

Short Review: “Robocop” (1987) by Dr. John L. Flynn



Robocop (1987). Orion Pictures, 103 min. Director, Paul Verhoeven. Producer: Arne Schmidt. Screenwriters: Edward Neumeier and Michael Minor. Cast: Peter Weller, Nancy Allen, Ronny Cox, Kurtwood Smith, Miguel Ferrer, Robert DoQui, Dan O'Herlihy, Ray Wise, and Paul McCane.

O.C.P. (OmniConsumer Products), a multi-conglomerate corporation which has been hired to run the police force in old Detroit, creates the perfect robot cop from the body of a recently slain Officer Murphy (Weller) and the latest bionic parts. Partnered with a human (Allen), the two go after the drug kingpin, Clarence (Smith), who was responsible for Murphy's death. Ultimately, their investigation leads to an executive (Cox) in the O.C.P corporation. Verhoeven's visionary film was the next logical extension of Dr. Frankenstein's research with equal parts of a Batman comic book and science fiction's hip, high-tech “Cyberpunk” movement. Followed by “Robocop 2” (1990) and “RoboCop 3” (1993) and a short-lived television series.

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