

# FILMS FANTASTIC 12

The Journal of the NFFF Film Bureau



This Issue  
Halloween Is Coming!

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Halloween, my favorite holiday of the year. Ghoulies, Ghosties, and long-leggedly Beasties walk the earth. Candy shows up in abundance. And it is the time to watch classic Horror movies, and some that are not necessarily classic. Nothing like a good scare to make you turn to your true love; the abundance of candy mentioned above.

This mailing will primarily deal with movies to watch during the Halloween season, the period leading up to October 31<sup>st</sup>. Some are classics, some are good, some are so bad they are good. Most will be readily available on DVD/Blu-Ray, streaming services such as Tubi, YouTube, or likely to show up on TCM. There should be something included here to appeal to folks out there. The listing is in alphabetical order. Titles in **Bold** are especially recommended. Some titles will also offer notes.

Thanks to old friends, Wayne Pitard and Roger Caldwell for assistance in assembling this list.

**Abbott And Costello Meet Frankenstein** (1948)

**Abominable Snowman Of The Himalayas, The** (1957) Just before Hammer discovered just how effective blood was in color.

Alien (1979)

Aliens (1986)

Amazing Colossal Man (1957)

**Arsenic And Old Lace** (1944)

**Beast From 20,000 Fathoms** (1953)

**Bedlam** (1946) Val Lewton classic of horror in London's infamous insane asylum.

**Black Cat, The** (1934) Karloff and Lugosi in a nightmare inducing story. "Do you know what I am going to do to you now? No? Did you ever see an animal skinned, Hjalmar? Ha, ha, ha. That's what I'm going to do to you now - fare the skin from your body... slowly... bit by bit!"

Black Sabbath (1963) A trilogy of three stories.

Black Sunday (1960) Directed by Mario Bava. Starring Barbara Steele.

**Blob, The** (1958) Steve McQueen before he became the King Of Cool.

Blood And Black Lace (1964) Mario Bava classic.

**Body Snatcher, The** (1945) Val Lewton version of the R. L. Stevenson classic tale.

Boogie Man Will Get You (1942) Comedy with Boris Karloff and Peter Lorre.

Bran Stoker's Dracula (1992)

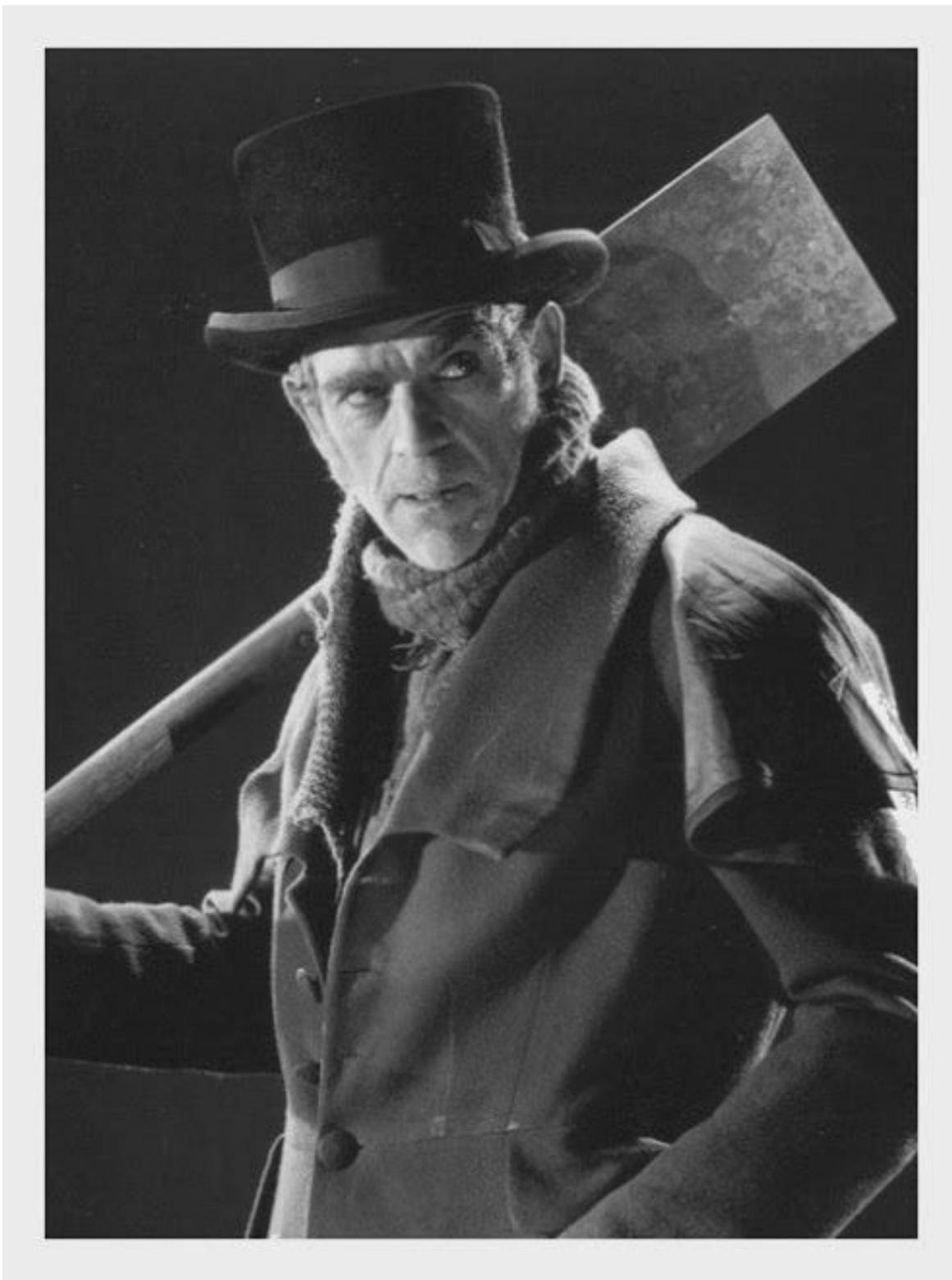
**Bride Of Frankenstein, The** (1935) Classic sequel to Frankenstein (1931)

**Brides Of Dracula** (1960) Hammer classic with Peter Cushing

Burn, Witch, Burn (1962) From Fritz Leiber, Jr's Conjure Wife



*Illustration 1: The Abominable Snowman*



*Illustration 2: Boris Karloff as The Body Snatcher*

**Cabinet Of Dr. Caligari, The** (1920) German Expressionistic film looks at madness

**Carnival Of Souls** (1962) Spooky little independent film

Captain Kronos: Vampire Hunter (1974)

Carrie (1976) It's the quiet ones you always need to watch out for.

**City Of The Dead** (1960), aka Horror Hotel Witchcraft still thrives in a small New England town.

Comedy Of Terrors, The (1963)

Vincent Price, Boris Karloff, Peter Lorre, and Basil Rathbone scare up some laughs.

Crawling Eye, The aka The Trollenberg Terror. Nice chiller marred by poor effects

**Creature From The Black Lagoon, The** (1954)

**Curse Of Frankenstein** (1957) Hammer's first excursion onto bloody colour.

**Curse Of The Demon** (1957) aka Night Of The Demon A must see!

Curse Of The Werewolf (1961)



*Illustration 3: Conrad Veidt and Lil Dagover in The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari*

Dante's Inferno (1911) Early feature film loosely based on Dante's Divine Comedy

**Darby O'Gill And The Little People** (1959) It's not just for St Patrick's Day.

There are some genuine scary scenes here and a pre Bond Sean Connery.

**Dead Of Night** (1945)

British horror anthology.

**Diabolique** (1955)

Dinosaur (1960) Nice juvenile tale of a boy, his dinosaur, a caveman, and a Tyranosaurus Rex on a Caribbean island. Spring break 1960 style.

Doctor Cyclops (1940)

Dr. Jekyll And Mr Hyde (1920) John Barrymore (Drew's grandfather) stars.

**Dr. Jekyll And Mr. Hyde** (1932) Frederic March is magnificent in this scary film.

Doctor X (1932) "Synthetic flesh..."

**Donovan's Brain** (1953) Scientist attempts to preserve the brain of a ruthless financier. Big mistake. From the novel by Curt Siodmak.



*Illustration 4: Dante's Inferno*



*Illustration 5: Curse Of The Demon*



*Illustration 6: Dracula 1931*



*Illustration 7: Dracula's Daughter*



*Illustration 8: Frankenstein 1931*



*Illustration 9: Frankenstein 1910  
Charles Ogle as the Creature*

**Dracula** (1931) Bela Lugosi in the role of a lifetime.  
**Dracula's Daughter** (1936) Gloria Holden  
**Dracula: Dead And Loving It** (1995) Mel Brooks

**Earth VS The Flying Saucers** (1956)  
**Exorcist, The** (1973)

**Fall Of The House Of Usher** (1928)

**Fiend Without A Face** (1958) Flying brains that can scare even zombies.

**Flesh Eaters, The** (1964) Surprisingly good low budget horror with a way beyond mad scientist. Beware deserted islands housing German scientists.

**Frankenstein** (1910) The first filming, by the Edison Company, of the famous tale.

**Frankenstein** (1931) Boris Karloff becomes a star.

**Ghost An Mr. Chicken, The** (1966) "Atta boy, Luther!"

**Ghost And Mrs. Muir, The** (1947) A romantic ghost tale with an exquisite score by Bernard Herrmann.

**Golem, The: How He Came Into The World** (1920)

**Gorgo** (1961) What if that giant creature is only a baby? And Mama wants him back.

**Gorgon, The** (1964) Peter Cushing and Christopher Lee

**H-Man, The** (1958)

**Haunted House, The** (1921) Buster Keaton

**Haunted Palace, The** (1963) Not Poe. This was adapted from Lovecraft's *The Case Of Charles Dexter Ward*.



*Illustration 10: The Haunting (1963)*



*Illustration 11: Quasimodo played by Lon Chaney (1923)*



*Illustration 12: Quasimodo played by Charles Laughton (1939)*

**Haunting, The** (1963) One of the scariest, no blood nor gore. Just very unsettling. And look out for nightmares.

**Haxan: Witchcraft Through The Ages** (1922) Dramatized documentary. Groundbreaking film from Denmark.

**Headless Horseman, The** (1922) Beloved American humorist Will Rogers stars as Ichabod Crane, the freeloading, superstitious school master.

**Hercules In The Haunted World** (1961) Italian master of Horror directs this very moody peplum with Reg Park as Hercules and Christopher Lee providing the villainy.

**Horror Of Dracula, The**, aka **Dracula** (1958) The movie did not give me nightmares, but the trailer did. Christopher Lee is Dracula and Peter Cushing is Van Helsing. Superior film making and one of Hammer's best.

**Horror Of Party Beach** (1964) Fun, low budget teen flick with some decent rock and roll for once.

**House Of Wax** (1953) Vincent Price in the role that made him a Horror star. Originally released in 3-D which I saw at age four or five. It was my first Horror movie. It still holds up today.

**House On Haunted Hill** (1959) One of William Castles released with a gimmick; this one had a skeleton fly over the audience. Vincent Price is fun here.

**Hunchback Of Notre Dame** (1923) Lon Chaney went through a lot of pain, including a 70 pound hump, to create Quasimodo. A must see.

**Hunchback Of Notre Dame** (1939) Charles Laughton is magnificent in this movie from Hollywood's greatest year. "Why was I not made of stone – like thee?"



Illustration 13: Horror Of Dracula (1958)



Illustration 14: Invaders From Mars (1953)

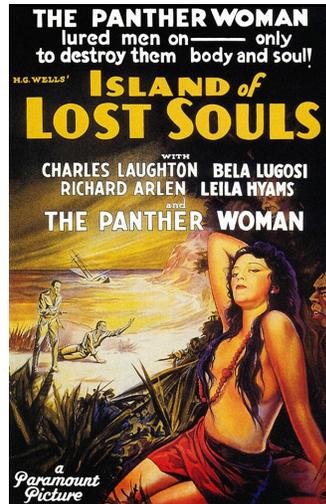


Illustration 15: Island Of Lost Souls (1932)



Illustration 16: It! The Terror From Beyond Space (1958)

**I Married A Monster From Outer Space** (1958) The title sounds like something from True Confessions magazine, but this is actually a spooky thriller. Aliens invade Earth by possessing the bodies of innocent humans. A cross between Invasion Of The Body Snatchers and John W. Campbell's Who Goes There.

**Invaders From Mars** (1953) This chiller really succeeds in capturing the feel of being trapped in a nightmare.

**Invasion Of The Body Snatchers** (1956) Cold War paranoia when friends and family members start to act...different. A classic.

**Invisible Man, The** (1933) Star Claude Rains is unseen throughout most of the film. James Whale directs this splendid adaptation of the H. G. Wells novel.

**Invisible Ray, The** (1936) Boris Karloff and Bela Lugosi star in this tale of science gone wrong. Trust science, they say. Yeah, sure, not when Karloff is around.

**Island Of Lost Souls** (1932) Paramount was the only studio to challenge Universal with quality Horror films. H. G. Wells strikes again with this version of The Island Of Doctor Moreau. Charles Laughton puts later interpreters of the role to shame.

**Isle Of The Dead** (1945) Karloff stars in this Val Lewton production of a plague running amok in some Greek islands.

**It Came From Beneath The Sea** (1955) Ray Harryhausen

**It Came From Outer Space** (1953) Story by Ray Bradbury

**It! The Terror From Beyond Space** (1958) Another film that inspired Alien

**I Walked With A Zombie** (1943) A Val Lewton Production

**King Kong** (1933) Holds up well after 87 years. A classic.

**King Of The Zombies** (1941) Mantan Morland steals the show in this Horror comedy.

**Konga** (1961) Scientist creates a giant gorilla. Oops! Michael Gough stars

**Kwaidan** (1964) Classic Japanese Horror anthology.

Lady And The Monster, The (1944) Donovan's Brain

Lodger, The (1927) Early Hitchcock

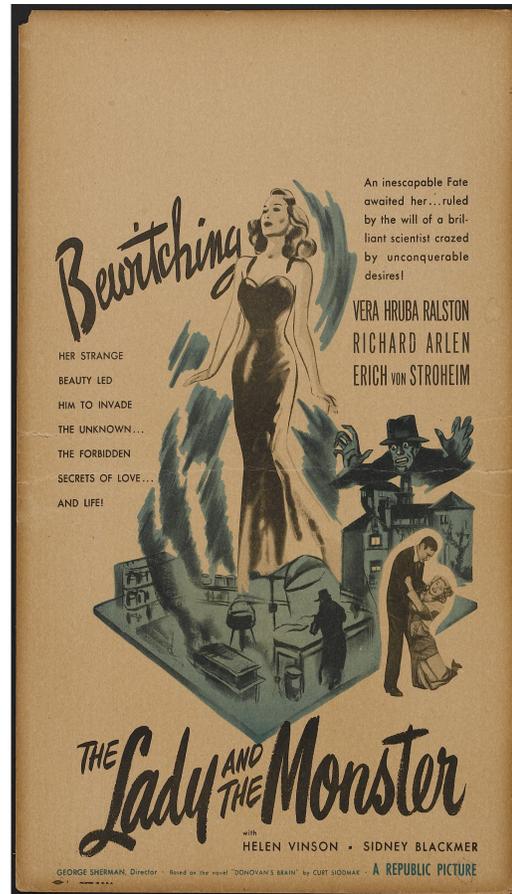
Lost World, The (1925) Dinosaurs on a plateau.

Lost World, The (1960) Irwin Allen remake

Love At First Bite (1979) Dracula comedy.



Illustration 18: The Mummy (1932)



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Illustration 17: The Lady And The Monster (1944)

Maria Martin, Or Murder In The Red Barn ( 1935) Tod Slaughter Spent much of his career on stage in a series of blood and thunder melodramas. His wonderfully hammy acting style is a treat in this and other titles such as Sweeny Todd.

Mark Of The Vampire (1936) Tod Browning's remake of his now lost film London After Midnight. Lionel Barrymore and Bela Lugosi star.

Masque Of The Red Death (1964)

Monster Of Piedras Blancas (1959) Very effective Horror despite being filmed on a shoestring. A bit more graphic than most Horror films of the era.

Mummy, The (1932) Karloff is outstanding in this spooky gem.

Mummy, The (1951) Hammer revives the Mummy in color.

Mummy, The (1999) Enjoyable updating of the classic.

Mummy's Hand, The (1940) Tom Tyler is excellent as Kharis, the Mummy, in the first of four B pictures from Universal. He was replaced by Lon Chaney in The Mummy's Tomb, The Mummy's Ghost, and The Mummy's Curse.



Illustration 19: Monster Of Piedras Blancas (1959)



*Illustration 20: Murders In The Rue Morgue*



*Illustration 22: Lionel Atwill*



*Illustration 21: Atwill Unmasked*

**Murders In The Rue Morgue** (1932) Bela Lugosi performs horrible experiments in Paris. Pretty unsettling at times.

**Mystery Of The Wax Museum** (1933) Early Technicolor production with Lionel Atwill and Fay Wray.

**Night Of The Living Dead** (1968) George Romero's Zombie classic.

**Nosferatu** (1922) The first Dracula on film.  
**Not Of This Earth** (1957)

**Old Dark House, The** (1932)  
**Omen, The** (1976)



*Illustration 23: Max Schreck in Nosferatu*

**Phantom Of The Opera** (1925) Lon Chaney and Mary Philbin

**Phantom Of The Opera** (1943) Claude Rains, Susanna Foster, Nelson Eddy

**Phantom Of The Opera** (1962) Herbert Lom, A Hammer Production

**Piranha** (1978)

**Pit And The Pendulum, The** (1961) Vincent Price

**Plague Of The Zombies** (1966) Hammer

**Planet Of The Vampires** (1965) Directed by Mario Bava

**Psycho** (1960) Janet Leigh, Anthony Perkins, Directed by Alfred Hitchcock

**Raven, The** (1934) Bela Lugosi and Boris Karloff

**Raven, The** (1963) Comedy with Vincent Price, Boris Karloff, Peter Lorre, Jack Nicholson

**Revenge Of Frankenstein** (1958) Peter Cushing



Illustration 24: Phantom Of The Opera (1925)



Illustration 26: Phantom Of The Opera (1943)



Illustration 25: Phantom Of The Opera (1962)

**Salem's Lot** (1979) Based on the Stephen King novel.

**Sixth Sense, The** "I see dead people."

**Spider, The** (1958) aka Earth Vs The Spider Fun Bert I. Gordon production

**20 Million Miles To Earth** (1957) Ray Harryhausen Classic

**Them!** (1954) The first and best of the Big Bug movies.

**The Thing (From Another World)** (1951) Alien mayhem at the North Pole.

**The Thing** (1982) John Carpenter's adaptation of Who Goes There?

**Train To Busan** (2016) South Korean film about a Zombie outbreak.

**Tremors** (1990) Homage to the classic monster movies. A lot of fun.

**Ugetsu** (1953) Japanese ghost tale

**Unearthly Stranger** (1963)

**Uninvited, The** (1944) Excellent, very moody ghost story.



Illustration 29: Ugetsu (1953)

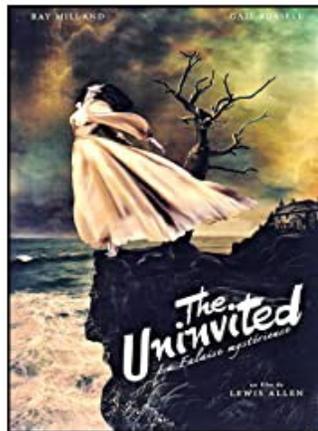


Illustration 27: The Uninvited (1944)

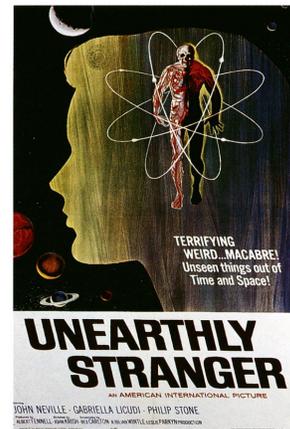


Illustration 28: Unearthly Stranger (1963)

**Vampire Circus (1972)** A curse on a small town is about to be fulfilled. Hammer  
**Vampire's Ghost (1945)** A vampire tires of his undead “life”.

**Vampyr (1932)** *Title Card: This is the tale of the strange adventures of the young Allan Gray, who immersed himself in the study of devil worship and vampires. Preoccupied with superstitions of centuries past, he became a dreamer for whom the line between the real and the supernatural became blurred. His aimless wanderings led him late one evening to a secluded inn by the river in a village called Courtempierre.* Early European sound film.

**WaxWorks (1924)** Three tales of displays in a wax museum including Czar Ivan The Terrible and Jack The Ripper. Conrad Veidt is frightening as Czar Ivan.

**Weird Woman (1944)** From Universal's Inner Sanctum series, the first filming of Leiber's CONJURE WIFE. Starring Lon Chaney, Jr.

**White Zombie (1932)** The movie that introduced Zombies to films. Stars Bela Lugosi.

**Wolf Man, The (1941)** One of Lon Chaney, Jr's best roles. Evelyn Ankers costars.

**Young Frankenstein (1974)** Mel Brooks' classic and loving parody of the Universal Horror films. “Were Wolf?” “There wolf. There castle.” “Put the candle back.”

We close out with three pioneering films by Georges Melies. These may be seen on YouTube.

**House Of The Devil, The (1896)**, aka The Haunted Castle. Considered by many film historians to be the first Horror film.

**A Trip To The Moon (1902)** Based on works by Verne and Wells

**Infernal Boiling Pot (1903)** aka The Infernal Cauldron

This brings an end to our list of movies for Halloween. Of course there are many, many more, but hopefully this will introduce some different titles. Happy Halloween!!

A note on the cover. Some images are vintage Hollywood Pin-ups and there are also early 20<sup>th</sup> Century home made Halloween costumes. Now those are scary!



Illustration 31: House Of The Devil (1896)



Illustration 30: A Trip To The Moon (1902)