



GANTZ: VOLUME 2

Two episodes, 50 minutes, RATED TV MA VSL (ADV Films)

THE CLOCK IS TICKING...TO KILL OR BE KILLED!

The adventure continues as the members Kei, Kato and female Kei are left to fight the inhuman monster.

As mentioned in our last review, "GANTZ" is an anime based on the manga by Oku Hiroya and directed by Itano Ichiro ("Mega Zone 23", "Macross Plus").

What we are watching on these volumes, are the uncut, uncensored versions of the anime.

In volume 1, the director talked about how he wanted to push the limits but knew that they would have to censor "GANTZ" for television. The way things were meant to be, is what we are watching on the DVD version and in volume 2, the action, blood and gore continue.

In episode 3, "Kei You're Awesome", the three try to find a way to escape or fight the monster. With most of the people who joined them in their mission slaughtered, it's all about finding ways to kill or

else be killed.

As usual, Kato is emotional and doesn't know what to do because he's caught in between trying to help the monster but knowing that if he doesn't kill it, he will be killed. And he doesn't want to kill anything.

As for Kurono Kei, being the only member wearing the suit, we get to see the suit in action.

In episode 4, "OK, Here Are Your Scores", GANTZ gives each person who survived the mission their scores and a critical opinion.

The members get to learn more about the creepy Nishi and a little bit more about GANTZ. Also, Butter the dog seems to be around but as I think of it, what is the dog's true purpose in the Gantz? Hmm...

Also, we get to learn if Kei, Kato and female Kei are indeed alive or dead.

The animation is awesome and being a high level production by GONZO, I expected nothing less.

Video is featured in 16:9 aspect

ratio and is anamorphic.

The audio is featured in 5.1 for the English dub track and 2.0 for the Japanese track.

The DVD special features for volume 2 include the clean opening featuring the theme "Sharp Shooter" by RIP SLYME and the clean ending featuring "Last Kiss" by Bonnie Pink.

Also, an interview with Nami-kawa Daisuke who is the voice of the Japanese audio of Kurono Kei.

In the interview, Daisuke shares his feelings about working with many different voice actors, his feeling about his character and GANTZ.

I really enjoy "GANTZ" but I wish there more episodes than just two.

Also, this is being nitpicky but in volume 1, we have the director telling us in the special feature to view the censored version versus the DVD uncensored version.

I think it would have been great to have the censored episodes included on the DVD because we can see what was actually removed from the episodes when it aired on television.

So, in reference to what the director said on volume 1, I'm curious if the Japanese DVD release includes both the censored and uncensored episodes.

Repeating what I mentioned in our last review, "GANTZ" is an exciting, visual pleasing anime. At the same time, it's dark and it is very violent.

But the violence is actually done in a way that it's not sick but important in a way for the director to convey the storyline.

I highly recommend watching "GANTZ" because it's one of the few unique anime out right now and it's all good. Check it out!

— DENNIS A. AMITH

REVIEW GRADE

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