

# **DOMIZIANO CRISTOPHARO**

**VISIONARY EXTREME CINEMA**

## **PRESS KIT**

**[WWW.DOMIZIANOGRISTOPHARO.INFO](http://WWW.DOMIZIANOGRISTOPHARO.INFO)**



## DOMIZIANO CRISTOPHARO'S BIOGRAPHY

Domiziano Cristopharo is a Rome-born filmmaker and performer whose cinema fuses visual art, ritual, and extremity. Trained as a visual artist with a specialization in ecclesiastical decoration, he developed a dadaist sensibility—collage, ready-mades, “merz” poetry—that he later weaponized in film: **break the form to reveal what's still alive underneath**. His credo is simple and vicious:

***everything is new and becomes new again.***

He first broke through with the notorious **House of Flesh Mannequins** (2008), a cult provocation blending performance art, psychosexual horror, and meta-cinema. He followed with the surreal freak-cabaret **The Museum of Wonders** (2009), the feverish body-horror of **Hyde's Secret Nightmare** (2011), and the harrowing addiction odyssey **Red Krokodil** (2012). In **Doll Syndrome** (2014) and **The Transparent Woman** (2014), he refined a stark, intimate style—close to the skin, allergic to moral anesthesia.

Across the 2010s and 2020s, Cristopharo's work expanded through anthologies and collaborations, championing underground voices while curating a consistent aesthetic: ritual pace, tactile imagery, and a refusal to blink at taboo. His neo-giallo **Nightmare Symphony** re-tunes classic Italian horror into a modern hallucination, while the Tetromaniac cycle pushes true-crime obsession into raw, formalist nightmares. As a producer/collaborator he has supported notorious cult projects including **American Guinea Pig: Sacrifice** and **Torment**.

Recent years show two poles of his current practice: **PHALLACIES** —a confrontational, intimate exploration of masculinity, desire, and shame— and **FLAMMENTOD (PYROMANIAC)**, a final, ritual embrace of fire and transgression, released in a monumental German mediabook by RetroGold63. Whether working with micro-budgets or lavish book-object editions, Cristopharo treats cinema as a blowtorch: to cauterize hypocrisy and etch new images on memory.

**Selected distributors & labels** include TetroVideo, Kino Lorber (A Taste of Phobia), Elite Entertainment (legacy P.O.E. titles), Brain Damage (P.O.E. 2), Miramax (ILL: Final Contagium), Unearthed Films (Red Krokodil), and 8 Films (Nightmare Symphony). His films have been covered widely across English, Italian, German and French genre press.

## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I make films as rituals: ceremonies of transgression and rebirth. I reject comfort and embrace the rawness of human desire, trauma, and beauty. My cinema is meant to **burn, provoke, and stay with you long after the final frame.**

## SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

- House of Flesh Mannequins (2009) — A disturbing, erotic, and psychological trip through the underground world of fetish and trauma.
- Museum of Wonders (2010) — A Fellini-esque surrealist ensemble about freaks, beauty, and betrayal.
- Hyde's Secret Nightmare (2011) — Transgressive horror exploring sexual violence and psychological collapse.
- Red Krokodil (2012) — Apocalyptic body horror about a man's decay from the inside out.
- Doll Syndrome (2014) — Silent, disturbing meditation on obsession and loneliness.
- Nightmare Symphony (2022) — A meta-horror tribute blending Giallo atmosphere and self-reflexive terror.
- Phallacies (2024) — Anthology confronting male nudity, censorship, and queer fear.
- Flammentod (2024) — Historical body horror blending WW2 atrocities with surrealist imagery.

## Awards & Festival Section:

- The Museum of Wonders — Special Award, Fantafestival (2010)
- P.O.E. – Project Of Evil — Anna Mondelli Prize (TO-Horror Torino, 2012); Best Film (Fantafestival, 2013)
- Red Krokodil — Best Screenplay (Nizza Fantastic Film Festival, 2021); Best Soundtrack (Moondance, 2021); Global Music Awards Gold & Silver (2021)
- House of Flesh Mannequins — Golden Halo (Los Angeles), Venus Film Festival (Berlin), Independent Spirit Award (Night of Horror Sydney)
- The Obsessed — Best Midnight Feature, Nightmares FF (2019); Best Director nominee, Nightmares FF (2019)
- Poern — Best Adult/Erotic Film, International Shorts FF (Melbourne, 2018)
- Eldorado — Golden Wheat Award, Best Feature (2023)
- Phantasmagoria — Technical-Artistic Cinematography Prize, CinemAvvenire Film Festival (2014)

## PRESS QUOTES

Severed Cinema: "An icon of horror... yet a great intellectual."

Dread Central: "A filmmaker who doesn't shy away from showing the human body at its most beautiful and its most debased."

Ecran Fantastique — "A daring and uncompromising voice in European horror, pushing boundaries where others would never dare."

Dread Central — "Christopharo's cinema is equal parts art installation and nightmare... a fearless dissection of human darkness."

Screen Anarchy / Twitch Films — "Not just a provocateur — Christopharo is a meticulous craftsman of the grotesque."

Nocturno — "An auteur who treats horror as an art form — and art as a dangerous, living organism."

Rue Morgue — "His films linger like a fever dream you're not sure you want to wake from."

## DISTRIBUTION PARTNERS

Distributed through cult and genre labels including TetroVideo, Kino Lorber, Elite Entertainment, Brain Damage Films, Miramax, Uearthed Films, and 8 Films.

## CONTACT & SOCIAL

Official Website: [domizianocristopharo.info](http://domizianocristopharo.info)

Email: [info@domizianocristopharo.com](mailto:info@domizianocristopharo.com)

Instagram: [@domizianocristopharo](https://www.instagram.com/domizianocristopharo)