A Merchant Ivory production of
Ruth Prawer Jhabvala’s
Heat and Dust
Directed by James Ivory

Plus Autobiography of a Princess

BFI 2-disc Blu-ray set released on 15 April 2019, followed by iTunes release on 29 April

Ruth Prawer Jhabvala’s adaptation from her own Booker Prize-winning novel moves effortlessly between past and present in a sensual and evocative journey, telling the story of two women’s paths to self-discovery more than half a century apart. Now beautifully restored in 4K and available on Blu-ray for the first time, the BAFTA-winning Heat and Dust is accompanied by Autobiography of a Princess (1975), Merchant Ivory’s fictional study of Imperial India starring James Mason and Madhur Jaffrey and released on 15 April 2019. An iTunes release follows on 29 April.

When Anne (Julie Christie) inherits the letters of her great-aunt Olivia (Greta Scacchi in her breakthrough role), she becomes drawn to India by their revelations of a relationship with a handsome and charismatic, if not entirely scrupulous, Indian prince (Shashi Kapoor). The strong supporting cast includes Madhur Jaffrey as the prince’s manipulative mother, Christopher Cazenove as Olivia’s husband and Nickolas Grace as Harry, her confidant.

Special features

- New 4K restoration
- Merchant Ivory’s Royal India (2017, 33 mins): James Ivory in conversation with writer/director Chris Terrio
- Greta Scacchi and Nickolas Grace Remember Heat and Dust (2017, 42 mins): an interview by Claire Monk
- Q&A with Madhur Jaffrey (2017, 22 mins)
- Trailers
- Three archive shorts depicting some of the princely states of India (1922 – 1940, 56 mins)
- The Guardian Interview: Ismail Merchant, James Ivory and Ruth Prawer Jhabvala (1992, 100 mins, audio only): John Pym moderates a panel discussion at the NFT

Product details

RRP: £24.99/ Cat. no. BFIB1333 / Cert 15

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- 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

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