

MUFF to screen Bruce LaBruce's banned L.A. Zombie

The 11th Melbourne Underground Film Festival (MUFF XI) has announced today that it will be holding a protest screening on August 29th of Bruce LaBruce's recently banned film *L.A. Zombie*, as a late edition to their festival lineup.

L.A. Zombie, Bruce LaBruce's follow-up to his 2008 MIFF hit *Otto, or Up With Dead People*, continues in *Otto's* queer-supernatural-horror-pornographic footsteps in its portrayal of the protagonist's presumed ability to wake the dead through his powers of sexual intercourse. The titular zombie, played by model and porn star Francois Sagat, wanders from death scene to death scene in downtown L.A., preying upon (and in turn, raising) a varied cast of newly deceased characters.

The film was banned from MIFF (Melbourne International Film Festival) this year after the Classification Board deemed it unsuitable for a screening exemption, due to its graphic depictions of sexual situations, including scenes which feature the titular zombie penetrating wounds.

MUFF wishes to publicly protest this ban, both as a show of support to Bruce LaBruce (a previous guest of the festival) and his film, which MUFF deems to be artistically significant, and also as a general stand against the often conservative and regressive decisions made by the Classification Board.

MUFF wishes to preserve artistic freedom, particularly for alternative or subversive cinema such as *L.A. Zombie*. The festival's firm view is that adult audiences are capable of contextualising confronting cinema, and should have the right to see adult films. As this opportunity has sadly been legally retracted in *L.A. Zombie's* case, MUFF instead offers a protest screening of the film to be held at a venue not yet announced on August 29th.

For more details as they unfold, visit www.muff.com.au .
Join the MUFF XI facebook page for the address of the venue 24 hours before the screening.

Press inquiries, contact info@muff.com.au