



The John Cassavetes Collection

Opening Night

**Starring Gena Rowlands, John Cassavetes,
Ben Gazzara**

The latest release in the BFI's John Cassavetes Collection, out on 27 May 2013, is 1977's award-winning *Opening Night*. Released on Blu-ray for the first time in the UK, it is presented in a Dual Format Edition (also contains a DVD disc). Numerous extras include an audio commentary, a documentary – *Memories of John and Peter Falk* talking about John Cassavetes.

Broadway actress Myrtle Gordon (Gena Rowlands) rehearses for her latest play about a woman in denial at the onset of her autumn years. When Myrtle witnesses the accidental death of an adoring young fan, it leads to a crisis of confidence in both her professional and her personal life which threatens to undermine the whole production.

Featuring a startling and compelling performance by Gena Rowlands, which won her the Silver Bear for Best Actress in 1978, *Opening Night* is arguably one of John Cassavetes' most self-reflexive works and offers an insightful and intriguing evocation of the theatrical experience from both sides of the proscenium.

Special features

- Presented in both High Definition and Standard Definition
- Audio commentary by Tom Charity, Mike Ferris and Bo Harwood
- *Memories of John* (DVD only, 29 mins)
- *Falk on Cassavetes: the later years* (DVD only, 14 mins)
- Illustrated booklet featuring interviews and essays from Tom Charity, Al Ruban and Peter Bogdanovich

Already available from the BFI in *The John Cassavetes Collection: A Woman Under the Influence* (1974), *Faces* (1968) and *Shadows* (1959).

The Killing of a Chinese Bookie (1976) will be released in July.

Product details

RRP: £19.99 / cat. no. BFIB1129 / Cert 15

USA / 1977 / colour / English language, with optional English hard-of-hearing subtitles / 144 mins / Original aspect ratio 1.85:1

Disc 1: BD50 / 1080p / 24fps / PCM mono audio (48k/16-bit) // Disc 2: DVD9 / PAL / Dolby Digital mono audio (320 kbps)

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Images are available at www.image.net under BFI DVD 2013

BFI DVDs are available from all good DVD retailers; by mail order from the BFI Shop Tel: 020 7815 1350 or online at www.bfi.org.uk/shop

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