



## Atoll K

Directed by Léo Joannon  
Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy

Dual Format Edition (Blu-ray/DVD) release of Laurel and Hardy's last film on 3 December 2018 – part of *BFI Comedy Genius*, a UK-wide celebration of comedy on screen

The BFI is proud to release the longest-ever English language cut of this historically important film, presented for the first time in HD, in a new 2K restoration by the BFI using original 35mm nitrate film elements. Packed with special features, it includes rare early solo shorts and amateur footage of Stan and Ollie, alongside new audio commentaries and writing by internationally acclaimed experts on the life and work of 'The Boys'.

The 1951 feature film finale of cinema's most beloved comedy duo, *Atoll K* marked Laurel and Hardy's long-delayed big screen return. The two great clowns, lured back to film amid the extensive stage tours of Europe that were the poignant coda to their career, embark here on a ramshackle voyage to save Stan's Pacific island inheritance. This ambitious attempt to invest their time-honed slapstick with a satirical edge is a testament to the duo's indefatigable comic antics.

Coming out ahead of the new feature film *Stan & Ollie* (Jon S. Baird, 2018), starring Steve Coogan and John C. Reilly (released 11 January 2019), which had its world premiere at the BFI London Film Festival last month, here's a timely chance to see the real duo in action.

The Blu-ray/DVD release of *Atoll K* will be launched with a screening at BFI Southbank on **Saturday 1 December at 15:45**, followed by a discussion with **Glenn Mitchell**, author of *The Laurel & Hardy Encyclopedia*; Laurel and Hardy historian **Dave Wyatt** and BFI Technical Producer **Douglas Weir**, hosted by BFI Blu-ray producer **Vic Pratt**.

Furthermore, in January, BFI Southbank will welcome in the New Year with a month-long season dedicated to this legendary comedy duo with 10 feature films and 16 shorts focusing on their time working with Hal Roach (1927-40), to coincide with the release of *Stan & Ollie*.

### Special features

- Presented in High Definition and Standard Definition
- *Mother's Baby Boy* (1914, 4 mins), *Something in Her Eye* (1915, 11 mins), *Do You Love Your Wife?* (1919, 14 mins), *Somewhere in Wrong* (1925, 23 mins): four rare early Laurel and Hardy solo comedies
- *Should Men Walk Home?* (1927, 27 mins): rare Mabel Normand comedy featuring Oliver Hardy
- *Laurel and Hardy in Tynemouth*, aka *Grand Hotel* (1932, 11 mins); *Laurel and Hardy in Scotland* (1947, 3 mins): amateur footage of the duo's UK tours

- *Railway Birthday Party* (1947, 2 mins); *Laurel and Hardy Return to the UK* (1952, 2 mins): British Movietone newsreel footage
- US trailer (c1954)
- German trailer (c1951)
- *Interview with Stan Laurel* (1957, 80 mins, audio only): Stan discusses his life and work with Arthur B Friedman in a recording made a week after Ollie's death
- *The Boys Stay in the Picture*: new Laurel and Hardy video essay by Chris Seguin, using rare images, scripts, letters and promotional materials from around the time of *Atoll K* (2018, 13 mins)
- New feature-length commentary on *Atoll K* and new commentaries on the amateur films by Laurel and Hardy expert Glenn Mitchell (2018)
- Illustrated booklet with new essays and notes by Laurel and Hardy authorities Glenn Mitchell, Norbert Aping and David Wyatt, new writing by Alan and Vic Pratt, plus full film credits

### **Product details**

**RRP: £19.99/ Cat. no. BFIB1323 / Cert U**

France, Italy / 1951 / black and white / 98 mins / English language, with optional hard-of-hearing subtitles and audio description / original aspect ratio 1.37:1 / BD50: 1080p, 24fps, 2.0 PCM mono audio (48kHz/24-bit) / DVD9: PAL, 25fps, Dolby Digital 2.0 mono audio (48kHz/16-bit)

### **Press contact for more information, review copy requests and images:**

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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**

At the BFI we support, nurture and promote the art of film, television and the moving image. A charity, funded by Government and earned income, and a distributor of National Lottery funds, we are at the heart of the UK's fast growing screen industries, protecting the past and shaping their future across the UK. We work in partnership with cultural organisations, government and industry to make this happen. We bring our world-class cultural programmes and unrivalled national collections to audiences everywhere, and promote learning about our art-form and its heritage. We support the future success of film in the UK by nurturing new voices and fresh ideas, enriching independent British film culture, challenging the UK's screen industries to innovate and defining Britain and its storytellers in the 21st century.

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