

Tony Timpone's Elegies: Birth of the Blog

Written by Tony Timpone
Thursday, 25 March 2010 10:16



Next Tuesday marks the official newsstand release date of FANGORIA #292. In case you've been in the Middle East fighting the Taliban and have not been around a computer for the last few months, there have been big changes afoot at the magazine, as noted in the Things to Come box on page 82 of that issue. As of the May issue (#293, on sale in April), I will no longer be serving as editor in chief of FANGORIA.

Depending on your reaction to this news, either get down from that ledge or don't crack open that champagne just yet. *I'm not actually going anywhere.* I will remain at FANGORIA to work on the company's new video-on-demand service and DVD line, which debut later this year (can't wait to tell you about the movies we have lined up!). The mag's editorial position has now been filled by our blood brother up north, Toronto's Chris Alexander, whom many of you know from his Blood Spattered Blog (being reinstated soon on this site) and for his past Fango writings. You will see his claw prints all over FANGORIA #293; the guy practically wrote the entire issue himself! His first editorial appears in that issue, which also sports my last one.



Chris is joined on the reborn print edition by longtime managing editor Michael Gingold, veteran contributing editor Allan Dart and newly minted fulltime editorial staffer Sam Zimmerman. All three New Yorkers will be writing their hearts out for both the print and on-line Fango incarnations. As for me, I'm really excited about my new job responsibilities. VOD is the future of independent film delivery, and I look forward to the challenge of introducing horror fans to exciting new talent in the fright field. In addition to my VOD gig, I will toil on special assignments and features for both FANGORIA magazine (exclusive RESIDENT EVIL: AFTERLIFE set

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coverage) and the website (banging out the occasional news story). Plus, after 10 years, I have finally broken down to write a regular blog for this website. So you haven't gotten rid of me yet!

To be honest, it was not easy walking away from Fango's top spot. But change is good for the soul (mine), the brand and you folks, who will enjoy a different perspective and point of view in a magazine that has been around for over 30 years. Funny, despite the masthead switcheroo, some things *haven't* changed all that much. When I started at FANGORIA in July 1985, George A. Romero's DAY OF THE DEAD had just come out and Freddy had spawned his first sequel, A NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET PART 2. Flash forward 25 years, and my "final" issue has both Romero's upcoming SURVIVAL OF THE DEAD on the cover and the NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET remake lavishly previewed in its pages. Zombies and Freddy, still part of the cultural zeitgeist...it's like I've come full circle.



For the title of this blog, I've decided to repurpose the editorial moniker that I coined all those years ago when STARLOG editor David McDonnell moonlighted as FANGORIA's chief for a year or so while I got my wings, following David Everitt's departure from Fango that fateful summer of '85. Beginning with Fango #294, Chris will run his editorials under the name First Rites, so I'll hold onto Elegy. But I'm pluralizing it to represent the new frequency of my friendly rants and ruminations. It took me some time till I could settle on a name; a few rejected choices were Beware! The Blog (how many get the reference?) and Flog the Blog (sounded too negative), so I went back to the one that started it all. Speaking of names, for the web, I'm going to sign off with the less formal Tony Timpone instead of the Anthony Timpone that has roosted in the mag for so long. We're all buds, right?

So for all those who have read me in print and wanna stick around here for some more, thanks. For any newbies who only know my surname off a jar of tomato sauce (there really was one; see picture), welcome. Let's hang out a while.

{comments on}