

DAY OF THE DEAD - LATEX BUB MASK
ARCHIVAL RESTORATION & PRESERVATION: DETAILED README

Email: support@elite.cards
Date: November 10-18, 2025

- Conservator Group:
- Lead conservator
 - Assistant conservator
 - Technical advisor (AI-assisted, xAI Grok 4, Gemini 2.5)

--- MASK SUMMARY & HISTORY ---

The artifact is a 2003 Bump In The Night Productions full head latex mask depicting Bub, the iconic zombie character from George A. Romero's 1985 horror classic *Day of the Dead*. Officially licensed by Taurus Entertainment Company, this museum-grade replica faithfully recreates the on-screen makeup designed by Tom Savini and worn by actor Sherman Howard.

Hand-painted with an acrylic/latex blend, the mask features an attached synthetic modacrylic wig, a plastic neck chain with shackle, and features seven of the cast/crew signatures inked directly onto the latex surface, now 22 years old. Produced in limited quantities as premium collector merchandise, it represents a tangible link to the third chapter of Romero's seminal Living Dead series and remains one of the most recognizable zombie props in cinematic history.

--- SIGNATURE MAP ---

Location	Name	Quote / Note
Top crown	Tom Savini	Signature Only
Left temple	George Romero	"Stay Scared"
Under shackle collar (L - R)	Lori Cardille	"Sarah"
Under shackle collar (L - R)	Joe Pilato	"Capt Rhodes"
Under shackle collar (L - R)	Howard Sherman	"Bub"
Under shackle collar (L - R)	Gary Klar	"Steele"
Under shackle collar (L - R)	Antone Pagan	"Miguel"

--- PROJECT SUMMARY ---

- Artifact: 2003 Bump In The Night Productions Day of the Dead Bub full-head latex mask
- License: Official Taurus Entertainment Company merchandise
- Provenance: Replica of 1985 George A. Romero film character Bub (played by Sherman Howard)
- Features: Hand-painted exterior (acrylic/latex blend), attached synthetic modacrylic wig, plastic neck chain/shackle, 7 cast/crew signatures inked directly on latex (22 years old)
- Condition on Arrival: Multiple radial splits at neckline (2-25 mm), fissures and micro-fissures throughout interior, edge curl, brittle flex, dust/matting in hair
- Treatment Goal: Full structural consolidation + interior sealing, retain original split-back, 100% reversibility, museum-grade materials, full documentation, for permanent museum grade display

--- MATERIALS USED (RECEIPTS SEE PDF) ---

1. Paraloid B-72 resin (Kremer Pigments) - 500 g
 - 5 % w/v in 200-proof ethanol (drop repair)
 - 5 % w/v in 200-proof ethanol (Hollytex soak)
 - 2 % w/v in 200-proof ethanol (mist seal)
2. Hollytex 3257 non-woven polyester (Talas) - 1 yd
3. 200-proof ethanol (Culinary Solvent) - 1 L

4. Distilled water - 500 mL
5. Archival tools:
 - #000 sable brush (Princeton)
 - Microfiber cloths (3M)
 - Acid-free tissue (Gaylord)
 - Q-tips, droppers, containers, spray bottle, gloves (nitrile)

--- REPAIR LOG ---

****Day 1-3-November 10-12****

1. Documentation: 01 + photographs (condition before treatment)
2. Pre-wetting: 200-proof ethanol applied to interior fissures, cracks, and edges (brush)
3. Consolidation: 5 % w/v Paraloid B-72, drop-by-drop application (1 drop per split/fissure), allowed to wick, then feathered with brush; multiple passes as needed (neckline)

****Day 4-6-November 13-15****

4. Cure check: 100 % penetration
5. Spot consolidation: additional 5 % w/v Paraloid B-72 drops (allowed to wick), feathered with brush; few spot passes (neckline)
6. Cure check: 100 % penetration
7. Sealing: 2 % B-72 mist (mist, 5 light passes, full head interior only)
8. Documentation: 01 + photos (condition during treatment)

****Day 7-8-November 16-17****

9. Cure check: 100 % penetration
10. Assembly: Head form inserted, split-back preserved (no sealing)
11. Hair cleaning:
 - Careful hand-picking and finger combing to remove dust and debris
 - No liquids or solvents applied to hair
 - Air-fluffed and arranged
12. Documentation: 01 + photos (condition during treatment)

****Day 9-November 18****

13. Inspection: Minor B-72 seepage, preserved as ****archival repair trace****
14. Final documentation: BEFORE/DURING/AFTER/INSPECTIONS/ITEMS (photos) + RECEIPTS and PDFs
15. Archive creation: Folder structure + README

--- REVERSIBILITY PROTOCOL ---

1. All B-72 consolidant/sealant: Fully soluble in 200-proof ethanol
2. Removal method: Swab with ethanol - gentle peel - rinse - air dry
3. No permanent adhesives or pigments used
4. Original paint, signatures, and latex polymer untouched

--- STORAGE & DISPLAY RECOMMENDATIONS ---

1. Environment: 65 F (+/-5 F) / 45 % RH (+/-5 %)
2. Current Display Setup:
 - Case: 11 x 11 x 23 inch UV-filtered acrylic display case
 - Head support: Peohud 21 Inch Canvas Mannequin Head with stand
 - Protection: Head wrapped in Gaylord Acid-Free Archival Tissue Paper (20 x 30 inch sheets) before mask mount
 - RH Control: 70-87 g Art-Sorb silica beads (from Half Cassette) placed in small breathable mesh/Tyvek bag at bottom or back of case
 - O2 Control: Mitsubishi Oxygen Absorber RP-A & RP-K (20K size) - 1 packet placed in breathable mesh bag at bottom of case to scavenge oxygen and prevent oxidation of latex/paint/ink

- Monitoring: Mini hygrometer (target 45-55 % RH)
- 3. Long-term storage (when not on display): Dark archival box, same cradle + archival tissue wrap
- 4. Handling: Nitrile gloves only
- 5. Annual condition check: Ethanol swab test (hidden interior spot) + dated photos + save in 06_INSPECTIONS

--- FOLDER STRUCTURE ---

BUB_RESTORATION_2025/
[--- 01_BEFORE/ (01+ before photos)
[--- 02_DURING/ (01+ during photos)
[--- 03_AFTER/ (01+ after photos)
[--- 04_ITEMS/ (item photos)
[--- 05_RECEIPTS/ (receipts for items)
[--- 06_INSPECTIONS/ (future annual inspections)
[--- README.txt (this file)
[--- BACKUP/ (cloud + USB copies)

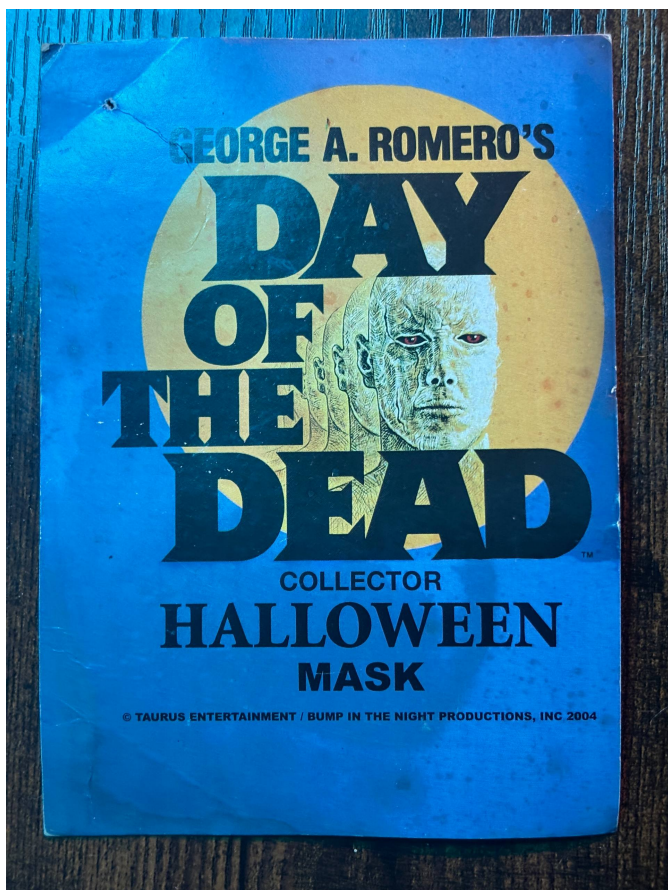
--- CONCLUSION ---

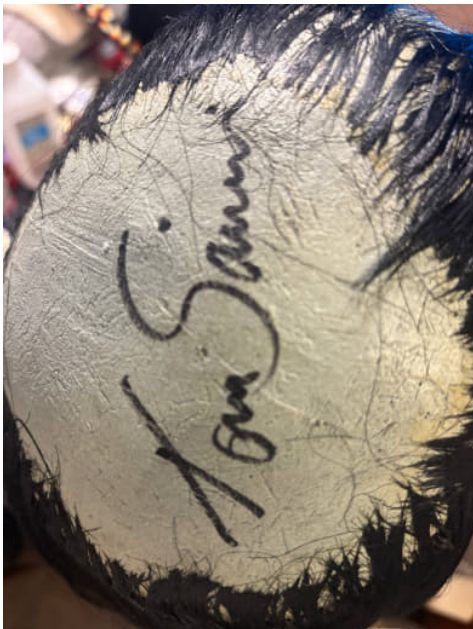
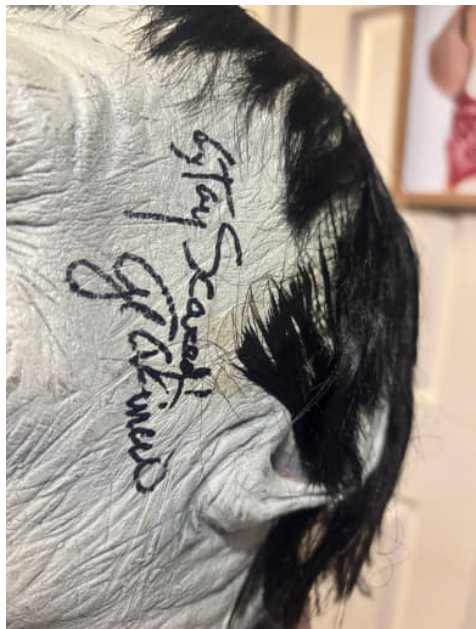
As of November 18, 2025, the 2003 Bub mask has been successfully stabilized and returned to full museum-grade condition. All structural weaknesses have been addressed with fully reversible, ethically sound conservation methods that respect the artifacts original materials, paint layer, and historic cast/crew signatures. The mask is protected against future environmental degradation while retaining every trace of its 22-year provenance.

With proper ongoing care outlined in this document, this rare piece of horror film history will remain exhibit-ready for generations.

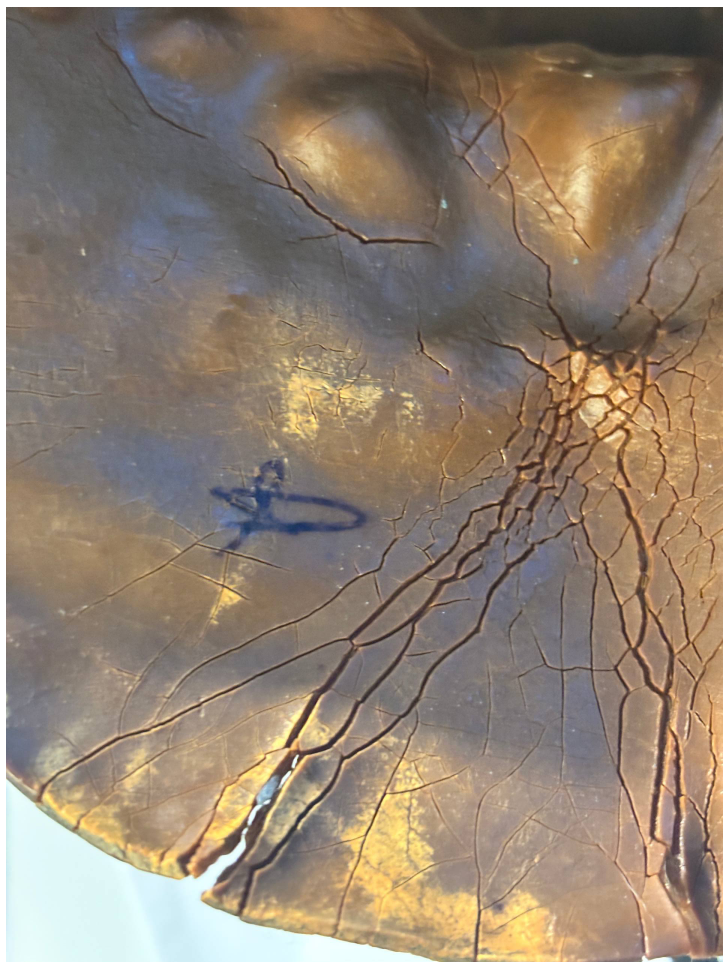
--- CONTACT ---

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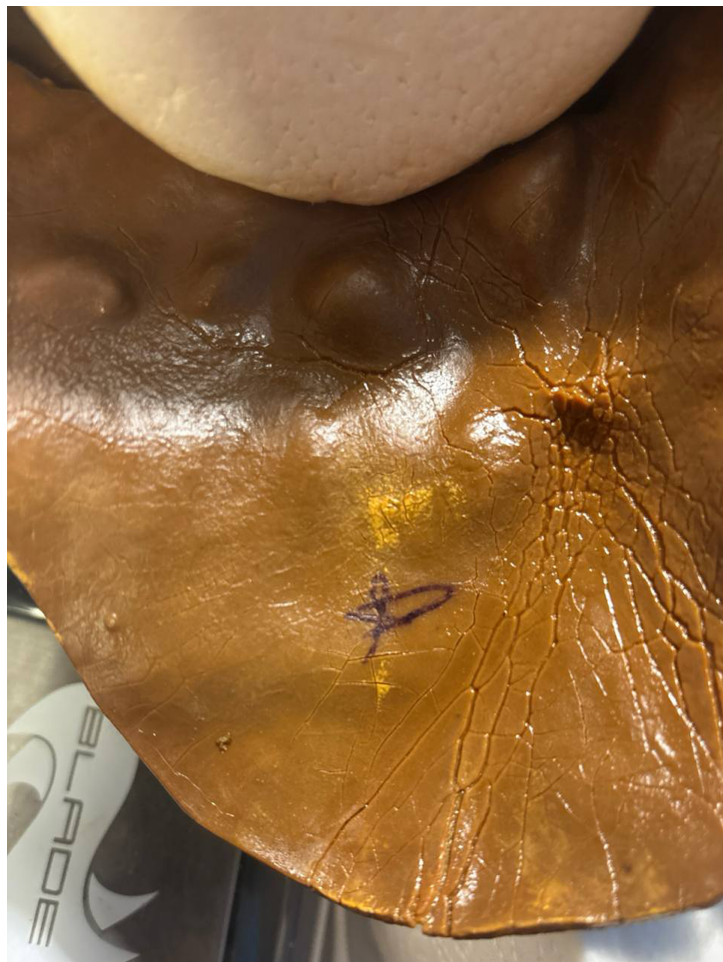




BEFORE



AFTER



BEFORE



AFTER



