

Short Review: “Frankenstein Meets the Space Monster” (1965) by Dr. John L. Flynn



Frankenstein Meets the Space Monster (aka Mars Invades Puerto Rico) (1965). Vernon-Seneca Films, b/w, 78 min. Director: Robert Gaffney. Producer: Robert McCarty. Screenwriter: George Garret. Starring: James Karen, David Kernan, Nancy Marshall, Robert Reilly, Maryilyn Hanold, and Lou Cutell.

When Princess Marcuzan (Hanold) and her blaster-wielding servant Nadir (Cutell) arrive on earth to replenish their supply of humans, they encounter an android test pilot (Reilly) who has other ideas. The opposing forces shoot it out, and the android is badly damaged. With its main programming shorted out, the android goes haywire and starts destroying things. Predictably, the princess unleashes her space monster, and the two titans battle it out to a bloody climax. The motion picture has nothing to do with either Mary Shelley's Frankenstein or any of the “Frankenstein” films, but merely added the mad doctor's name to its title to sell tickets. Hardly worth the price of admission! We actually prefer its video release title, “Mars Invades Puerto Rico,” for it plays better as camp than as a serious science fiction film.

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