



Two Evil Eyes

**Dario Argento,
George Romero**

Italy/USA, 1990, 105 minutes
Colour/35mm

Production Company: Gruppo Bema/ADC
Productions

Executive Producer: Claudio Argento, Dario
Argento

Producer: Achille Manzotti

Screenplay: George Romero (first episode), Dario
Argento, Franco Ferrini (second episode)

Cinematography: Peter Reniers

Editor: Pasquale Buba

Art Director: Cletus Anderson

Music: Pino Donaggio

Principal Cast: Adrienne Barbeau, E.G. Marshall,
Harvey Keitel, Madeleine Potter, Ramy Zada,
Martin Balsam

Print Source: Taurus Entertainment, 16000 Ventura
Boulevard., Suite 1201, Encino CA, USA 91436.
Tel: (818) 905-6507. Fax: (818) 501-5194.

Foreign Sales Agent: Overseas Film Group, 8800
Sunset Boulevard, Suite 302, Los Angeles CA,
USA 900692105. Tel: (213) 855-1199.

Since the release of *Night Of The Living Dead* in 1968, George Romero has been at the forefront of the American horror scene. Dario Argento holds a similarly exalted position in Europe as a director and producer of stylistically lush genre classics. They have been friends and collaborators since the early seventies when Argento produced Romero's *Day Of The Dead*, but have not worked together again until now. Two Edgar Allen Poe short stories are updated, to give them a modern flavour, while retaining the author's unique sense of the macabre. Romero's selection of *The Truth About The Valdemar Case* is a gracious tribute to Poe for his contribution to the zombie concept. Dying Valdemar is being bilked by his young, tartish wife and her handsome doctor friend. The old man is kept hypnotized and forced to instruct the lawyers to fork over a chunk of his cash. But he dies while under hypnosis, trapped in a kind of purgatory. His bereaved wife needs another week to get his money freed up, and so puts him in the freezer, which only exacerbates his preserved condition. Things get tricky when old Valdemar speaks up. Argento's *The Black Cat* attacks the concept of human/animal interaction. Harvey Keitel, in a masterful performance of controlled sleaze, plays a sadistic photographer of violent crime. His lover takes in a stray black cat. He loathes the cat, and murders it in front of his camera so he can complete his new book. When his lover finds out, she becomes hysterical, and he murders her. Both films refer constantly to other Poe stories, playing with his often overused concepts in innovative ways. But it is the complementary visions of two explosive directors that makes *Two Evil Eyes* a success purely on its own terms.

Dario Argento was born in 1940. He worked initially as a journalist and later as a screenwriter for Sergio Leone. His directing debut, *The Bird With The Crystal Plumage*, won Best Film and Best New Director at the Italian Academy Awards. In 1977, *Suspria* brought him recognition outside of Italy as one of the horror world's finest directors. He has recently begun producing films through his company, ADC Productions. His films include: *The Bird With The Crystal Plumage* (70), *The Cat O'Nine Tails* (71), *Four Flies On Grey Velvet* (72), *Deep Red* (76), *Suspria* (77), *Inferno* (80), *Tenebrae* (82), *Creepers* (84), *Opera* (88), *Two Evil Eyes* (90).

George Romero was born in 1939. He has been one of the leading filmmakers in the horror field since 1968. In 1985 he completed his famous trilogy of *Night Of The Living Dead*, *Dawn Of The Dead* and *Day Of The Dead* which revolutionized the treatment of the zombie concept in film. His features films include: *Night Of The Living Dead* (68), *There's Always Vanilla* (72), *The Crazies Code Name: Trixie* (72), *Hungry Wives* (73), *Martin* (78), *Dawn Of The Dead* (79), *Knightriders* (81), *Creepshow* (82), *Day Of The Dead* (85), *Monkey Shines* (88), *Two Evil Eyes* (90).