

Short Review: “Android” (1982) by Dr. John L. Flynn



Android (1982). New World Pictures, 80 min. Director: Aaron Lipstadt. Producer: Mary Ann Fisher. Screenwriters: James Reigle and Don Opper. Cast: Don Opper, Klaus Kinski, Brie Howard, Norbert Weisser, Crofton Hardester, and Kendra Kirchner.

Mad scientist (Kinski) creates the perfect synthetic man, Max 404 (Opper), while serving as a researcher aboard an orbiting space station. When the station is invaded by several escaped convicts (Howard, Weisser and Hardester), Max learns several valuable lessons about the darker side of human nature. Ultimately, the humanized android must defend its creator from these criminals, even though it has fallen in love with one of them. To replace Max's murdered lover, the mad doctor builds him a female android (Kirchner), and sends the two androids to Earth to carry on his work. The plot, in many ways, parallels that of “Saturn Three,” but lacks its gritty realism. Max is far more cheerful (and even funnier) than Hector, and as a result, lacks the destructive horror of a real monster. The film was made on leftover sets and costumes from Roger Corman's “Battle Beyond the Stars” (1980), but there was certainly nothing leftover about Brie Howard or Kendra Kirchner. Their sexy good-looks make even the perfect man or synthetic man beg for more!

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