



Monday August 18, 2014

**CELEBRATE 120 YEARS OF LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS  
PREMIERING SEPTEMBER 14 ON UKTV**

The wait is over; Australian fans will be able to raise the roof and singalong to one of the most famous nights in the classical music calendar - the *Last Night Of The Proms* premiering on UKTV at 8.30pm on September 14, within 24 hours express from the UK.

Embraced globally as being the world's greatest classical music festival with 120 years of history, *Last Night of the Proms* is a night that is uniquely British, bringing the eight-week summer BBC Proms festival to an end with one final night of musical celebrations. Featuring leading international and British performers and culminating, as always, with a mass singalong.



To embed the video use the embed code below.

Held in the iconic Royal Albert Hall, the *Last Night of the Proms* sees **Sakari Oramo**, Chief Conductor of the BBC Symphony Orchestra lead his players for the first time in the world-famous finale joined by star soloists violinist **Janine Jansen** and baritone **Roderick Williams** performing a wide range of works including Chausson's *Poème* and Williams's own arrangement of 'Ol' Man River' and 'Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho'.

Opening with the world premiere of composer Gavin Higgins' BBC commission, *Velocity*, the night's festivities feature the music of one of the season's anniversary composers, Strauss as well as Arnold's *Peterloo* overture receiving its world premiere performance in a new choral version with lyrics by Academy Award and Golden Globe winning lyricist, Sir Tim Rice (Jesus Christ Superstar, Aladdin, The Lion King).

The evening will also feature a Mary Poppins singalong medley to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the film's release with audience members encouraged to sing along to Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious, A Spoonful of Sugar, Chim Cheree and Let's Go Fly A Kite.

Natalie Edgar, Director of Television BBC Worldwide Australia & New Zealand, said: "I am delighted to bring UKTV viewers all of the excitement from yet another world class event express from the UK. The uniquely British event is now truly international and I encourage our Aussie fans to singalong to familiar favourites in the last night tradition."

***Last Night of the Proms* premieres on UKTV express from the UK on Sunday, September 14 at 8.30pm.**

-ENDS-

## NOTES TO EDITORS

For more information please contact:

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### Opportunities

- For written Q&A interviews with conductor **Sakari Orama** please contact Bryony Willis.
- For interview opportunities with baritone **Roderick Williams** please contact Bryony Willis.
- To embed the video above use the embed code: `<iframe width='560' height='315' src='http://www.bbcmedia.com.au/e/57B5CEE8' frameborder='0' allowfullscreen></iframe>`

### Social Media

Facebook: [facebook.com/uktv](https://www.facebook.com/uktv)

Twitter: [@UKTVaustralia](https://twitter.com/UKTVaustralia)

### Interesting facts about *Last Night of The Proms*

- In 2013 Maris Alsop was the first woman ever to conduct the *Last Night of the Proms* in its 120 year history.
- In 1974 during a performance of *Carmina Burana*, the baritone Thomas Allen collapsed. A music student, Patrick McCarthy, stepped in from the audience, borrowed a dinner jacket and tie and took to the stage.
- The 1940 Proms opened during the **Battle of Britain** (air battle for England) and the season closed early due to The Blitz (sustained bombing on the UK by Nazi Germany). From 1941 onwards the Proms were held in The Royal Albert Hall after the bombing of the Queen's Hall.
- 1913 saw the first six women players accepted to play in the Queen's Hall Orchestra.

### About BBC Worldwide Australia & New Zealand

Australia & New Zealand (ANZ) is a priority territory for BBC Worldwide, focusing on growth across all its core business areas. Based in Macquarie Park, Sydney, BBC Worldwide ANZ wholly owns six channels: BBC First, UKTV, BBC Knowledge and CBeebies in Australia; UKTV and BBC Knowledge in New Zealand; and is responsible for the distribution and promotion of BBC World News which transmits in both countries. BBC First, a new premium channel showcasing premiere drama and comedy on the Foxtel platform in Australia, launched on 3 August 2014 and immediately claimed the top three drama ratings across STV for the day. BBC Worldwide ANZ distributes great British content from the BBC and other producers to all free-to-air and most subscription channels in Australia and New Zealand. It works with partners to bring BBC Worldwide DVDs, magazines, digital apps, innovative products and live events to the local market, as well as offering advertising opportunities for the BBC's world renowned [bbc.com](http://bbc.com) news site.

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