



## At Last The 1948 Show Collector's Edition

3-DVD set released on 16 September 2019

*At Last The 1948 Show* debuted in 1967: the silly, cerebral team effort of future Pythons John Cleese and Graham Chapman, Goodie-to-be Tim Brooke-Taylor and the marvellously fizzogged Marty Feldman. With laconic links by The Lovely Aimi MacDonald and set-pieces including the debut of the landmark 'Four Yorkshiremen' sketch, this pioneering comedy series is now ready to be enjoyed by a new generation of fans (or by old ones all over again). This research, reconstruction and restoration involved in creating this 3-DVD set and its companion, *Do Not Adjust Your Set*, both released on 16 September 2019, is the biggest TV project ever undertaken by the BFI National Archive.

Initially beginning work six years ago, a team of the BFI's specialist TV curators gathered every episode known to exist. Further down the line, the Video Publishing and Technical Delivery teams work tirelessly to reconstruct missing episodes, using audio recordings and shooting scripts, to create the most complete collection ever assembled of this series.

This *Collector's Edition* includes all 10 surviving shows, plus two near-complete reconstructions and a partially complete episode with full-length audio: all presented with an array of archive gems and newly filmed extras. The accompanying booklet includes an essay by curator Steve Bryant detailing the research and technical work that was carried out.

*At Last The 1948 Show* will be launched during a month-long season at BFI Southbank, **It's... Monty Python at 50**, running **1 September – 1 October 2019**, celebrating **Monty Python** – their roots, influences and subsequent work both as a group, and as individuals. The season forms part of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of the beloved comedy group, whose seminal series *Monty Python's Flying Circus* first aired on 5 October 1969. It will include all the Monty Python feature films; oddities and unseen curios from the depths of the BFI National Archive and from Michael Palin's personal collection of super 8mm films; back-to-back screenings of the entire series of *Monty Python's Flying Circus* in a unique big-screen outing; and screenings of post-Python TV (*Fawlty Towers*, *Out of the Trees*, *Ripping Yarns*) and films (*Jabberwocky*, *A Fish Called Wanda*, *Time Bandits*, *Wind in the Willows* and more). There will be a free exhibition of Python-related material from the BFI National Archive and The Monty Python Archive, and a Python takeover in the BFI Shop.

On **Sunday 8 September at 15:00 in NFT1**, there will be a special screening of *At Last The 1948 Show* (two recovered editions from the series plus an exclusive preview of some of the extra material from this DVD release) **followed by a Q&A with Tim Brooke-Taylor**.

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### Special features

- *Something About the Year 1948* (2019, 31 mins): John Cleese on working with Humphrey Barclay, David Frost and Graham Chapman, *At Last The 1948 Show* and the path to Python
- *We Just Wanted to Be Silly* (2019, 38 mins): Tim Brooke-Taylor recalls his comedy influences and the making of *At Last The 1948 Show*
- *John Cleese in Conversation* (2006, 36 mins): John Cleese joins comedy historian Dick Fiddy at BFI Southbank to reflect on *At Last The 1948 Show*
- *Reconstructing At Last The 1948 Show* (2000, 44 mins, audio): the BFI's Steve Bryant in discussion with Aimi MacDonald, Tim Brooke-Taylor and audiophile Ray Frensham
- *John Cleese Introduces At Last The 1948 Show* (2003, 2 mins): an introduction recorded for the BFI's *Missing Believed Wiped* event
  
- *At Last It's Dee Time* (1967, 12 mins audio): the *At Last The 1948 Show* team's unruly guest appearance on the BBC chat show
- *Now and Then: Marty Feldman* (1968, 25 mins): Feldman discusses the nature of comedy in this unedited interview, shot for a never-broadcast Bernard Braden documentary series
  
- The Humphrey Barclay Scrapbook: rare photos and drawings from the legendary TV producer's personal archive
- At Last Some Pictures: image gallery of promotional material
- Reproductions of two scripts for the incomplete episodes
- Illustrated booklet with *Not Quite 500 Words* by Tim Brooke-Taylor, Steve Bryant's account of recovering and restoring the programmes and a look at the show's place in comedy history by the BFI's Dick Fiddy, plus episode notes with transmission dates and credits

### Product details

**RRP: £29.99/ Cat. no. BFIV2121/ Cert 12**

UK / 1967-1968 / black and white / 320 mins / English language, with optional hard-of-hearing subtitles / original aspect ratio 4:3 / DVD9 x 3: PAL, 25fps, Dolby Digital 1.0 mono audio (192kbps)

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BFI releases are available from all good home entertainment retailers or by mail order from the BFI Shop Tel: 020 7815 1350 or online at [www.bfi.org.uk/shop](http://www.bfi.org.uk/shop)

### About the BFI

The BFI is the UK's lead organisation for film, television and the moving image. It is a cultural charity that:

- Curates and presents the greatest international public programme of World Cinema for audiences; in cinemas, at festivals and online
- Cares for the BFI National Archive – the most significant film and television archive in the world
- Actively seeks out and supports the next generation of filmmakers
- Works with Government and industry to make the UK the most creatively exciting and prosperous place to make film internationally

Founded in 1933, the BFI is a registered charity governed by Royal Charter. The BFI Board of Governors is chaired by Josh Berger CBE.

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