

Ti West on why we should pay to see "THE INNKEEPERS" and independent film

Written by Samuel Zimmerman
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As I'm sure you're aware, downloading/torrenting is an incredibly widespread phenomenon, and when it comes to the horror community, it's a bit sad. Those who make up the filmmaking community within our genre are often tight-knit, easily accessible and full of heart. With that in mind, Ti West's THE INNKEEPERS begins its VOD/Theatrical roll out in two days (December 30), and the filmmaker has penned a truly well-put appeal as to why he (and we) would really appreciate if you paid to see it.

Here's an excerpt of what Ti has to say. For the whole piece, which is very much worth reading, head to the official [Glass Eye Pix site](#) . And remember, outfits like Glass Eye and Magnolia Pictures, both which have a hand in THE INNKEEPERS (and this past year's I SAW THE DEVIL and TUCKER AND DALE and BLACK DEATH and HOBO WITH A SHOTGUN and STAKE LAND and RUBBER...) are a part of something special, and that is bringing real quality genre films to life and to screens.

"WHY I THINK YOU SHOULD PAY FOR INDEPENDENT MOVIES. It's not the money. Personally I don't care about the money. As sad as it is to admit it's very unlikely I will make a dime off of the release of the film. My previous film, THE HOUSE OF THE DEVIL, had a similar release and was very successful - That was in 2009, and to this day I have made ZERO dollars off of its success. I do not own the films, and by the time any profits would trickle down to little old me (writer/director/editor/producer) they would all have been mysteriously soaked up into vague expenses, random fees and outrageous overages. This is the nature of the business and I have come to accept it. As long as I don't own my films - something I give up in exchange for someone with much deeper pockets affording me the budgets to make them - this is how it goes. It's a trade off and I'm fine with it. I don't really care. What I do care about, however, is your support. I care very much about that."

"Every time you purchase something you are making a statement. You are creating physical evidence that something has value. If something has a high value, then it becomes in high demand. So if you make a concerted effort to support lesser-known, interesting and esoteric things (Art?) then you are helping make those lesser-known things more popular. I'm sure we can all agree that there are incredible movies made every year that never get the attention they deserve - That's not the movies' fault. That is our collective fault for not being proactive enough to GO OUT OF OUR WAY to support them."

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"So yes, I want you to go out of your way and pay for my movie. Not because I'm greedy, but because if the movie makes money (whomever for) that's tangible evidence of a paying audience out there for movies like mine. For independent films. For something different. Not just bland remakes/sequels or live action versions of comic books/cartoons/boardgames. This is a powerful time for the consumer. With a small platform release like ours (VOD/Theatrical), it's been made incredibly easy for you to support the film...You don't even have to get out of bed."