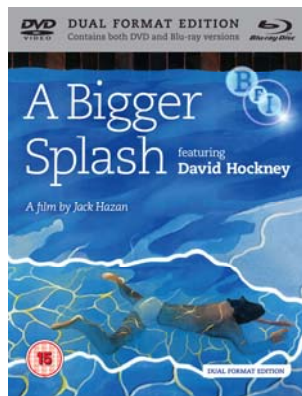


DVD & Blu-ray press release



A Bigger Splash

A film by Jack Hazan featuring David Hockney

From 1971–1973, Jack Hazan gained intimate access to David Hockney and his circle of friends and lovers to create *A Bigger Splash*. Using a ‘structured reality’ format rather than pure documentary, he crafted a mesmerising film, groundbreaking in style and daring in nature. On 30 January 2012 the BFI will release *A Bigger Splash* in a Dual Format Edition (on DVD & Blu-ray discs) with two rare films from the BFI National Archive, *Love’s Presentation* (1966) and *Portrait of David Hockney* (1972).

A Bigger Splash was made during a critical time in Hockney’s life. A long-term relationship with fellow painter Peter Schlesinger had recently dissolved and during this acutely emotional period he was under pressure to work faster and create new work. Already an internationally successful artist, his famous paintings are magically brought to life through the mood, colours and tones of the film and Hazan and his co-writer and editor David Mingay (who went on to make *The Clash: Rude Boy* together) brilliantly capture the essence of Hockney the artist and a sense of his fashionable milieu.

Shot in London and California, the film offers a vivid snapshot of the early 70s art scene surrounding Hockney and features appearances by numerous legendary faces; there’s his muse, the iconic fashion and textile designer **Celia Birtwell** with her husband, fashion designer **Ossie Clark**; art dealer **John Kasmin**, curator and art critic **Henry Geldzahler** and Hockney’s loyal assistant **Mo McDermott**. Some of the ‘cast’ appear in Hockney’s paintings; Ossie Clark is seen taking his cat to the Tate Gallery to view *Mr and Mrs Clark and Percy*.

When released in cinemas in 1974, *A Bigger Splash* surprised audiences with explicit scenes of male lovemaking and nudity and it ran for over a year in London’s West End. This Dual Format Edition brings it to Blu-ray for the first time along with two insightful shorts; *Love’s Presentation* (1966) which captures the creation of Hockney’s *Cavafy Etchings* and *Portrait of David Hockney* (1972), which shows Hockney both at work and relaxing at home.

Coinciding with a major new David Hockney exhibition at the Royal Academy in 2012, the BFI release of *A Bigger Splash*, in which Jack Hazan has been personally involved, is a fascinating filmic record of one of Britain’s most recognisable artists.

Jack Hazan is available for interview.

Special features

- Presented in both High Definition and Standard Definition (DVD & Blu-ray)
- *Love’s Presentation* (James Scott, 1966, 25 mins)
- *Portrait of David Hockney* (David Pearce, 1972, 13 mins)
- Interview with Jack Hazan (2006, DVD only)
- Original film trailer
- 28-page illustrated booklet with essays and film notes

'David Hockney RA: A Bigger Picture' – the Royal Academy of Arts 21 Jan – 9 Apr 2012

The Royal Academy of Arts showcases the first major exhibition of new landscape works by David Hockney RA featuring vivid paintings inspired by the East Yorkshire landscape.

RRP: £19.99 / cat. no. BFIB1137 / Cert 15

UK / 1974 / colour / English language, optional English subtitles / 105 mins /

Original aspect ratio 1.85:1 / Region free

Available from DVD retailers & BFI Filmstore Tel: 020 7815 1350 or www.bfi.org.uk/filmstore

For more information and review copies please contact: Jill Reading, BFI Press Office

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