

# doctor who the movie dvd

Doctor Who the Movie DVD has captivated fans since its release, offering a unique glimpse into the beloved British sci-fi series. The film, which aired in 1996, attempted to revive the franchise after its original television run ended in 1989. With its distinct mix of adventure, drama, and time travel, the movie holds a special place in the hearts of Whovians. This article will explore the film's background, cast, production, and impact on the Doctor Who franchise, as well as its special features and the significance of the DVD release.

## Background of Doctor Who

Doctor Who is a British science fiction television series that first premiered in 1963. It follows the adventures of the Doctor, a Time Lord from the planet Gallifrey who travels through time and space in the TARDIS, often accompanied by companions. The show gained immense popularity over the years, leading to various adaptations, including novels, audio dramas, and, of course, films.

## The 1996 Movie

The Doctor Who the Movie DVD features a film that was produced to revive the franchise after its hiatus. It was the first major attempt to bring the Doctor back to the screen since the series was canceled. The film was directed by Geoffrey Sax and is often viewed as a bridge between the classic series and the modern revival that began in 2005.

- Release Date: The film premiered on May 12, 1996, in the United States and was later broadcast in the UK.
- Plot Summary: The movie follows the Eighth Doctor, played by Paul McGann, as he confronts the Master, portrayed by Eric Roberts, who has returned with a sinister plan to seize control of the TARDIS.

## Cast and Characters

The casting of the movie was crucial to its success. The film featured a mix of new actors and familiar faces from the Doctor Who universe.

## Main Cast

1. Paul McGann as the Eighth Doctor: McGann's portrayal of the Doctor is often celebrated for its charm and depth, marking a significant departure from previous incarnations.
2. Eric Roberts as the Master: Roberts brought a contemporary and menacing interpretation to the Master, making him a formidable adversary for the Doctor.
3. Daphne Ashbrook as Grace Holloway: Grace serves as the Doctor's companion in the film. Her

character is a critical element, providing a human perspective on the Doctor's adventures.

4. Chang Chen as Chang Lee: A streetwise character who assists the Doctor and Grace during their perilous journey.

5. Jeffrey Beevers and Derek Jacobi: Both actors made notable appearances as the Master in other forms, showcasing the character's complex history.

## Production Insights

The production of Doctor Who the Movie DVD was a significant undertaking, blending traditional Doctor Who elements with modern cinematic techniques.

## Filming Locations

- Vancouver, Canada: The movie was primarily filmed in Vancouver, which provided a diverse range of settings that doubled for various time periods and locations.
- TARDIS Interior: The set design for the TARDIS was updated, featuring a more streamlined and modern look that contrasted with the classic series.

## Special Effects

The film utilized cutting-edge special effects for its time, including:

- CGI: The use of computer-generated imagery helped to create stunning visuals, particularly during time travel sequences.
- Practical Effects: Traditional special effects were still employed, showcasing the franchise's roots.

## Reception and Impact

Upon its release, Doctor Who the Movie DVD received mixed reviews. While it was praised for its ambition and the performance of Paul McGann, some fans felt it did not fully capture the essence of the original series.

## Critical Reception

- Positive Aspects:
  - The film's ambitious storytelling and character development were highlighted.
  - McGann's performance was particularly well-received, with many fans calling for his return.
- Criticisms:
  - Some critics felt the film lacked coherence and direction, particularly in its pacing.
  - The portrayal of the Master was seen as a departure from traditional character traits.

## Legacy and Revival

The movie's impact on the Doctor Who franchise can be seen in several ways:

- Reintroduction of the Doctor: Paul McGann's portrayal reignited interest in the character, leading to further stories and adaptations, including the successful audio dramas produced by Big Finish Productions.
- Foundation for the 2005 Revival: Elements from the film were woven into the narrative of the modern series, including references to the Doctor's past and the Master's return.
- Cult Following: Over the years, the film has developed a cult following, with fans celebrating its unique place within the Doctor Who canon.

## Special Features on the DVD

The Doctor Who the Movie DVD features several special features that enrich the viewing experience and offer insights into the film's creation.

### Bonus Content

1. Commentary Tracks: Audio commentaries by cast and crew provide behind-the-scenes anecdotes and insights into the filmmaking process.
2. Documentary: A feature-length documentary that explores the history of Doctor Who leading up to the film, including interviews with writers, producers, and fans.
3. Deleted Scenes: A selection of deleted scenes that provide additional context and character development.
4. Photo Gallery: A collection of production stills and promotional images that highlight the film's aesthetics.

## Collectible Packaging

The DVD often features collectible packaging that appeals to fans, including:

- Cover Art: Unique artwork that captures the essence of the film.
- Insert Booklet: A booklet that contains bios of the cast, a summary of the film, and information about the Doctor Who universe.

## Conclusion

In conclusion, Doctor Who the Movie DVD is more than just a film; it is a pivotal moment in the history of the Doctor Who franchise. It serves as a bridge between the classic series and the modern revival, showcasing the enduring appeal of the Doctor and his adventures. The film's combination of engaging storytelling, memorable characters, and innovative special effects has solidified its place in the hearts of Doctor Who fans. The DVD release, with its special features and collectible aspects, allows fans to

celebrate this unique entry into the Doctor Who canon, ensuring that the legacy of the Eighth Doctor and his cinematic adventure continues to thrive. Whether you are a long-time fan or new to the Whovian world, the Doctor Who the Movie DVD is an essential addition to any collection.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Is 'Doctor Who: The Movie' available on DVD?

Yes, 'Doctor Who: The Movie' is available on DVD and can be purchased from various retailers both online and in physical stores.

### What special features are included in the 'Doctor Who: The Movie' DVD?

The DVD typically includes special features such as behind-the-scenes documentaries, interviews with cast and crew, commentary tracks, and trailers.

### Is 'Doctor Who: The Movie' a continuation of the TV series?

Yes, 'Doctor Who: The Movie' serves as a bridge between the classic series and the modern revival, featuring the Eighth Doctor played by Paul McGann.

### What is the release year of 'Doctor Who: The Movie' DVD?

The original 'Doctor Who: The Movie' was released in 1996, and the DVD version has been released in various formats since then.

### Where can I find the best price for the 'Doctor Who: The Movie' DVD?

To find the best price for the 'Doctor Who: The Movie' DVD, it's recommended to check online retailers like Amazon, eBay, and specialty stores that focus on sci-fi merchandise.

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