



On Yer Bike

A History of Cycling on Film

Two-disc set

This new collection of 29 films takes an enlightening look at the British cycling experience from 1899 to 1983. Expertly curated from the holdings of BFI National Archive and released in an extensive 2-DVD set on 22 June 2015, *On Yer Bike* brings together short dramas, animations, advertisements, newsreel items, and public information films to provide a nostalgic and entertaining trip down memory lane for cycling enthusiasts, and British documentary aficionados, of all ages.

From nineteenth-century ladies elegantly displaying their proficiency to the cut-throat 1928 Olympic Trials at the Herne Hill Velodrome and careless 1980s BMX kids meeting untimely ends, the films on this set offer up a century of cycling in Britain whilst celebrating classic brands such as Raleigh, Hercules, Moulton, Humber, Rudge and Witcomb.

Among the highlights of the collection are: *Rudge Whitworth – Britain's Best Bicycle* (1902), which is one of the oldest adverts held in the BFI National Archive; *Cycling the Channel* (1929), why swim when you can cycle on water?; *Tom's Ride* (1944), a beautiful precursor to the CFF (Children's Film Foundation) films, but distinctly lacking a Hollywood ending!; *Riding on Air* (1959), the popularity of cycling in 1950s Britain as seen by the COI (Central Office of Information); *The Racing Cyclist* (1966), a portrait of the Lightweight Racing Cyclist with a focus on the Witcomb Racing Cycle family business and *Cyclist Turning Right* (1983), BMX kids – beware of oncoming traffic!

BFI National Archive curator Steve Foxon is available to discuss the films.

Disc One

Lady Cyclists (1899) 1 min
 Race for the Muratti Cup at Manchester Wheelers' Annual Meet (extract) (1901)
 10 mins
 Manchester and Salford Harriers (Extract) (1901) 3 min
 Rudge Whitworth – Britain's Best Bicycle (1902) 1 min
 Flying the Foam and Some Fancy Diving (1906) 2 mins
 Fat Man on a Bicycle (1914) 1 min
 National Bicycle Week (1923) 1 min
 Olympic Trials (1928) 1 min
 Cycling the Channel (1929) 1 min
 Woman Wheelers (1929) 1 min
 From Acorn to Oak (1938) 5 mins
 Cinema Adverts Humber, Raleigh, Rudge (1938) 1 mins
 Tom's Ride (1944) 11 mins
 How a Bicycle is Made (1945) 17 mins
 Stringing Along (1947) 4 mins

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The Ballad of the Battered Bicycle (1947) 9 mins
Pedal Cyclists (1947) 2 mins
Good Cycles Deserve Good Riders (1950) 3 mins
Skid Kids (1953) 47 mins

Disc Two

Cyclists Special (1955) 15 mins
Hercules: Lion Cubs (1956) 1 min
Cyclists Abroad (1957) 15 mins
Cycling Proficiency Scheme Father and Son (1959) 1 min
Riding on Air (1959) 15 mins
The Racing Cyclist (1966) 13 mins
The Moulton Bicycle (1972) 20 mins
Free Wheeling (1979) 13 mins
It's a Bike (1983) 21 mins
Cyclist Turning Right (1983) 1 mins

Also includes an illustrated booklet with an introductory essay and notes on each film by curators from the BFI National Archive.

Product details

RRP: £22.99 / Cat. no. BFIV2024 / Cert E
UK / 1899–1983 / black and white, and colour / English language / 248 mins
DVD9 x 2 / Ratio 1.33:1

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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

Images can be downloaded from www.image.net > BFI>DVD & Blu-ray releases

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