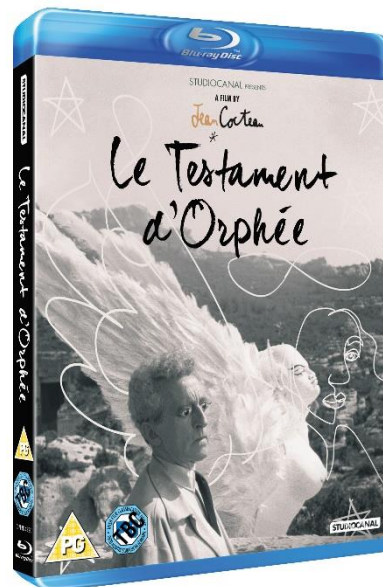


Jean Cocteau
*

Le sang d'un poète
Le Testament
d'Orphée

ON BLU-RAY, DVD AND DIGITAL DOWNLOAD – 5TH AUGUST 2019



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Studiocanal are delighted to announce the release of brand new 4k restorations of two films from one of cinema's most influential artists, **Jean Cocteau** – a poet, playwright, novelist, designer, visual artist and one of the avant-garde movement's most successful and influential filmmakers.

LE SANG D'UN POÈTE (The Blood of a Poet) and **LE TESTAMENT D'ORPHÉE** (The Testament of Orpheus) will be released on DVD, Digital Download and for the first time on Blu-ray on **5th August 2019** as part of Studiocanal's **Vintage World Cinema** Collection. Pre-order now: <http://po.st/TestamentOrphee>; <http://po.st/SangPoete>.

Made thirty years apart, these two films bookend Cocteau's filmic career and are both considered masterpieces of the avant-garde movement. Made in 1932, the first part of the 'Orphic' trilogy **LE SANG D'UN POÈTE**, seeks to explore the feelings within a poet's heart and soul, beginning in an artist's studio where an unfinished statue comes to life. The lips of its androgynous face move, pressing a kiss to the artist's hand. At the statues demand, he plunges it into a mirror.

In his last film *LE TESTAMENT D'ORPHÉE* (1960), Cocteau created a truly abstract piece of work as his swansong. He himself portrays an 18th century poet who travels through time on a quest for divine wisdom. In a mysterious, possibly post-apocalyptic wasteland, he has a series of enigmatic and surreal encounters with symbolic phantoms with whom he muses about the nature of art and his own career. With an eclectic cast that includes cameos from Pablo Picasso, Jean Marais, Brigitte Bardot, Charles Aznavour, Roger Vadim and Yul Brenner, *LE TESTAMENT D'ORPHÉE* brings full circle the journey Cocteau began in *LE SANG D'UN POÈTE* - an exploration of the tortuous relationship between the artist and his creations.

Born in 1889, Cocteau grew up in Paris, immersed in the theatre and art world. He published his first volume of poems at just 15 and began mixing in bohemian circles becoming known as the Frivolous Prince. He associated with Marcel Proust, Maurice Barres, Pablo Picasso, Amedeo Modigliani and numerous other writers and artists with whom he later collaborated. At a time when society condemned it, he was openly homosexual and homoerotic undertones, imagery and symbolism pervade all aspects of his writings, art and films. He died in 1963 at the age of 74.



LE SANG D'UN POÈTE
(The Blood of a Poet)

Running time: 55 mins
Certificate: PG

Special Features: **Jean Cocteau: Hallucinogenic Poetics** featuring interviews with Claude Arnaud, biographer of Cocteau and Dominique Marny, Cocteau's great niece and director of the Comité Jean Cocteau



LE TESTAMENT D'ORPHÉE
(Testament of Orpheus)

Running time: 83 mins
Certificate: PG

Special Features: **Jean Cocteau: The Last Pharaoh** featuring interviews with Claude Arnaud, biographer of Cocteau and Dominique Marny, Cocteau's great niece and director of the Comité Jean Cocteau

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About STUDIOCANAL

STUDIOCANAL, a 100% affiliate of CANAL+ Group held by Vivendi, is Europe's leader in production, right acquisition, distribution and international sales of feature films and TV series. STUDIOCANAL operates directly in all three major European markets, France, the United Kingdom and Germany, as well as in Australia and New Zealand.

STUDIOCANAL owns one of the most important film libraries in the world, boasting more than 6,500 titles from 60 countries, including the iconic *Terminator 2*, *Breathless*, *Mulholland Drive* and *Belle de jour*.

STUDIOCANAL has fully-financed recent box office hits like *Paddington 2*, *The Commuter*, *Early Man* and the recently released *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mike Newell. Upcoming films backed by STUDIOCANAL include *How to*

Talk to Girls at Parties featuring Nicole Kidman, and Aardman Studios' stop-motion film *Shaun the Sheep Movie 2* which is currently in production.

STUDIOCANAL is actively developing and distributing high-end TV series through its network of award-winning European production companies, including Tandem Productions in Germany (*Crossing Lines*, *Spotless*), the UK's RED Production Company (*The Five*, *Happy Valley*), Scandinavia's SAM created by Soren Svestrup and Adam Price (*Borgen*, *The Killing*), and Spain's BAMBÚ.

VINTAGE WORLD CINEMA

Open your eyes to a new world of film with the Vintage World Cinema collection. Discover and enjoy classic, iconic films from around the globe, all stunningly restored with brand new bonus content.