



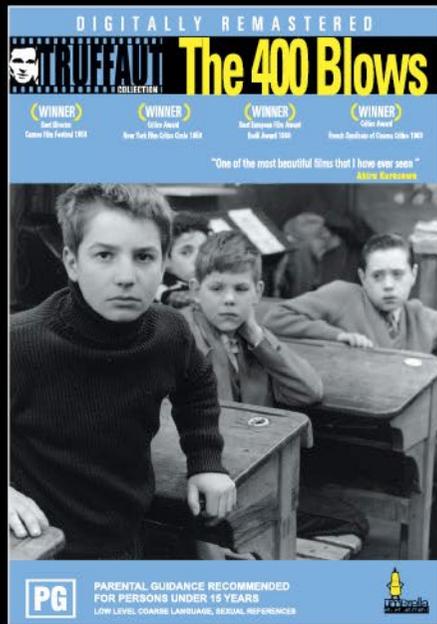
DIRECTOR FOCUS **FRANÇOIS TRUFFAUT**

Director, Screenwriter, Producer, Actor and Film Critic, François Truffaut (1932 – 1984) helped transform the cinematic landscape as one of the founders of the French New Wave.

In a film career lasting over a quarter of a century, he remains an icon of the French film industry, having worked on over 25 films, including the semi-autobiographical **Antoine Doinel** series of films (beginning with *The 400 Blows*), French Occupation drama, *The Last Metro* and First World War love triangle *Jules and Jim*.

DIRECTOR FOCUS FRANÇOIS TRUFFAUT

DVD
BD



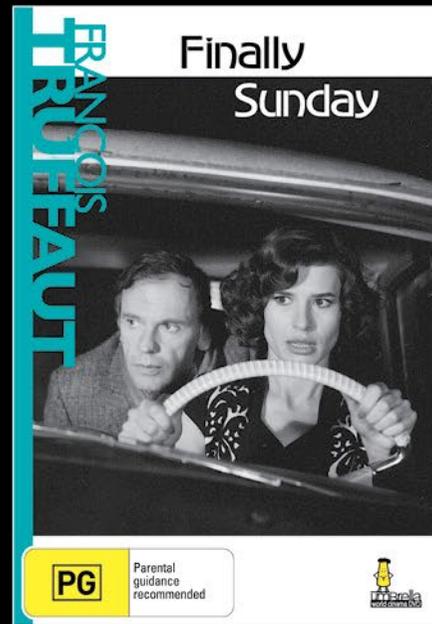
THE 400 BLOWS

Praised by film-makers and critics the world over, Truffaut's *The 400 Blows* launched the Nouvelle Vague and paved the way for some of cinema's most important and influential directors.

Twelve-year-old Antoine Doinel (**Jean-Pierre Leaud**) has troubles at home and at school. Ignored and neglected by his parents, his relationship with his mother is further strained when he discovers that she has taken a secret lover.

Added to this, his school teachers have written him off as a troublemaker and, with luck seemingly never on his side, it is Antoine who ends up getting the blame for bad behaviour. Finding refuge only in his love of cinema, Antoine soon finds it necessary to break free, and discover what the world can offer outside of the confines of his everyday life.

DVD

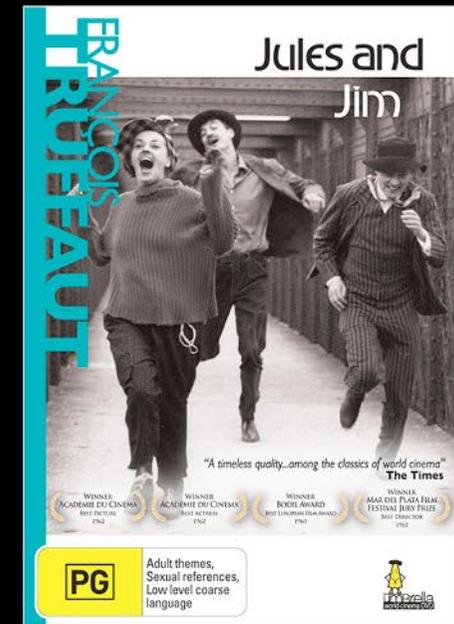


FINALLY SUNDAY

Truffaut's final film before his untimely death in 1984, *Finally Sunday* brought he career full circle, revisiting the film noir style of his early movies.

Based on *The Long Saturday Night* by **Charles Williams**, *Finally Sunday* is one of Truffaut's most purely cinematic films. This wry Hitchcockian thriller sees a wealthy real estate agent (**Jean- Louis Trintignant**, *The Conformist*) wanted for the murder of his wife's lover. But his secretary (the sharp, sexy **Fanny Ardant**, Truffaut's then lover) refuses to condemn him so quickly and sets out to investigate the case herself. Transgressing 'murderer-and-moll-on-the-run' conventions, with Ardant becoming the leading player in an ever-deepening mystery, *Finally Sunday* is a fitting epitaph to Truffaut's celebrated film career.

DVD



JULES AND JIM

Hailed by critics as one of the greatest films of all time, Truffaut's internationally award-winning film *Jules and Jim* is set pre- and post- First World War, and tells the tale of two young students, Jules (**Oskar Werner**), and Jim (**Henri Serre**), both in love with the beautiful, capricious, Catherine (**Jeanne Moreau**).

Captivating both of them for twenty years, the enigmatic Catherine switches her allegiance quixotically from one to the other - and occasionally to other men too. Yet neither Jules nor Jim can free himself from her powerful spell until she performs the definitive action changing everything forever.

An atmospheric and energetic meditation on the nature of human love and monogamous morality, breathtakingly told in classic New Wave documentary-style cinema language.

DIRECTOR FOCUS FRANÇOIS TRUFFAUT

DVD



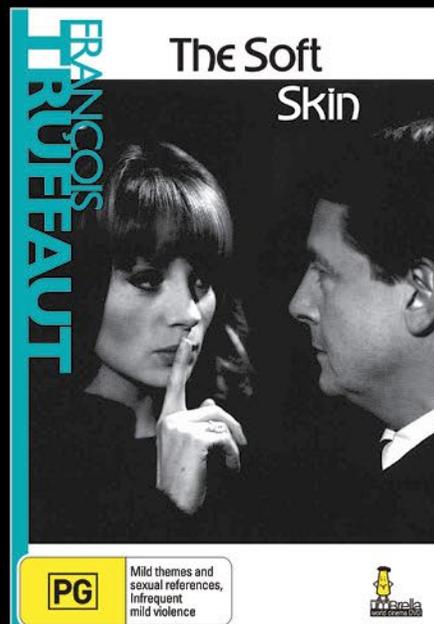
THE LAST METRO

A story of love and conflict starring **Catherine Deneuve** and **Gerard Depardieu**.

During the Nazi occupation of France, Marion Steiner (**Deneuve**), star and owner of a small theatre, stages a new play in an attempt to keep the theatre and Lucas, her Jewish husband (**Heinz Bennent**), alive.

The atmosphere becomes charged with fear when an anti-semitic journalist settles into the stalls. Will he discover Lucas's hideout... or the truth about Steiner's political affiliations?

DVD

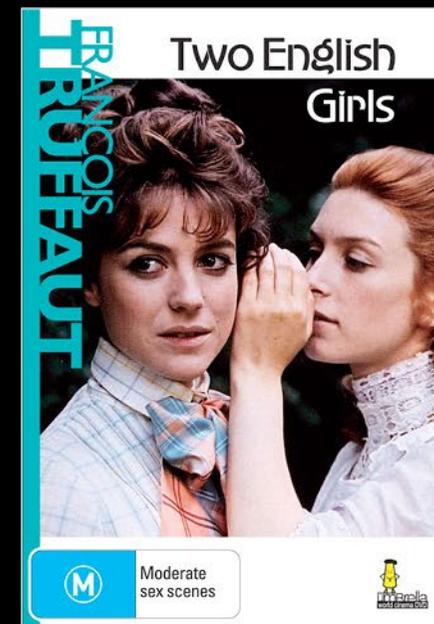


THE SOFT SKIN

Following *Jules and Jim*, Truffaut consolidated his rank as the rising master of French cinema with *The Soft Skin* (1964), a sometimes neglected but integral film to the Truffaut canon.

Starring the gorgeous **Francoise Dorlac** – older sister of **Catherine Deneuve** – this controversial study of love and betrayal follows a famous scholar (**Jean Desailly, Le Professionnel**) as he becomes infatuated with an airline stewardess during a lecture tour and hopelessly pursues the doomed affair. Famously echoing Truffaut's own life - he engaged in numerous affairs that caused the breakup of his marriage - the film is expertly carried by stage actor Desailly, who combines charming aloofness with quiet desperation as he falls into a maze of lust and deceit.

DVD



TWO ENGLISH GIRLS

Among the great **François Truffaut** films, this lavish period drama follows a doomed romantic triangle and is inevitably compared to *Jules and Jim*, another three-way love story based on a novel by **Henri-Pierre Roche**.

Truffaut regular **Jean-Pierre Leaud** (who played Antoine Doinel in five Truffaut films, starting with *The 400 Blows*) plays Claude, a young Frenchman who is persuaded by his friend Anne, an outgoing British artist, to join her on a trip to Wales to meet her sister Muriel. So begins a complex and destructive romantic manage-a-trois as the permissive Claude falls for both sisters, vacillating between them for years to come. Rich cinematography, virtuoso performances, and an expert dissection of sex, art and infidelity, makes this turn-of-the-century drama vintage Truffaut.