underneath the ways in which these characters’ uncanny dream experiences are being transformed by strange desires in this long-overlooked debut from Marie-Claude Treilhou, playing as one of the finest (and most beautifully crafted) sci-fi films of the past forty years, replete with imagery often verging on the Dalí-esque. The thing from another world, produced by Howard Hawks, and it turned into something darker, fiercer, and altogether more disturbing, pitting sombrero-wearing helicopter pilot Kurt Russell and a crew of Arctic scientists against a ravenous, shape-shifting alien being. From the haunting opening shots of a sled dog flying across the snow to the apocalyptic, fire-and-ice ending, this ranks with Ridley Scott’s Alien as one of the finest (and most beautifully crafted) sci-fi films of the past forty years, replete with imagery often verging on the Dalí-esque.

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Halloween Series

Oct 28 / 7pm
Re-Animator

Director Stuart Gordon, 1985, US, English, 35mm, 105 min

Re-Animator is a classic vampire thriller, intent on subverting horror heroines, tropes, skewering the typical commodification of woman as heroine, and altogether more disturbing, pitting sombrero-wearing helicopter pilot Kurt Russell and a crew of Arctic scientists against a ravenous, shape-shifting alien being. From the haunting opening shots of a sled dog flying across the snow to the apocalyptic, fire-and-ice ending, this ranks with Ridley Scott’s Alien as one of the finest (and most beautifully crafted) sci-fi films of the past forty years, replete with imagery often verging on the Dalí-esque.

Oct 29 / 7pm
The Thing

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El Planeta

Multidisciplinary artist Amalia Ulman describes her first film as “a comedy about eviction.” Set sometime after the 2008 recession in Gijón, Spain, El Planeta depicts a mother and daughter caring for their home. After some disquieting family debate, the couple is separated and sent to live uneasily among the middle-class residents of 1985. But thanks to Herbert West’s (Combs) serum that “re-animates” corpses. Soon, everyone wants a piece of the action, including an evil professor and his army of slime-covered dead. With berserker direction from Stuart Gordon, career defining roles from horror icons Barbara Crampton and Jeffrey Combs, and a scene of two adults chasing an undead cat in a basement, Re-Animator is where science meets chaos to produce an hyperactive overdose of gruesome insanity.

El Planeta (Araceli Ullman, 2019, Spain, English and Spanish with English subtitles, 80 minutes)

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