '80s vibe with today's audio techniques that create denser atmospheres with unique orchestrations. **Witches** can be described as an explicit adult version of the "spooky sounds" LPs of yore. Each cut ignites theatre-of-the-mind wonderment, fear and the spiritual world by deeply boring into the psyche. Tomaselli even threads an occasional subversive rambling of Peoples Temple/Jonestown cult leader Jim Jones through his aural horoscapes, an ingenious inclusion amid the foreboding mayhem that serves as an electrostatic reminder that unbridled evil is indeed a reality. All of **Witches'** 13 tracks are praiseworthy, but this reviewer found "The Devil," "Caverns of Hell," "River Styx," "Witch Hunt" and "Witches Sabbath" to be especially engaging, not to mention hellish. Tomaselli has produced a fiendish and furtive album for fans of "mood music" of a different kind. And 'scope out his other musical works: **Scream in the Dark**, **The Doll** and **Nightmare**. **Winners all!** ♂

17
Outside Peering In
AN INTERVIEW WITH DANTE TOMASELLI

...a self-confessed lover. Horror filmmaker Dante Tomaselli is a unique blend of American horror cinema. He is a filmmaker driven by his own, a true independent of the underground U.S. horror scene. He has been a successful, surreal horror filmmaker which have been acclaimed in the community. Those expecting a traditional narrative will find his love his films play out like a psychedelic funhouse, or a damaged and geography and the breakdown of the family unit. Tomaselli's images such as a man ravaged by freaky clowns, demonic horror is unsuspecting sources, like transforming a child in the 60s, 70s and early '80s as opposed to the new generation at the expense of producing genuine scares. Tomaselli has directed **Desecration** (1999), **Horror** (2003), **Satan's** of attention his film...

OUT-OF-BODY EXPERIENCE

PDF

"Out-of-Body Experience is a decidedly up-tempo but no less haunting and immersive sonic journey by the filmmaker/composer/sound designer...In many ways the album is built like a winding passage...When a cue shimmers with an unusual clarity, it's as if though the wanderer has found a netted porthole in a wall, through which pulses, textures, reverb and fleeting human voices are discerned amid the dim shadow-play of misshapen figures. Before one has a moment to fully interpret the sounds, other sonic hooks pull the wanderer away and redirect one deeper into the passage."

--Mark R. Hasan, KOEK.com

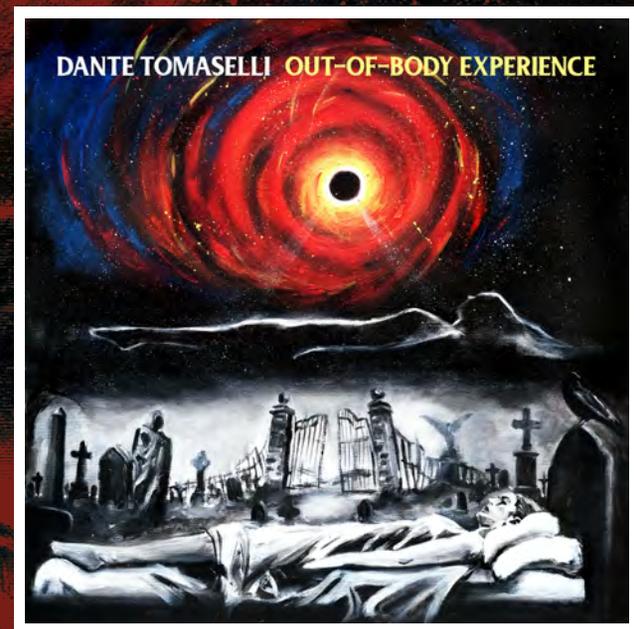
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"A wave of synth noise opens Astral Projection, the first track on Dante Tomaselli's latest collection of soundscapes. Carpenter-esque keyboards kick in, the pulse of the track quickens, and samples of a countdown mix in with computer or robot noises - and then we hear from Vincent Price. It builds in tension as the stereo pans swirl around you. Three-and-a-half-minutes later and you're left wondering where you are - it's seriously trippy stuff, the kind of music that takes you on a strange journey...There's definitely the intent to conjure up the mood of late seventies/early eighties genre film scores here, and it's done very effectively. The production values are fantastic and it's remarkable how clean and detailed this recording sounds."

--Rock! Shock! Pop!

"This is a journey you do not want to miss...A truly spectacular electronic tour-de-force."

--Stevo Wolfson, SIYS Radio







Dante Tomaselli and actress Christie Sanford (demon/mother/nun)

Dante Tomaselli is an American horror film writer, director, and producer who composes electronic scores to his films in addition to producing albums of dark ambient music. His albums are as sinister and surrealist as his movies, consisting of nightmarish collages of screams, eerie laughter, sound effects, and fragments of chilling synthesizer melodies. Tomaselli was born in Paterson, New Jersey in 1969 and became infatuated with horror films as a child. He studied at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn and graduated from the New York School of Visual Arts. He released his first film, *Desecration*, in 1999. This was followed by *Horror* [2002], *Satan's Playground* [2006], and *Torture Chamber* [2013]. He began releasing albums of dark ambient and Halloween music in 2014, beginning with *Scream in the Dark* and *The Doll*, followed by 2015's *Nightmare*, 2017's *Witches* and 2019's *Out-of-Body Experience*.

--Pandora

Featured In:



FILM COMMENT



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