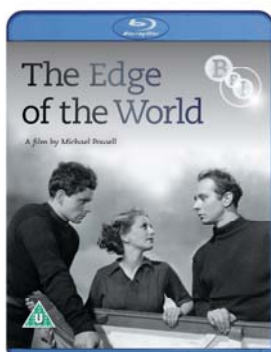


BFI Blu-ray press release



The Edge of the World

A film by Michael Powell

A powerful story of love, rivalry and survival against the harsh elemental realities of island life and an ever-encroaching modernity, *The Edge of the World* is released on Blu-ray from a High Definition master, overseen and approved by Michael Powell's widow, award-winning editor Thelma Schoonmaker-Powell.

Shot over four arduous months in the wild, windswept Shetland Islands, *The Edge of the World* was legendary British director Michael Powell's first independent production and established the daring techniques and experimentation that would become familiar hallmarks of his career.

Stirring performances from a strong cast, including the inimitable **John Laurie** (*The Life and Death of Colonel Blimp*, *The 39 Steps*, *Dad's Army*) as the Island's fiercely proud patriarch and the dashing **Niall MacGinnis** as a wounded lover, inject a warm liveliness that belies the extremity of the weather.

Previously released on DVD by the BFI, this Blu-ray release now also contains additional scenes and the original trailer. Among the many extras is a full feature commentary by **Thelma Schoonmaker-Powell** and **Professor Ian Christie**, with extracts from Powell's book about the making of the film, *200,000 feet on Foula* read by **Daniel Day-Lewis**.

Special features (all content presented in High Definition)

- Full-feature commentary by Thelma Schoonmaker-Powell and Professor Ian Christie with extracts from Powell's book about the making of the film, *200,000 feet on Foula* read by Daniel Day-Lewis
- Alternative scenes (1944, 9 mins): specially shot for a shorter version of the film released in 1944
- Original trailer (2 mins)
- *Return to the Edge of the World* (Michael Powell, 1979, 24 mins): Michael Powell and actor John Laurie journey to the island of Foula to see what has changed in the 42 years since they filmed *The Edge of the World* there
- Michael Powell's home movies narrated by Thelma Schoonmaker-Powell (c. 1955, 7 mins): Powell and friends on a hiking expedition in the Scottish highlands
- *St Kilda – Britain's Loneliest Isle* (Topical Productions, 1928/1923, 16 mins): a travelogue from St. Kilda
- Fully illustrated 26-page booklet with new essay by Professor Ian Christie, a contemporary review, promotional materials and credits

Release date: 23 August 2010

RRP: £19.99 / cat. no. BFIB1030 / cert U

UK / 1937 / black and white / English / optional subtitles for hearing-impaired / 75 mins + 58 mins / BD25 / original aspect ratio 1.37:1 / 1080p / 24fps / PCM mono audio 48/24-bit
 BFI releases are available from all good retailers; by mail order from the BFI Filmstore Tel: 020 7815 1350 or online at www.bfi.org.uk/filmstore

Press contact: Jill Reading, BFI Press Office

Tel: (020) 7957 4759 or e-mail jill.reading@bfi.org.uk

Images are available at www.image.net (BFI DVD & Blu-ray 2010)