



Annual Review

2014

70s Stars and nostalgic cars

Full of drama and intrigue with a nail biting finish the 70s Road Sports season could read like a classic motor racing film script.

With little plot or acting, the stars are the cars, the crackling tension of the thunderous TVR's, contrasted by the visual drama of iconic Lotus, Datsun, Porsche and Alfa Romeo's, have a strong appeal to racing enthusiasts.

The screen play would open with a group of racing drivers huddling in the half light beside the corrugated panelled burger van, their thoughts for the season ahead mingle with the aroma of fried onions.

Erich Stahler (played by Peter Shaw) stares directly into the biting east wind, his dark eyes and lack of emotion conceal a burning desire to win. Erich has done his research, assessed the risks and left nothing to chance.

His heart beats rhythmically to the tempo of an original Taito Space Invaders game. Erich's relentless accumulation of points, comparable to the systematic destruction of pixelated enemy aliens, leads to a title showdown in the final scene.

With his blond hair and strong Nordic features Michael Delaney (Ollie Ford) hides his thoughts behind aviator sunglasses. Cool and emotionless like a stick of peppermint seaside rock, the word 'winner' is printed throughout his core.

A bulging trophy cabinet is testament to his talent and the opportunity to achieve total domination is teasingly within reach but will he be able to grasp it?

Veteran racer Pete Aron (Charles Barter) has seen it all before, what he has lost in ultimate pace is more than compensated by experience.

A tense sub plot resolves around circumstances that may prevent him from retiring safely to his Water Buffalo Ranch when he is initially forced to race a car known to suffer from structural fragility.

Larry Wilson (Jim Dean) is the young hot-shoe, fast, fearless and confident, he becomes a permanent thorn in Michael Delaney's title ambitions and symbolically replaces him on the top step of the podium whilst his rival recovers from a mid-season accident.

Recruited by the Paul Daniels Magic Racing Team to develop their lightweight racer, Lugo Abratte (Julian Barter) should already be a triple champion but for circumstances outside his control.

Consider to be the ace amongst aces, his confidence behind the wheel is displayed like broad brushstrokes of an accomplished artist, Lugo's reputation is further enhanced with a outstanding wet weather performance in the Municipality of Stavelot.

The title showdown is saved for the final scenes, Erich Stahler and Michael Delaney are required to race head to head, but in a last-minute twist their quest for Championship glory is overshadowed as Pete Aron sweeps to a crowd pleasing victory.

Champagne is sprayed as the tifosi surge forward to celebrate with Pete. The commentator (played by Marcus Pye as himself) announces Erich Stahler as Champion by the smallest of margins.

Michael Delaney removes his sunglasses and accompanied by a wry smile, directs a two fingered salute in the direction of his rival. After a moments unspoken communication with his fiancé they walk, arms linked towards the setting sun.

The producers would also like to thank all 47 members of the supporting cast for their dedication and commitment.

With a special mention to Brian Jarvis, David Karaskas and David Tomkinson for their classy performances plus guest stars William Jenkins and Nick Strong who almost stole the final scene.

Directed by: Grahame White

Produced by: Alan Jones

Runner: Donna Skipworth

Script: James Nairn

The events and characters depicted in this story are fictitious. Any similarity to actual persons, vegetables or confectionary is purely coincidental.