



## Ken Russell The Great Passions Always on Sunday; Isadora; Dante's Inferno

These three spectacular documentaries by controversial director Ken Russell (*Valentino*, *The Devils*) were originally broadcast in the BBC TV arts documentary strands *Monitor* and *Omnibus* in the 1960s. On 28 March 2016 they will be released together on DVD and Blu-ray in a Dual Format Edition by the BFI. Among the many extras, each film has an audio commentary, and in a new interview, film editor Michael Bradsell talks about working with Ken Russell.

*Always on Sunday* (1965), a dramatised exploration of the *naif* painter Henri Rousseau, sees Russell reunited with Melvyn Bragg and Oliver Reed in one of his most charming and delightful documentaries. *Isadora* (1966), Russell's exuberant study of the outrageous American dancer Isadora Duncan, is probably the film that best encapsulates the director's attitude to art and creativity. In *Dante's Inferno* (1967) Oliver Reed gives a smouldering performance as the Pre-Raphaelite poet and painter, Dante Gabriel Rossetti. This startling and bold film is one of the most ambitious that Russell made for the BBC.

### Special features

- Newly remastered and presented in both High Definition and Standard Definition
- *Late Night Line-Up: Russell at Work* (Ian Keill, 1966, 31 mins): documentary shot during the making of *Isadora*
- *Michael Bradsell Interview* (2015, 18 mins): the film editor talks about working with Ken Russell
- Brian Hoyle audio commentary for *Always on Sunday*
- Paul Sutton audio commentary for *Isadora*
- Brian Hoyle audio commentary for *Dante's Inferno*
- *The Paul Sutton Tapes*: alternative audio track to *Isadora*, comprising interviews which Paul Sutton conducted with the cast and crew between 2008 and 2012
- 30-page illustrated booklet featuring new essays by John Wyver, Kevin Jackson, Christophe Van Eecke, Brian Hoyle, Paul Sutton and Michael Brooke, and full credits

**Ken Russell The Great Passions** is released alongside its companion, **Ken Russell The Great Composers**, which contains *Elgar* (1962), *The Debussy Film* (1965) and *Song of Summer* (1968).

### Product details

**RRP: £29.99 / Cat. no. BFIB1245 / Cert 12 / 3-disc set**

UK / 1965 + 1966 + 1967 / black and white / English, with optional hard-of-hearing subtitles / 45 mins + 64 mins + 88 mins / original aspect ratio 1.33:1  
1 x BD50: 1080/50i, LPCM 2.0 mono audio (48kHz/16-bit) / 2 x DVD9: PAL, 25fps, Dolby Digital 2.0 audio (320kbps)

Cont...

... /2

**Press contact:**

Jill Reading, BFI Press Office

Tel: (020) 7957 4759

E-mail: [jill.reading@bfi.org.uk](mailto:jill.reading@bfi.org.uk)

Images are available to download at [www.image.net](http://www.image.net) under BFI DVD & Blu-ray

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)

29 February 2016