

"The sexiest, most shocking thriller of the year. **** "

Empire

"Unexpectedly effective **** "

Arena

"Satisfyingly shocking... An exhilarating burst of refreshingly uncensored sex and shocking violence ****"

Heat

"A surprising, frightening British horror **** "
ZOO

"Outstanding **** "
TNT

"This neat British horror-thriller stood head and shoulders above almost all of the fare on offer in Park City this year. Donkey's punch is a notable achievement in all departments, handled superbly by its first-time director and largely unknown cast, with a tight, frighteningly plausible script... Donkey Punch has a respect for formula but, more importantly, a commitment to doing things differently, and properly. A scary, truly edgy film. ****

The Times Online

"Expertly made and painfully tense." *The Guardian*

"A skilfully-made, gripping thriller." *Total Film*

"Cutting-edge horror"

Dazed & Confused

"This summer's must-see horror flick." *i-D*

"One of the most controversial movies in years. The most controversial British film since Trainspotting. Smarter and more realistic than the average British thriller.

Tautly plotted and... superlatively creepy."

Evening Standard

"It's a violent, cracking shocker. In fact, I was so stunned by several scenes that I sat frozen in my seat... The young, up-and-coming British actors are all good, director Olly Blackburn has a sure, confident touch and Warp X (the production company behind the picture) has a sense about how to make audience-pleasing movies."

Baz Bamigboye, *Daily Mail*

"A dark and disturbing Britflick that'll keep you talking well after the end credits. Featuring the uber-cool Jamie Winstone and a brilliantly edgy soundtrack."

James King, Radio 1

"A commendable job" Philip French, *The Observer*

"This taut, tense and claustrophobic low-budget thriller may well be one of the films of the year."

Tony Earnshaw, The Yorkshire Post

"A stylish mix of Ibiza Uncovered, Lord of the Flies and Dead Calm... I liked Blackburn's energy and tension and was taken by the ensemble performances – the film has an eye on cult audiences and late night thrills, all of which it delivers with unsavory relish."

Jason Solomons, The Mail on Sunday

"Fabulously deranged British horror thriller" *The Times*

"Blackburn shows an assured command" Sight & Sound

Blackburn has the deftness and effortlessness of touch of a master of the genre. blending several subtle elements and themes into a seamlessly shifting, always satisfying whole, delivering a ferocious, guttural punch to the face of British cinema *AIN'T IT COOL NEWS*

"The latest in squirm-inducing thrillers, with one difference: realism... Despite the small budget, first time feature director Olly Blackburn and cowriter David Bloom really went to town with this. The rollercoaster starts light yet gets more sinister and even more gory as the minutes tick. starring an ensemble cast of brilliant young British actors, including Jaime Winstone and Julian Morris, this will leave you reeling."

Clash

"First-time director Olly Blackburn has succeeded in making the characters - good time girls meet public school manipulators - believable. The tension is kept as tight as an anchor chain"

Tim Evans, Sky Movies

"Something really interesting is happening with British horror films, this year we've seen two excellent ones - Donkey Punch and Eden Lake.... In the 90s it looked like British horror films were a dead genre. They'd all become ironic, they were constantly winking at the camera. This is a return to a style of horror film like we saw in the 1970s"

Jonathan Hari, BBC2 Newsnight Review

"The film constantly reinvents itself as it goes along, upending viewers' expectations of what might happen next."

Mark Olsen, LA Times

"Olly Blackburn's cruise in the Mediterranean sun to bloody murder is stylish, deftly scripted, and superbly acted by its sexy ensemble cast... More a slick commercial genre film than anything "independent," Donkey Punch was just the Love Boat that earnest Sundance needed..."

David D'Arcy, Screen International

"One drama broke through as both a critical favourite and genuine commercial prospect. It's *Donkey Punch*, a thriller named for the dangerous sexual practice that puts seven young men and women in terrible danger on the Mediterranean Sea. Olly Blackburn, knows how to build suspense and then maintain it, without resorting to gratuitous gore. Fans of horror and thriller films should put *Donkey Punch* on their must-see list for 2008."

Peter Howell, Toronto Star - 'Donkey Punch the Dramatic Star of Sundance'

"The characters are virtually interchangeable, the violence grisly and the attitudes coarse. Half lurid and half just murky... in the U.S., the frequently incomprehensible dialogue and British slang earmark this for straight-to-DVD."

Todd McCarthy, *Variety* [visit Magnolia Films website to learn more about Donkey Punch's US theatrical release]

"Quite simply, the most distasteful, depraved and nihilistic film I have ever had the misfortune to sit through."

Amanda Platell, Daily Mail

<u>US RELEASE – 'DONKEY PUNCH' WAS RELEASED IN THE US BY</u> MAGNOLIA FILMS IN FEBRUARY 2009

"SUCH A UNIQUE THRILL. Director Blackburn develops the scenario with remarkably shrewd finesse and builds to a satisfying spectacle."

Eric Kohn, NY Press

"A LEAN, MEAN, REFRESHINGLY NASTY THRILLER." Dennis Dermody, Paper

"There is no transcendent agent of evil; the enemy is within... the movie remains above the typical splatter 'n' scream fest. These careless hedonists are convincing, and the ensemble acting feels believable."

Stephen Holden, New York Times

"THIS RELENTLESS SUSPENSE THRILLER FROM ENGLAND IS A BLOODY BLAST. For film fans looking for some totally intense thrills, this is pure, nasty fun."

Jeff Craig, Sixty Second Preview

"As a cautionary B-movie for the "Girls Gone Wild" generation, "Donkey Punch" isn't without a certain power as it gleefully turns its careless hedonists into caged, paranoid rats."

Robert Abele, Los Angeles Times

"A *Knife in the Water* for the era of Ugly Briton, package tour imperialism." The Village Voice

"A gripping mix of sexual heat and nasty menace.."

Philadelphia Inquirer

"A spellbinding metaphor for what separates people from civilization and barbarity...
You won't see a more brilliantly made, exciting film this year."
Tony Medley, Rotten Tomatoes

"Donkey Punch" packs a magnetic jolt of fearsome intensity." Ted Fry, Seattle Times

"Damn I fucking loved it... This is an incredibly well made movie."
Harry Knowles, Ain't It Cool News