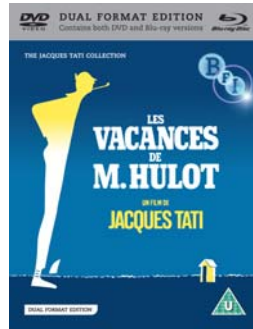


**BFI DVD press release**

## **BFI releases world premiere High Definition editions of Jacques Tati's best-loved films**



Two of the BFI's best-selling titles, Jacques Tati's *Les Vacances de Monsieur Hulot* and *Playtime* (previously released by the BFI on VHS and DVD) are to be released in new Dual Format Editions, which include both DVD and Blu-ray discs, on 29 November.

The films have been lovingly remastered in High Definition and the lavish selection of extras on each release includes never-before released alternative versions of the films, amongst which is the rarely seen original 1953 theatrical version of *Les Vacances de Monsieur Hulot*.

### **Les Vacances de Monsieur Hulot (Monsieur Hulot's Holiday)**

The film that brought Jacques Tati international acclaim also launched his on-screen alter ego: the courteous, well-meaning, eternally accident-prone Monsieur Hulot with whom Tati would from now on be inseparably associated.

The film is set in a sleepy French coastal resort, which is seasonally disrupted by holidaymakers in energetic pursuit of fun. At the centre of the chaos is the eccentric Hulot, struggling at all times to maintain appearances, but somehow entirely divorced from his immediate surroundings.

Tati's beautifully orchestrated comic 'ballet' is a seamless succession of gently mocking studies of human absurdity.

### **Special features**

- Presented in High Definition and Standard Definition
- Fully restored version of Jacques Tati's definitive 1978 final cut
- Alternative 'international' soundtrack (revised to include more English dialogue)
- Original theatrical release version (1953, 95 mins)
- Original theatrical trailer (DVD only)
- Richard Lester interview (DVD only, 2004, 36 mins): the acclaimed filmmaker discusses *Les Vacances de M. Hulot* with film historian Philip Kemp
- Illustrated booklet with a newly commissioned essay by film historian Philip Kemp

### **Playtime**

Regarded by many as Jacques Tati's masterpiece, *Playtime* is a surreal comic vision of modern life in which the director's much-loved character, Monsieur Hulot – accompanied by a cast of tourists and well-heeled Parisians – turns unintentional anarchist when set loose in an unrecognisable Paris of steel skyscrapers, chrome-plated shopping malls and futuristic night spots.

Cont...

### Special features

- Presented in both High Definition and Standard Definition
- Alternative 'international' soundtrack (revised by Tati to include more English dialogue)
- Feature commentary by Philip Kemp
- Rare audio interview with Jacques Tati recorded at the NFT in 1968, accompanied by stills and images from the BFI's collections
- Original theatrical trailer (DVD only)
- *Au-delà de Playtime* (DVD only, 2002, 6 mins): documentary about the making and unmaking of *Playtime*
- *Script-girl* (DVD only, 2003, 12 mins): Continuity Supervisor Sylvette Baudrot on working with Tati
- *Tati Story* (DVD only, 21 mins, c. 2003): short biographical film
- Illustrated booklet with a newly commissioned essay by David Furnham and Kevin Brownlow's memories of interviewing Tati

Each title has an RRP of £19.99.

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### For further information and review copies please contact:

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Images are available at [www.image.net](http://www.image.net) under BFI DVD & Blu-ray 2010

### Technical details

#### Les Vacances de Monsieur Hulot

Cat no: BFIB1050 / France / 1953/1978 / Cert U / black and white / French language, optional English subtitles / 88 mins / Original aspect ratio 1.33:1 / Disc 1: BD50 / 1080p / 24fps / PCM mono audio (48k/24-bit) and Dolby Digital (320 kbps) / Region B // Disc 2: DVD9 / PAL / Dolby Digital mono (192 kbps)

#### Playtime

Cat no: BFIB1051 / France / 1967 / Cert U / colour / French language (some English), optional English subtitles / 124 mins / Original aspect ratio 1.85:1 / Disc 1: BD50 / 1080p / 24fps / PCM stereo audio (48k/24-bit) and Dolby Digital stereo (320kbps) / Region B // Disc 2: DVD9 / PAL / Dolby Digital Stereo (192 kbps)

#### About the BFI

The BFI is the nation's cultural organisation for film, keeping the breadth of voices in moving image culture alive and known. Through its venues, festivals, film releases and online, the BFI inspires people to understand and enjoy film culture, ensuring that everyone in the UK can see the broadest range and choice of films, otherwise not provided by commercial cinema. The BFI reaches an audience of over 7.5 million in the UK every year.