



For the first time in Australia

Joanna Lumley

PRESENTS

BBC

BLUE PLANET II

LIVE IN CONCERT



BBC
STUDIOS

BBC Studios and Andrew Kay & Associates present

BLUE PLANET II

LIVE IN CONCERT

Take a Deep Breath

Hosted live on stage by UK icon

JOANNA LUMLEY

Sydney – Melbourne – Brisbane March 2019

**FEATURING BREATHTAKING FOOTAGE FROM THE BAFTA AWARD-WINNING
BBC STUDIOS NATURAL HISTORY SERIES**

AND

**MUSIC BY HANS ZIMMER, JACOB SHEA AND DAVID FLEMING FOR BLEEDING FINGERS
MUSIC PERFORMED BY AUSTRALIA'S FINEST SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS**



[Concert trailer](#)

BBC Studios and Andrew Kay & Associates are proud to announce **Blue Planet II Live in Concert**, which will tour to Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane in March 2019 with UK superstar Joanna Lumley to host and live narrate this unique concert experience.

Friday 8th March

Sydney

ICC Sydney Theatre

Saturday 9th March

Melbourne

Plenary, Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre

Monday 11th March

Brisbane

Great Hall, Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre

Following the incredible success of the BAFTA award-winning BBC Studios Natural History series *Blue Planet II*, presented by Sir David Attenborough, **Blue Planet II Live in Concert** will bring the wonders and mysteries of the planet's oceans and its characterful inhabitants to the stage. Narrated live by the iconic Joanna Lumley in her first Australian stage appearance, and accompanied by the original immersive music score by Hans Zimmer, Jacob Shea and David Fleming, the concert will be performed live by the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and the Queensland Symphony Orchestra respectively. The concert features the breathtaking visuals from the television series, highlighting the incredible natural wonders of our blue planet in striking detail, projected on a state-of-the-art 75 square metre 4K Ultra HD LED screen.

This will be the first time Joanna Lumley will appear on stage in Australia. Ms Lumley is one of the most recognisable and loved British personalities and a true national treasure. Starting her career as a model in the 60s, she is best known for her BAFTA-award winning role as Patsy on the hit comedy series *Absolutely Fabulous* and was recently honoured with a Rose D'Or Lifetime Achievement Award. Ms Lumley also hosts her own riveting travel documentaries that see her journey on the Trans-Siberian Railway, along the Silk Road and across Japan.

Her 50-year career in entertainment has also seen her take on roles in the James Bond film *On Her Majesty's Secret Service* (1969) and *Coronation Street*. She went on to appear in *The New Avengers* in the role of Purdy in the 70s before landing the role of Patsy alongside Jennifer Saunders on *Absolutely Fabulous* in the 90s. Other credits include films *James and the Giant Peach* (1996), *Ella Enchanted* (2004), and *The Wolf of Wall Street* (2013). In addition, Lumley lent her voice to various projects, including *Corpse Bride* (2005).

Joanna Lumley is also well known for her humanitarian and charity work across the world – especially in Nepal, India, Burma and Africa. She supports a number of charities that raise money to alleviate poverty and hunger amongst some of the world's poorest communities and is also a supporter of animal welfare. In 2013 she was named one of the 100 most powerful women in the UK.

Joanna Lumley said: "I am thrilled to be coming to Australia for my stage debut hosting the breathtaking Blue Planet II Live in Concert. This incredible concert experience is not to be missed and I cannot wait to see you there"

Chantal Bindley, Head of Live Entertainment, BBC Studios, Australia and New Zealand said: "We are delighted to be bringing *Blue Planet II Live in Concert* to Australian audiences. With breathtaking footage from the ground-breaking series, an incredible music score and hosted by the one-and-only Joanna Lumley, fans are in for an unforgettable experience."

Blue Planet II Live in Concert is a live adaptation of a television story that began some 20 years ago when a team of wildlife filmmakers from the BBC's Natural History Unit set out to make a television series on the world's oceans, the breadth and scale of which had never been seen before. Broadcast in 2001, the multi award-winning *The Blue Planet*, narrated by Sir David Attenborough, cemented the Unit's peerless reputation for underwater filming.

During the four years of filming for *Blue Planet II*, the teams embarked on 125 expeditions, travelled to 39 countries and filmed across every continent and ocean. They spent 6,000 hours deep-sea diving, 1,000 hours in submersibles, filming everywhere from our familiar shores to the deepest seas. Logistically, some of these expeditions could be compared to a trip into space – such was the effort. In the process, the camera teams encountered creatures that appeared so strange that they really did seem to come from a different planet.

A fantastical journey from icy polar seas to pulsating coral reefs, from the luminous deep sea to enormous kelp forests: immerse yourself in ***Blue Planet II Live in Concert***, an awe-inspiring and epic experience that you will never forget.

Blue Planet II Live in Concert is proudly sponsored by Holland America Line. In 2017, BBC Earth and Holland America Line launched a fleetwide partnership which sees Holland America Line guests immersed in BBC Earth's award-winning, world-class captivating experiences via unique performances and programs. Together the BBC and Holland America Line are committed to bringing world-class experiences to guests and audiences around the globe.

Tickets on sale from 15th October, 2018 via www.blueplanet2live.com.au

www.blueplanet2live.com.au

@BluePlanet2AU

#BluePlanet2AU

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:
TATIANA MARCHANT – ESTELLAR PUBLICITY + PROMOTIONS
02 9817 1279 / 0410 655 020 / tatiana@estellar.com.au**

NOTES TO EDITORS

About BBC Studios

BBC Studios, a global content company with British creativity at its heart, is a commercial subsidiary of the BBC Group. Formed in April 2018 by the merger of BBC Worldwide and BBC Studios, it spans content financing, development, production, sales, branded services and ancillaries. BBC Studios' award-winning British programmes are internationally recognised across a broad range of genres and specialisms. It has offices in 22 markets globally, including seven production bases in the UK and production bases and partnerships in a further nine countries around the world. The company, which makes 2500 hours of content a year, is a champion for British creativity around the world and a committed partner for the UK's independent sector. BBC Studios has revenue of £1.4bn, and returns around £200m to the BBC Group annually, complementing the BBC's licence fee and enhancing programmes for UK audiences.

About BBC Studios in Australia & New Zealand

The BBC Studios business in Australia and New Zealand is primarily content sales and branded services, with a newly established production arm. It wholly owns seven channels: BBC First, BBC UKTV, BBC Knowledge and CBeebies on Foxtel and Fetch TV in Australia; BBC Living on Fetch TV; and BBC UKTV and BBC Knowledge on Sky TV in New Zealand. It distributes great British content from the BBC and other British producers to free-to-air, subscription channels and SVOD platforms and works with partners to bring BBC Studios DVDs, consumer products and live events to the local market. The new production arm in Sydney will produce BBC formats for the local market and create new IP.

<https://www.bbcaustralia.com/events/>

twitter.com/bbcstudios

twitter.com/bbcstudiospress

About Holland America Line [a division of Carnival Corporation and plc (NYSE: CCL and CUK)]

Holland America Line's fleet of 14 ships offers more than 500 cruises to more than 400 ports in 98 countries, territories or dependencies around the world. From shorter getaways to 113-day itineraries, the company's cruises visit all seven continents, with highlights including Antarctica explorations, South America circumnavigations, Cuba cruises and exotic Australia/New Zealand and Asia voyages; four annual Grand Voyages; and popular sailings to the Caribbean, Alaska, Mexico, Canada and New England, Europe and the Panama Canal. The line welcomed Koningsdam in 2016 and has a second Pinnacle-class ship, Nieuw Statendam, to be delivered in December 2018. A third Pinnacle-class ship, due for delivery in 2021, recently was announced.

The company is undergoing \$300 million in brand enhancements to secure its position as the leader in premium cruising. Fleetwide, the ships feature innovative initiatives and a diverse range of enriching experiences focused on destination immersion and personalized travel. Guests can expand their knowledge through an exclusive partnership with O, The Oprah Magazine; during an America's Test Kitchen show; at Explorations Café presented by The New York Times; and by taking a Digital Workshop powered by Windows. Outstanding entertainment fills each evening at venues including Lincoln Center Stage, Billboard Onboard and B.B. King's Blues Club. The dining experience can be savored at a variety of restaurants with menus that feature selections from Holland America Line's esteemed Culinary Council, comprising world-famous chefs who design dishes exclusively for our guests.

Find Holland America Line on Twitter, Facebook and the Holland America Blog. Access all social media outlets via the home page at hollandamerica.com.