



DVD press release

## Mitchell & Kenyon in Ireland

With commentary read by Fiona Shaw

Over a century ago, filmmakers Sagar Mitchell and James Kenyon roamed the British Isles filming the everyday lives of people at work and play. For around 70 years, 800 rolls of this early nitrate film sat in sealed barrels in the basement of a shop in Blackburn. Now miraculously discovered and painstakingly restored by the BFI, this now ranks as the most exciting film discovery of recent times.

Following on from the hugely successful BBC TV series, **The Lost World of Mitchell & Kenyon** and the BFI's first DVD volume **Electric Edwardians** are two DVDs containing a new unreleased selection of films – **Mitchell & Kenyon in Ireland** and **Mitchell & Kenyon Edwardian sports**.

*Mitchell and Kenyon in Ireland* is a unique and vivid record of Ireland at the start of the twentieth century. The Mitchell & Kenyon Collection contains some twenty-six films made in Ireland between May 1901 and December 1902 in association with three travelling film exhibitors – the North American Animated Photo Company, the Thomas Edison Animated Photo Company and the fairground showman George Green. Much of this material has been unseen for over 100 years.

Presented as 'Local Films for Local People', the films include street scenes of Dublin, Wexford and Belfast, local dignitaries attending the Cork International Exhibition, scenic routes from Cork to Blarney Castle and much more.

The DVD is programmed by Dr Vanessa Toulmin of the National Fairground Archive at the University of Sheffield Library, author of the BFI book *Electric Edwardians: The Films of Mitchell & Kenyon* (2006) and editor of *The Lost World of Mitchell & Kenyon: Edwardian Britain on Film* (BFI, 2004). **Vanessa Toulmin is available for press and radio interviews.**

### Extras

- Commentary written by Dr Vanessa Toulmin and read by Fiona Shaw
- New musical score by Neil Brand and Günter Buchwald, internationally renowned composers of music to accompany silent films

The DVD also contains an 18-page illustrated booklet with an introduction by Dr Vanessa Toulmin and film notes on *Street Scenes*, *Life in Cork*, the *Cork Exhibition* and *Sport*. Please see page 2 for full film listing.

**Release date: 23 July 2007**

RRP £19.99 / cat. no. BFIVD737 / cert E

UK / 1901-1906 / black and white / silent with music / 75 mins / ratio 1.33:1

This disc contains optional subtitles for the hearing-impaired on all items

BFI DVDs are available from the Filmstore at BFI Southbank, all good retailers, by mail order from 0845 458 9910 or online at [www.bfi.org.uk/video](http://www.bfi.org.uk/video)

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## **About the BFI**

There's more to discover about film and television through the BFI. Our world-renowned archive, cinemas, festivals, films, publications and learning resources are here to inspire you. To find out more go to [www.bfi.org.uk](http://www.bfi.org.uk)

## **MITCHELL & KENYON IN IRELAND**

### **STREET SCENES**

#### **The North**

724, 183: Ride on a Tramcar Through Belfast (1901)

188: Cattle Market in Derry (1902)

#### **Dublin**

730: Congregation Leaving Jesuit Church of St Francis Xavier, Dublin (1902)

728: Panorama of College Green, Dublin (1902)

729: Congregation Leaving St Mary's Pro-Cathedral, Dublin (1901)

#### **Wexford**

725: Wexford Railway Station, (1902)

726-727: Life in Wexford (1902)

### **LIFE IN CORK**

723, 243: Ride from Blarney to Cork on Cork and Muskerry Light Railway (1902)

236, 820: Panorama of Queenstown Harbour (1902)

708: Albert Quay in Cork (1902)

710: Tram Ride from King Street to Patrick's Bridge, Cork (1902)

709: Views of the Grand Parade, Cork (1902)

711: Workers Leaving Lee Boot Factory - Dwyer & Co. Ltd, Cork (1902)

718-20: Cork Fire Brigade Turning Out (1902)

721: Congregation Leaving St Patrick's Church in Cork (1902)

722: Congregation Leaving St Mary's Dominican Church in Cork (1902)

713: Regiments Returned from Boer War to Victoria Barracks, Cork (1902)

### **CORK EXHIBITION**

785: Preparation of the Cork Exhibition Grounds and Erection of Buildings (1902)

703: Panorama of Cork Exhibition Grounds (1902)

704, 705, 712: Trade Procession at Opening of Cork Exhibition (1902)

702: Arrival of VIPs for Official Opening of Cork Exhibition (1902)

717: Lord Mayor of Cork arriving for Official Opening of Cork Exhibition (1902)

715- 716: The Visit of the Duke of Connaught C-I-C Forces in Ireland and Prince Henry of Prussia to Cork Exhibition (1902)

### **SPORT**

5, 795: Ambush II at Eyrefield Lodge, Curragh (15 January 1902)

714: Sports Day at Queen's College Ground, Cork (7 June 1902)

706: Two-oared Boat Race, Sunday's Well, Cork (1902)

707: Crews practicing on River Lee at Cork Regatta (1902)

701: Final of International Cup at Cork Regatta between Leander and Berlin (23 July 1902)

137-138: England v Ireland at Manchester (14 October 1905)

153-154: Wales v Ireland at Wrexham (2 April 1906)