B7640 BROOKLYN RULES (USA, 2007)

Credits: director, Michael Corrente; writer, Terence Winter.


Summary: A coming-of-age/gangster melodrama set in Brooklyn in 1985 against the backdrop of John Gotti’s rise to power. When the violent influence of the Mafia becomes a factor in their lives, three lifelong friends (Prinze, Caan and Ferrara) different ambitions threaten to shake their enduring bond. Vietnam vet Earl Webber (P.J. Brown) is a minor character in the drama. He wears a Viet Cong ear as a necklace to intimidate potential customers, and tries to muscle in on the waste disposal business at the butcher shop where lead character and narrator Michel Turner (Prinze) works. When neighborhood wiseguy Caesar Manganaro (Baldwin) learns of Webber’s efforts to compete in his business, he has poor Earl beaten up and dragged to the butcher shop where he cuts off Webber’s ear with a meat slicer.


Burr, Ty. “Mob film clichés muddle ‘Rules’” Boston globe (May 18, 2007), LivingArts, p. 9D.


Crust, Kevin. “It’s easy to see where ‘Brooklyn rules’ is heading; The borough setting and the archetypal buddy characters with choices to make are well-worn ground” Los Angeles times (May 18, 2007), p. E11.


Verniere, James. “Movie review; Boyz ’n the hood; ‘Brooklyn rules’ tells a familiar yet winning story” Boston herald (May 18, 2007), The edge, p. 2

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