Written by Michael Gingold
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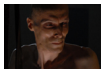

The Film4 FrightFest has been one of the top showcases for genre fare in the UK, and now the fest’s organizers have teamed up with the Wild Bunch company to create FrightFest Features, which will release horror movies in Britain via eOne. First up is the Italian shocker SHADOW (pictured), whose creator couldn’t be more thrilled with the arrangement.

“I’m thrilled that audiences in the UK will get to see my film on the big screen,” says SHADOW writer/director Federico Zampaglione. “It means the world to me. And I’m especially looking forward to returning to the cinema that was the first in the world to show it.” That would be London’s Empire Leicester Square theater, which hosted SHADOW’s FrightFest screening and which will host its commercial release, with Zampaglione attending the opening on Friday, April 29. The movie will open in venues across England that day, then hit UK DVD and Blu-ray May 23.

“FrightFest has an enviable international reputation for discovering major new talent, which Federico Zampaglione and SHADOW exemplify,” FrightFest’s Alan Jones says. “We couldn't be more delighted that Wild Bunch is joining us in bringing them to a wider and appreciative audience.” Adds Wild Bunch co-founder Alain De Mata, ”Having followed and been greatly impressed by the year-on-year growth of FrightFest festivals, both in London and in Glasgow as well, Wild Bunch is honored to join forces with the pre-eminent purveyors of the finest horror cinema in the UK in what we feel to be a perfect, unholy alliance.”

SHADOW, in which a soldier (Jake Muxworthy) recovering from a horrific tour of duty in Iran takes a trip through the Alps and encounters a weird and sadistic butcher lurking in the forest, hits U.S. DVD this week from IFC Films and MPI Media Group. Check out our Zampaglione interview about the film in Fango #302, on sale this month.

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