

Watching Desmond Morris on BBC FOUR

Desmond Morris has made a spectacular career out of watching the rest of us for the last 40 years. Now it is time to turn the tables. His book *The Naked Ape* was one of the wonders of the 1960s, describing humans in the kind of language we were accustomed to use about the rest of the animal kingdom and explaining how we evolved to be the way we are. *Manwatching*, in the 1970s, took it all a stage further, teaching us about the signals, both voluntary and involuntary, we give off with our body language. Together they made him a best-selling author, and a household name.

But does the science behind the books still really stack up? Did it ever? Calling on experts as distinguished as Richard Dawkins, the evolutionary biologist, Oliver James, the psychologist, and David Attenborough, who has been a close friend of Morris since they both started presenting wildlife programmes on television in the 1950s, - not forgetting Morris himself who is still hard at work - **Watching Desmond Morris** critically revisits, for the first time, a spectacular career.

Watching Desmond Morris is part of an evening of related programming on Sunday 21 January 2007, and sits within BBC Four's Anthropology season. The programme is produced and directed by Robert Dawson Scott and Executive Produced by Colin Cameron.