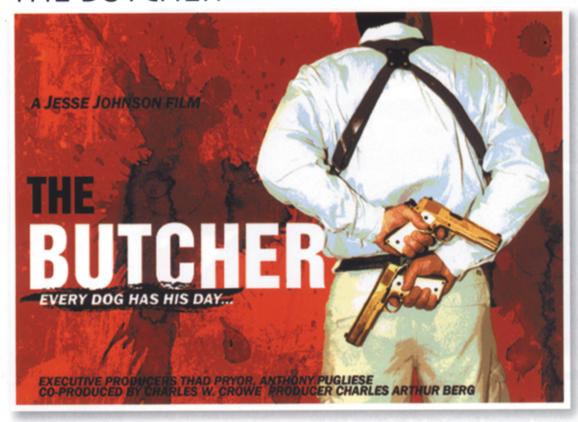


## THE BUTCHER



USA / 2007 / HDCam / 105 min / Color / English

Jesse Johnson, Director

Merle 'The Butcher ' Hench an ex-boxer turned mob enforcer is written off by his Boss and set up to take the fall for an inter-mob heist. After 20 years of bad luck at life, the track, and the casino, Merle has 48 golden hours where he gets the girl, the cash and his redemption. But at what price?

Eric Roberts stars as Merle in this unique story of someone whose life never caught the right break. Roberts' performance elevates this action "shoot'em up" pic way above the norm

for this genre. His ability to make a sympathetic person out of his rough guy hood character is what separates Roberts from the pack. With 95 pictures behind him, ten more in production, plus an Oscar and Golden Globe nomination (Runaway Train), Two other Golden Globe noms (Star 80 and King of The Gypsies), to say he is an experienced actor is an understatement. I remember seeing him on Broadway in BURN THIS for which he won a Theatre World Award for his Bway debut. He was brilliant then, and he is exceptional now. The film has the feel of a play in its characterizations...also reminded me of the relationship Paul Newman had with Piper Laurie in THE HUSTLER. The loneliness in a cigarette and cup of coffee. Two people taking a risk they should never consider - in hope of rescuing the remainder of their lives.

The Butcher may not be everyone's preferred diet...but Roberts' performance, great plot twists, nasty villains and the pure, nearly non-stop action will keep you riveted to the screen.

Writer: Jesse Johnson / Executive Producer: Anthony V Pugliese III, Ted Pryor / Producer: Charles Berg Jr. / Associate Producer: Charles Crowe Jr / Cinematographer: Robert Hayes / Editor: Ken Blackwell / Composer: Marcello De Francisci / Principal Cast: Eric Roberts, Keith David, Robert David, Michael Ironside, Bokeem Woodbine, Irina Björklund / Contact: Charles Crowe Jr 949-488-0183 cwc@worldfilms.com

Tuesday, October 23, 7:45pm, Cinema Paradiso ... CP-0902 Tuesday, October 23, 9:45pm, Cinema Paradiso ... CP-0903

Special Guest: Eric Roberts

Sponsored by

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Director: THE BUTCH-ER marks the debut of Jesse Johnson as both writer and director.

