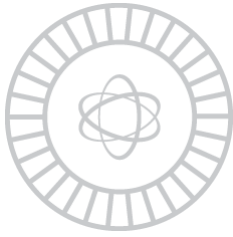


BBC RADIO INTERNATIONAL

INFLIGHT SPOKEN WORD HIGHLIGHTS

	Pages
Readings	2-9
Features	10-38
Dramas	39-56
Comedies	57-60

Listed in chronological order in programme categories.



BBC RADIO INTERNATIONAL

INFLIGHT SPOKEN WORD HIGHLIGHTS

READINGS

Ghost Stories (574-578)
by John Connolly
5x15' - 25/10/2004
RE92

Five chilling tales from *Nocturnes*, a new collection by best-selling author John Connolly whose suspenseful storytelling and sense of mythic, organic horror make for a potent, and entertaining, combination.
Christmas.

Christopher Lee's Fireside Tales (569-573)
5x15' - 26/12/2004
RE91

Christopher Lee, connoisseur of the supernatural, invites listeners to draw up a chair by the fireside to hear his selection of chilling tales.

NB: Intended for evening broadcast.

Curious Pursuits (1-5)
by Margaret Atwood
5x15' - 09/05/2005
RE90

A new collection of essays reflecting the concerns and passions of a lifetime by the Booker Prize winning novelist Margaret Atwood - author of *The Handmaid's Tale* and *The Blind Assassin*.

Saturday (1-10)
by Ian McEwan
10x15' - 21/03/2005
RE89

Ian McEwan's new novel describes a day in the life of Henry Perowne, a surgeon who is comfortable and happy with his lot - until early one morning in 2003 he sees an ailing plane flying low over London. His life will never be the same again.

The Woman in White (1 - 8)
by Wilkie Collins
8 x 15' - 10/12/2004
RE88

A gripping mystery thriller, first published in 1860, brimming with love and deceit, villainy and retribution.

Frankenstein (1 - 10)
by Mary Shelley
10 x 15' - 06/12/2004
RE87

The chilling story of a student who attempts to discover the secret of life - with tragic consequences. Mary Shelley's novel, one of the landmarks of gothic literature, was inspired by a nightmare and first published in 1818 when the author was just 21.

How To Breathe Underwater
(564 - 567)
by Julie Orringer
5 x 15' - 16/02/2004
RE86

Five dazzling stories about the pain and magic of growing up. Julie Orringer's highly acclaimed first collection captures the cruelties and pitfalls of childhood and adolescence with compassion and sensitivity.

"Orringer's first book is breathtakingly good, truly felt and beautifully delivered."
The Guardian.

Wodehouse: A Life (1 - 5)
by Robert McCrum
5 x 15' - 29/07/2004
RE85

A compelling portrait of the comic genius best known for creating Bertie Wooster and the omniscient Jeeves, following Wodehouse from his beginnings in Edwardian London and golden years on jazz-age Broadway and in Thirties Hollywood to the controversial wartime blunder that haunted him for the rest of his life

For more P G Wodehouse try Meet Mr Mulliner (DR94) and More Mr Mulliner (DR130).

Decline and Fall (1 - 8)
By Evelyn Waugh
8 x 15' - 17/05/2004
RE84

Waugh's remarkable first novel - one of the great comic novels of the last century - is a biting social satire set in the 1920s. A young man's dream of a career in the church is cut short when he's sent down from Oxford for 'indecent behaviour'. Forced to resort to teaching at a gruesome school staffed by misfits his prospects look grim - until he's whisked away to high society by the glamorous mother of one of his pupils ...

Ripley's Game (1 - 10)
By Patricia Highsmith
10 x 15' - 19/07/2004
RE83

Amoral hero Tom Ripley - one of the most outrageous creations in crime-fiction - pits his wits against the Mafia in a trans-European tale of money laundering, contract killing and garrotting good fun.

A Bit on the Side (559 - 563)
By William Trevor
5x15' - 24/05/2004
RE82

Five delicate and elegiac short stories by a master of the form. Set in Ireland, England and Italy they tell of the old, the young, the lonely and the loved ...

I'm Not Scared
By Niccolò Ammaniti
5x15' - 18/08/2003
RE81

Niccolò Ammaniti's chilling novel set in a poor, remote hamlet in southern Italy; a story about the loss of childhood innocence read by Tom George.

The Darling Buds of May (1 - 8)
By H.E. Bates
8 x 15' - 23/01/2004
RE80

A delightful tale set in rural England in the 1950s. Life on the farm is "perfick" for Pop and Ma Larkin and their six children. When a young tax inspector arrives to do his duty he is disarmed by the Larkins' copious hospitality - and the allure of their eldest daughter. Before long he's seduced by the excitements of village life and quite unable to return to his dull desk job ...

Absolute Friends (1-10)
By John Le Carré
10 x 15' - 19/01/2004
RE79

John Le Carré reads his latest novel which follows the fortunes of two friends from the political unrest of the Sixties, through to the end of the Cold War, and on to the post 9/11 world of contemporary terrorism.

Dracula (1-10)
By Bram Stoker
10 x 15' - 24/11/2003
RE78

Dracula by Bram Stoker. Michael Fassbender, Gillian Kearney, James D'Arcy and James Greene read the various diary accounts of the four main characters of Jonathan Harker, Mina Murray, Dr Seward and Dr Van Helsing to relate the epic legend of the Transylvanian Count.

Girl With A Pearl Earring (1-5)
By Tracy Chevalier
5 x 15' - 27/01/2003
RE77

Sixteen-year old Griet is obliged to work as a maid to support her family and she is taken on by the painter Johannes Vermeer. Griet's brief encounter with genius will transform her life and it is her destiny to become immortalised in oil. But first, she must pass an exacting test...

Pompeii (1-10)
By Robert Harris
10 x 15' - 22/09/2003
RE76

A re-creation of one of the greatest natural disasters in human history, seen through the eyes of a young Roman engineer in 79AD. Marcus Attilius has taken charge of the Augusta, an enormous aqueduct that conveys water to towns around the Bay of Naples. For the first time in generations, the springs are failing and a crisis is looming on the Augusta's 60-mile main line. As Attilius heads across the bay towards Mount Vesuvius he is about to discover that there are forces even the world's only superpower cannot control.

Eugene Onegin (1-5)
By Alexander Pushkin
5 X 15' - 26/05/2003
RE75

An accessible, lively translation of a classic Russian verse novel by Alexander Pushkin. It tells the story of the bored society of Eugene Onegin, the unspoilt country maid who falls in love with him and the ill-starred young poet, Vladimir Lensky.

The Curious Incident of the dog in the Night-Time
By Mark Haddon
10 x 15' - 30/06/2003
RE74

An international hit, already published in over thirty countries, this is a gripping murder mystery with an unusual narrator - a 15-year-old boy with Asperger's Syndrome, a rare form of autism. When Christopher discovers the neighbour's dog dead on the lawn with a garden fork in its side, he begins a hunt for the killer that will turn his world upside down.

NB Stations are advised to audition before broadcast

Brave New World (1-10)
By Aldous Huxley
10 x 15' - 14/04/2003
RE73

In a fiercely regimented future world Bernard Marx commits the ultimate sin - to go it alone.

Aldous Huxley's classic novel, first published in 1932, riveted readers with its ideas about consumerism, cloning and leisure time. It was a stinging indictment of what science and corporate life can do to the individual. And today, many of its predictions are coming true.

The Day of the Jackal (1-6)
By Frederick Forsyth
6 x 15' - 07/03/2003
RE72

The Jackal, a ruthless English hitman, is hired to assassinate President Charles de Gaulle. Pitted against him, in a relentlessly tense game of cat-and-mouse, is Commissioner Claude Lebel, "the best detective in France".

In Fred Zinnemann's film version of this classic thriller Derek Jacobi played Caron, Lebel's assistant.

The Doctor's Wife (1-8)
By Brian Moore
8 x 15' - 17/03/2003
RE71

Brian Moore's extraordinarily powerful portrayal of an ordinary woman seized by love for a younger man in the middle of her life.

Casino Royale (1-10)
By Ian Fleming
10 x 15' - 30/12/2002
RE69

This is the thriller in which secret agent 007 makes his debut. Written in 1953, it has all the hallmarks of the Bond style - the dry martini, the fast car, the evil adversary, the beautiful girl - but the original hero is colder, more clinical and even more ruthless than we've come to expect...

Evelyn Waugh Short Stories (1-5)
by Evelyn Waugh
5 X 15' - 03/03/2003
RE68

Evelyn Waugh's shorter fiction that displays the author's characteristic wit and ruthless irony.

Beggar's Banquet
By Ian Rankin
5 x 15' - 18/11/2002
RE66

Three contrasting readings from a new collection of short stories by the bestselling Scottish crime writer.

Disappointment
By Anton Chekhov
5 x 15' - 28/10/2002
RE65

Anton Chekhov wrote several hundred short stories. Many of them display a bleak view of the world, others are suffused with wit, but all of them offer sublime insights, not only into life in Russia at the end of the 19th century but into the human condition generally. Film actor Ewan McGregor reads five of his favourites, chosen around a common theme: Disappointment.

Dark Star Safari
By Paul Theroux
5 x 15' - 25/11/2002
RE64

An acclaimed master of the modern travel book revisits Africa thirty years on and encounters beauty, squalor, friendship and danger as he makes a mighty journey from Cairo to Cape Town.

The Story of Lucy Gault
By William Trevor
10 x 15' - 04/11/2002
RE63

County Cork, summer 1921. Three disaffected villagers, caught up in the turmoil and dissent sweeping across Ireland, march through the woods to set fire to the Big House. The chain of events they ignite has tragic consequences for the family who live there: Captain Gault, his wife and eight-year-old daughter, Lucy. William Trevor's haunting novel of loss and love, atonement and redemption, was short-listed for the Booker Prize.

The Mechanical Turk
By Tom Standage
5 x 15' - 02/09/2002
RE60

In 1770, an extraordinary chess-playing automaton made its début in Vienna. Over the next 84 years the Turk - so-called because of its exotic costume - impressed audiences throughout Europe and America, and influenced a variety of scientific developments. But was it quite what it seemed? This is the true story of an amazing career.

The Count of Monte Cristo
(1 - 9)
by Alexandre Dumas
9 x 15' - 10/05/2002
RE58

A thrilling story of love, treachery and revenge. On his wedding day a young sailor, Edmond Dantès, is falsely accused of aiding the exiled Napoleon and imprisoned for life on an island fortress, Château d'If. Fourteen years later, aided by a fellow inmate, he makes an extraordinary escape and discovers a buried treasure. Posing as the Count of Monte Cristo, he sets out to reclaim his lost love and exact a terrible revenge...

Driving Over Lemons (1 - 5)
By Chris Stewart
5 x 15' - 31/05/1999
RE57

When sheep shearer and drummer Chris Stewart quit an unknown band called Genesis to buy an isolated farmhouse in the Spanish mountains, he was fully aware that it didn't have electricity, running water or access to roads. But he had little idea of the headaches and hilarity that would follow...

The White Spider
By Heinrich Harrer
5 x 15' - 29/04/2002
RE56

A gripping account of the early attempts to ascend the appallingly steep and difficult north face of the Eiger - 6000 vertical feet of crumbling limestone in the Swiss Alps. Just below the summit is the 'White Spider', a dangerous ice field that lies in wait to funnel ice and rock onto the heads of climbers...

Auto-Da-Fay
Written & read by Fay Weldon
5 x 15' - 13/05/2002
RE55

The controversial novelist, playwright and pioneering feminist gives an honest, sometimes painful, often funny account of a life lived to the full.

Girl With Green Eyes (1 - 8)
By Edna O'Brien
8 x 15' - 22/10/2001
RE52

In the comic and touching sequel to *The Country Girls*, Caitheleen Brady, still naïve and innocent, is living in Dublin, looking for adventure. She finds it when she falls in love with a sophisticated married man, to the horror of her father and the close-knit Catholic community. But Caitheleen is determined to hang on to her lover and enjoy life to the full. *Girl with Green Eyes* (originally published as *The Lonely Girl*) was banned by the Irish authorities. Tina Kellegher played Niamh Quigley in the TV series, *Ballykissangel*.

A Cook's Tour (1 - 5)
Written & read by Anthony Bourdain
5 x 15' - 21/01/2002
RE51

Manhattan chef, Anthony Bourdain follows the best-selling *Kitchen Confidential* with this hugely entertaining account of his travels round the world in search of "the perfect meal".

NB Stations are advised to audition Part 5 before broadcast

Short Stories (533-536) The Montana Stories
By Katherine Mansfield
4 x 15' - 01/10/2001
RE50

In 1921, Katherine Mansfield, aged 32 and dying of tuberculosis, went to live in the Swiss Alps. There she spent the most productive period of her literary life, writing extraordinary stories that are calm and bright on the surface, but have troubling themes of mortality and human nature underneath.

Short Stories (528-532) Ruth Rendell stories
By Ruth Rendell
5 x 15' - 03/09/2001
RE49

Five gripping stories, five delightful twists in the tail, from the pen of the award-winning crime novelist.

The Prisoner of Zenda 1 – 8
By Anthony Hope
8 x 15' - 05/10/2001
RE48

Richard E Grant reads an eight-part adaptation of Anthony Hope's classic adventure.

The Ambassadors
By Henry James
10 x 15' – 30/11/2001
RE47

A rich American widow sends Strether to Europe to save her son from the clutches of a 'wicked woman'. But Strether finds the young man much improved by the Old World environment. Convincing him to return is going to be extremely difficult...

Around the World in Eighty Days (1-10)
By Jules Verne
10 x 15' - 07/05/2001
RE46

It's 1872. The enigmatic Phileas Fogg takes on a £20,000 bet from his fellow members at the Reform Club - to circumnavigate the globe in just 80 days. But can he do it?

Henry VIII: King and Court
By Alison Weir
5 X 15' - 18/06/2001
RE45

The colourful story of the popular and controversial English monarch, set against the background of his magnificent court. "The truth about the King has become blurred by his legend...Henry still lives in the popular imagination as a man who thought nothing of chasing the ladies and who threw chicken bones over his shoulder...the reality of course was strikingly different."

Miss Garnet's Angel
By Salley Vickers
5 X 15' - 16/04/2001
RE44

A subtle and absorbing novel about love and the discovery of other worlds.

When retired schoolteacher Miss Julia Garnet is left a legacy, she takes the uncharacteristically bold decision to rent an apartment in Venice. Her narrow life will be profoundly changed by the people and experiences she encounters there.

NB Stations are advised to audition before broadcast

The Hunchback Of Notre Dame (1- 8)
By Victor Hugo
8 x 15' - 16/02/2001
RE43

A classic tale of unrequited love set in medieval France.

- The Constant Gardener (1 - 10)**
By John le Carré
 10 x 15' - 15/01/2001
 RE42
- A tale of corporate greed, diplomatic intrigue and murder. Read by the author.
 When a young and beautiful women's rights activist is brutally murdered in Kenya, her husband is determined to identify her killers. But his greatest discovery - in a journey through a world of violence and conspiracy stretching across three continents - is his wife, the woman he barely had time to love...
- Dr Jekyll And Mr Hyde (1 - 6)**
By Robert Louis Stevenson
 6 x 15' - 05/01/2001
 RE41
- The haunting and sinister Victorian mystery about a good man and his terrifying alter ego. When an angry fiend assaults a small girl an inquisitive lawyer begins to question the erratic behaviour of his friend, the well-respected Dr Jekyll The lawyer's investigations reveal a story so frightening, so horrific that he can scarcely believe it...
- Behind The Scenes At The Museum (1 - 10)**
By Kate Atkinson
 10 x 15' - 01/07/1996
 RE40
- The wonderfully quirky 1995 Whitbread Book of the Year tells the story of Ruby Lennox - from her deeply unromantic conception through to middle-age. She has a philandering father who runs a pet shop, a mother who is intensely irritable and two older sisters who are her constant companions. But as Ruby grows up she realises that the family is shielding her from a terrible secret - and she lies at its heart...
- A Tale Of Two Cities (1 - 15)**
By Charles Dickens
 15 x 15' - 09/10/2000
 RE39
- "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times..."
 Dickens' stirring tale of love and self-sacrifice, set against the background of the French Revolution. In 1859, when the book was published, the Terror was only recent history - Dickens helps us relive the period in a whirl of gripping action and vivid imagery.
- In The Heart Of The Sea (1 - 5)**
By Nathaniel Philbrick
 5 x 15' - 15/05/2000
 RE38
- The gripping, true-life story that inspired Herman Melville's masterpiece, 'Moby Dick'.
 In 1821, the Nantucket whaling ship, Essex, was sunk by an enraged sperm eale and its twenty man crew left to drift across thousands of miles of ocean. Three months later eight survivors were rescued, deranged and close to death. Of their shipmates there was no sign - save a pile of gnawed bones...
- The Graduate (1 - 10)**
By Charles Webb
 10 x 15' - 05/06/2000
 RE37
- The bitter sweet novel - memorably filmed by Mike Nichols, starring Dustin Hoffman and Anne Bancroft. Impressionable college boy, Benjamin Braddock, falls prey to the advances of his girlfriend's mother...
- Sir Viv (1 - 5)**
By Sir Viv Richards
 5 x 15' - 12/06/2000
 RE36
- Five colourful extracts from the autobiography of cricketing legend and former West Indies captain, Viv Richards. Read by his long-standing friend and batting stooge, Rudolph Walker.

Short Stories 518 - 523 Ghost Stories

By John Connolly

5 x 15' - 10/01/2000

RE34

Five gripping tales in the tradition of Dickens, Poe and M.R. James, by the acclaimed author of the best-selling thriller 'Every Dead Thing' - John Connolly. They are read by the late Tony Doyle, award winning Irish actor.

Short Stories 494 – 498

5 x 15' - 15/09/1997

RE9

Tv comedy star Kelsey Grammer reads five tales by a master of the form.

FEATURES

A Tale Teller for our Times (1-5) 200 years after Hans Christian Andersen's birth, poet Ruth Padel finds out why his fairy tales still speak to us and what they tell us about the man who wrote them.
5x15' – 16/05/2005
FE179

Let's Hear it for the King of Judea
1x30' – 18/12/2004
FE178
Let's face it, King Herod has had a bad press. Ask most people what he is known for and they will tell you that it's for the Massacre of the Innocents, as recorded in the Gospel of St Matthew. Surely there's more to be said about a ruler who was known as Herod the Great? Terry Jones, who once appeared in a stable in Bethlehem cunningly disguised as the mother of Brian, looks at Herod's terrible reputation and asks if it is really deserved.

Naming Nature
1x30' – 03/12/2004
FE178
Why are Ivan and Jeanne hurricanes and Gemma and Frank Zappa stars? Ian McMillan gets to grips with the protocol surrounding the naming of natural phenomena and discovers that scientific one-upmanship often triumphs over poetry.

Silverscreen Crackers (1-5)
5x15' – 13/12/2004
FE177
A feast of festive music as singers and songwriters, critics and musicologists explore the role of music in five classic Christmas movies.

1. Holiday Inn
2. It's a Wonderful Life
3. Mary Poppins
4. The Snowman
5. The Muppet Christmas Carol

The Nose School
1x30' – 12/03/2005
FE176
A 'nose' is the nickname for that rare breed, the perfume-creator. In the world of perfume, 'noses' hold the same status as couturiers, painters or composers. Rosie Goldsmith visits the world famous Nose School in Versailles to talk to students, teachers and successful 'noses' about the secretive art of perfume-making.

Booze and the Beast 1x30' –
12/03/2005
FE176
Birds do it, bees do it ... even elephants and apes do it. If you thought liking the odd tippie is a human trait, think again. Dr Gillian Rice meets the boozers and bingers of the animal world and investigates whether their taste for alcohol sheds light on our own.

Through The Seasons - The Early Music Show 1x60' – 16/04/2005
FE175

No other piece of classical music has invaded our lives so completely - from lift music to telephone 'hold' music - Vivaldi's Four Seasons is everywhere.

Lucie Skeaping samples the hundreds of recordings now available to look at how performances have changed over the decades.

"Every movement of every season was played by a different ensemble, with presenter Lucy Skeaping pithily assessing the results like an up-market juke box juror. What a clever idea." The Observer

One Country to the Tune of Another (1-3)
1x30' – 15/03/2005
FE174

High art has often been inspired by low motives - and music is no exception. Huw Edwards explores a hidden world of vengeance, repression and retaliation:

Churchill's Roar
1 x 30' - 24/01/2005
FE173

"The nation had the lion's heart. I had the luck to give the roar." Churchill is reported to have said about his pivotal role in the Second World War. But the 'roar' that he gave the country was far more than sound - it was, as his memorable speeches amply illustrate, a subtle mixture of words and delivery, of voice, vocal pyrotechnics and a deep understanding of the power of language that was altogether unique.

From Arial to Wide Latin
1 x 30' - 11/02/2005
FE173

We are bombarded with fonts; from Times New Roman in newspapers to Verdana in email and Comic Sans on party invitations. Ian Peacock looks at how the fonts we choose send secret subliminal messages about who we are, and argues that the fonts we dress our words in are just as much a fashion statement as the clothes we wear.

Tutti Frutti
1 x 30' - 07/12/2004
FE172

Tutti Frutti - Fifty years ago Little Richard recorded one of the first great records of rock 'n' roll, Tutti Frutti. It came from a world far removed from the young, white fans who bought it - a little-known, black sub-culture of female impersonators in the deep South. Historian Marybeth Hamilton visits the Dew Drop Inn in New Orleans, where Little Richard revelled in a culture of ventriloquists, voodoo dancers and can-can skirted men.

Fifty Years Around the Clock
1 x 30' - 08/03/2005
FE172

The story of the first rock 'n' roll song to reach number one in the charts. First released as an obscure B-side, Rock Around the Clock only found its moment of glory when it was featured in the film The Blackboard Jungle. Anthony H Wilson looks at how the music of Bill Haley and His Comets caught the mood of the times - with the help of Bill Wyman, Vini Reilly and many others.

Icons

4 x 30' - 09/05/2004
FE171

Leading performers share their enthusiasm for four of the all-time great interpreters of classical music.

1. Pablo Casals: Cellist Steven Isserlis explains his belief that Casals' complete artistry of the cello has never been surpassed. With recordings of solo Bach, chamber music by Schubert and Beethoven and orchestral pieces by Dvorak and Schumann.
2. Joseph Szigeti: Pianist Mitsuko Uchida explains why she fell in love with the recordings of the Hungarian violinist Joseph Szigeti in the early 70s. Featuring Szigeti's recordings of unaccompanied Bach, Mozart, Brahms, Prokofiev and Bartok.
3. Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau: Tenor Mark Padmore explains why he feels inspired by the vocal mastery of the great bass-baritone. With recordings made soon after Fischer-Dieskau's release from a prisoner-of-war camp, and others from his association with the famous pianist Gerald Moore.
4. Dennis Brain: Horn player Michael Thompson explains why his source of inspiration is Dennis Brain, who changed expectations of the instrument, before his life was cut short by a car crash in 1957. With Brain's recordings of Mozart, Britten, Hindemith and Marin Marais.

Nadia Boulanger

1 x 30' - 14/12/2004
FE170

Boulanger is revered as one of the most influential musicians of the 20th century. She was a composer, conductor and performer of note, yet it is in her work as mentor to the century's greatest musicians - from Aaron Copland to Quincy Jones, Philip Glass to Michel Legrand - that her true legacy lies. A quarter of a century after her death, her former pupil and friend David Wilde looks back at her life.

The Man Who Made Frank Swing

1 x 30' - 25/01/2005
FE170

The story of Nelson Riddle, the man behind some of the most thrilling vocal arrangements ever made. Riddle defined the sound of the 50s, working with Nat King Cole, Ella Fitzgerald and, most famously, Frank Sinatra - together Riddle and Sinatra made more than 300 recordings. George Roberts, bass trombonist in the band for all the great albums, recalls the recording sessions. And Nelson's son Christopher adds his personal recollections of his father.

Presented by composer and arranger Martin Koch.

The Hills are Alive
1 x 60' - 11/12/2004
FE169

The story behind one of the most popular movies of all time. Though panned by some critics on its release in 1965, *The Sound of Music* picked up five Academy Awards and spawned a soundtrack album which out-sold the Beatles' *Sergeant Pepper*. Mark Kermode looks back at the evolution of this unique movie in a tribute which includes interviews with the real Maria Von Trapp, Julie Andrews, Christopher Plummer, director Robert Wise and other members of the cast and crew.

Courtney Pine's Jazz Makers
6 x 60' - 09/02/2004
FE168

The story of jazz through the words and music of those who shaped it, from Wynton Marsalis, Soweto Kinch and Jan Garbarek, to Bechet, Ellington, Dankworth and Stan Tracey. Presented by Courtney Pine.

Tales from the Stave
3 x 30' - 04/05/2004
FE167

Crime writer and radio sleuth Frances Fyfield engages a team of experts to help her track down the hidden stories of musical creativity locked within the hieroglyphics, scribbles and corrections in the priceless manuscripts of three great works of classical music held in the British Library.

1. Elgar's Violin Concerto
2. Beethoven's Sketchbook
3. Handel's 'Jephtha'

Good Vibrations
1 x 30' - 11/10/2004
FE166

It's the instrument of choice for horror movie soundtracks, the signature sound of the Beach Boys' *Good Vibrations* and a favourite of artists as diverse as Blur, Todd Rundgren and Goldfrapp.

Comedian Bill Bailey explores the extraordinary life and legacy of its inventor, Leon Theremin - spy, backroom boffin and Soviet hero.

Wild Cards
1 x 30' - 11/10/2004
FE166

Psychologist Raj Persaud and mathematician Simon Singh take on three card sharps - one of whom is a world-class player - to bring you everything you wanted to know about poker but were afraid to ask. Can psychology and maths outwit the seasoned professionals?

Fascinating Rhythms - The George Gershwin Legacy
6 x 30' - 22/10/2004
FE165

During a tragically short career George Gershwin blurred the boundaries between jazz and serious music and composed many of the fixtures of the popular and classical canon. Ruthie Henshall explores the life and influence of a musical legend.

NB: Intended for broadcast at weekly intervals.

Acoustic Shadows
1 x 30' - 14/09/2004
FE164

The design and control of the acoustics of a space is both an ancient art and a modern science. But how easy is it to get it right? Robert Sandall travels into the real and virtual worlds of acoustical research, taking in the eerie echoes of a Mayan temple, a chamber where words die the moment they leave your lips and the most reverberant room in the world.

Reel Sound
1 X 30' - 27/09/2004
FE164

From Adolf Hitler to the White Stripes, a celebration of the invention that revolutionised the world of recorded sound - quarter-inch magnetic tape. Beatles' sound engineer Geoff Emerick, composer Jonathan Harvey and other professionals re-live the colourful history and simple poetry of a strip of oxide-covered film gliding from reel to reel...

Bollywood Dreams
1 x 60' - 17/08/2004
FE163

A behind-the-scenes look at the Bombay-based film industry with a global reach and twice the output of Tinsel Town. Sanka Guha talks to top directors, stars and their fans to discover why, for most of India's teeming, impoverished population, Bollywood is the dream factory.

The Real Just So Stories
5 x 15' - 09/06/2004
FE162

Rudyard Kipling's Just So Stories have enchanted generations of children with their fanciful explanations of how animals came by their peculiar features. But natural historians, folklorists and fossil experts have their own explanations. Alistair McGowan asks how the elephant really got its trunk and also looks at the camel's hump, the giraffe's neck, the whale's throat and the zebra's stripes.

The Music Machine
1 x 30' - 01/10/2004
FE161

The Music Machine (produced by Loftus Productions) looks at the first electronic instruments invented in a French morgue in the 1940s.

The Shiver
1 x 30' - 07/06/2004
FE161

Poet Lemn Sissay explores the curious involuntary world of the human shiver, brought on by danger, fear, passion or just the cold.

The Pope's Telescope
1 x 30' - 16/06/2004
FE160

This feature looks at the study of astronomy carried out by scientists resident in the Vatican and what ancient frozen rocks can tell us about the origins of the earth.

Michelangelo's David
1 x 30' - 24/06/2004
FE160

The story of Michelangelo's David, narrated through the eyes of the sculpture with contributions from critics to mark the 500 anniversary of its creation.

The Real History of Opera (15-18)
4 x 30' - 23/03/2004
FE159

Huw Edwards discovers how some of the greatest operatic masterpieces reflect the social, cultural and political circumstances of their age.

Fold Here First

13/04/2004
FE158

This feature explores the relevance of origami in the modern world of engineers, mathematicians and scientists.

Mighty Like A Rose

1 x 30' - 14/05/2004
FE158

Julian Pettifer celebrates the world's best loved flower, the rose. This feature explores its role in poetry, music, art, cooking and the multi-million pound cut flower industry.

Still Joined

1x30' - 25/06/2004
FE157

Lori and Reba Schappell are the world's oldest female conjoined twins. They were born in Pennsylvania in 1961, snatched from their parents and incarcerated in a mental institution for 24 years. Although they share thirty per cent of their brain tissue, the twins have very different personalities: Reba enjoys a flourishing career as a country singer while Lori hopes to marry and have children. Richard Uridge finds out how Reba and Lori manage, against the odds, to lead independent and fulfilled lives.

The Cross

1x30' - 25/06/2004
FE157

The cross is one of the most overused icons of the Western world. For Christians it is a potent symbol of the Crucifixion but it is also ubiquitous as a fashion statement, a prop in pop videos and much appropriated by contemporary art. Michael Symmons Roberts investigates the power of the cross as a universal symbol and hears from those who have discovered its meaning in their lives.

The Art of Indecision

2 x 28' - 20/04/2004
FE156

A two-part programme that explores the science behind indecision. Presenter Ian Peacock consults the experts in the hope of transforming himself from a chronic ditherer to a man of action.

Dollars from Hell

1 x 30' - 25/06/2004
FE155

Where does the dollar originally come from? The answer is a small town called Jachymov in the Czech Republic. Chris Bowlby presents a tale of sudden wealth and Cold War cruelty.

Hairy Story

1 x 30' - 04/05/2004
FE155

Straight or curly, blond or ginger, mullet or mohican - whether we like it or not hair plays a crucial role in how we look. Quentin Cooper goes in pursuit of the hirsute to ask what happened to the fur that covered our ancestors' bodies, could stem-cell research lead to a cure for balding, and how do top stylists guarantee a good hair day?

Is It On? (1-2)

2 x 30' - 28/02/2004
FE153

Alan Dein gets wired for sound in a cultural history exploring how the microphone has changed our world. It has revealed human truths, let nation speak unto nation and completely bugged us.

In the Shadow of Vesuvius

1 x 30' - 18/03/2004
FE152

Scientists admit they don't know when the Mount Vesuvius volcano close to the city of Naples will erupt again nor what exactly will happen when it does. They hope their instruments will give them as much as two weeks' notice of a major eruption - but they're not sure. Malcolm Billings is in Naples talking to the scientists and the politicians and to the ordinary people who live in the shadow of Mount Vesuvius.

Roar!

1 x 30' - 20/03/2004
FE152

More than half of all the sounds in a wildlife documentary are generated artificially. So be prepared for a few surprises as Simon Fanshawe lifts the lid on some of the bizarre techniques used to mimic the noises of the natural world. Find out why created audio is often superior to the real thing, and why a pillow case full of corn flour and a pair of rubber gloves are essential props in the BbC Natural History unit's dubbing theatre.

The Innermost Master

1 x 30' - 17/02/2004
FE151

When he was a child the violinist Paul Robertson was introduced to what many believe to be the pinnacle of the violin repertoire - the six sonatas and partitas for solo violin by J S Bach. In a search to unravel the centuries old secrets of this work, he seeks out those who believe they have unlocked the mind of the composer through hidden numerical and musical personal messages embedded in the work.

Here's One I Prepared Earlier

1 x 30' - 24/03/2004
FE151

Today's gadget fiends marvel at being able to store all their favourite songs on miniature pocket players, yet the average concert pianist thinks nothing of memorising an entire lifetime of music. Georgina Ferry explores the latest research into the science of musical memory with the help of psychologists, neurologists and the musicians who regularly perform seemingly impossible feats of recall.

Walking Tall

1 x 30' - 11/10/2003
FE150

Sanjeev Bhaskar places possibly the last unchampioned, oppressed group on earth under the microscope: the vertically challenged.

Winnie the Pooh Lost and Found

1 x 30' - 23/02/2004
FE150

Winnie the Pooh is causing a rumpus. Now worth a staggering \$6 billion, he is being fought over in a mighty legal battle in Los Angeles. Phil Jupitus sets out to rediscover the "bear of very little brain" - from the shop shelf where he was born to the heart of the wood where the adventures began.

Trollope on Trollope

1 x 30' - 29/01/2004
FE149

The novelist Joanna Trollope looks at the unconventional side of the writer Anthony Trollope and explains why he has particular resonance for her. The programme includes interviews with PD James, Edmund White, Anna Massie and Andrew Davies.

The Great Snobographer

1 x 30' - 10/02/2004
FE149

The comedian Al Murray - also known as the pub landlord - presents a portrait of his great great great grandfather the writer William Makepeace Thackeray, author of Vanity Fair.

Hollywood Players (1-4)
4 x 60' - 16/12/2003
FE148

Film buff Barry Norman explores the movie business - the studios, the stars, and the movers and shakers who decide which pictures should be made and why. Featuring soundtrack clips, anecdotes, historical details and interviews with the great and the good, including Harrison Ford, Oliver Stone, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Meg Ryan and many others.

Leaps of the Mind (1-3)
3 x 30' - 09/12/2003
FE147

As the science of psychology developed during the 20th century, our understanding of human behaviour improved. Certain landmark experiments dramatically increased our knowledge, changing forever our perception of the human mind. Claudia Hammond interviews those involved and hears from today's experts of the debt they owe the pioneers of the past.

Risking Everything (1-2)
2 x 30' - 03/01/2004
FE146

Comedian Marcus Brigstocke turns a shrewd and sceptical eye on the insurance industry and asks what actually is insurance, where does it come from, how much do we have - how much do we need, and most importantly could we live without it?

The Real History of Opera (11-14)
4 x 30' - 04/02/2003
FE145

Many of the greatest operatic masterpieces reflect the political and social circumstances of their age and carry a message which would have struck a chord with their original audiences. Huw Edwards offers a fascinating glimpse into the real-life history of four more favourite operas.

Nothing's Gonna Change My World (1-3)
3 x 30' - 18/10/2003
FE144

For forty years the music of four fab young men from Liverpool has provided a soundtrack to life on planet Earth. Each new generation seems to have fallen under their spell, with the recent 'One' anthology selling more than 20 million copies across the globe. Phill Jupitus investigates their impact on the music industry.

Voicing the Piano
1 x 30' - 30/09/2003
FE143

In Voicing the Piano we discover how each piano's distinctive voice is created - not by a machine but by a man with a lifetime's experience and the tip of a size seven needle.

Music and the Method
1 x 30' - 21/10/2003
FE143

Ivan Hewett travels to Hungary to explore the legacy of Kodaly, one of the twentieth century's most influential and pioneering reformers.

Rare Books, Rare People
5 x 15' - 24/07/2003
FE142

The writer, academic and bookseller Rick Gekoski follows the road to publication of five great books of the modern era.

The Betrayal of St Francis
1 X 30' - 18/06/2003
FE141

St Francis of Assisi is arguably the world's most popular Christian Saint, but by building huge churches in his memory have we betrayed the message of the man who gave up everything to help the poor?

Towers of Silence
1 x 30' - 01/10/2003
FE141

The Parsis, members of one of India's oldest faiths, are fighting to keep alive their centuries old death ritual - the feeding of dead bodies to vultures on top of the Towers of Silence in Bombay. Bombay-born novelist Ardashir Vakil journeys to the Towers to follow this extraordinary ritual, and tells the story of the wider Parsi struggle for survival in today's world.

Forty Years of Wonder (1-2)
2 x 60' - 06/09/2003
FE140

Stevie Wonder, one of the all-time great singer-songwriters and multi-instrumentalists of popular music, gives his first major radio interview for 10 years. Since his first no 1 hit in 1963, Fingertips (Pt 2) Stevie has been imitated by countless others and his catalogue of songs and best-selling albums rivals that of Elvis and The Beatles. In this revealing landmark interview, given at his studio in Los Angeles, Stevie talks about his life and music. The programme also features exclusive interviews and reminiscences from other luminaries.

Pants on Fire (1-5)
5 x 15' - 21/07/2003
FE139

In our childhood, we began telling white lies from the moment we learned to talk. As adults, most of us go a lot further: we dissemble, we flatter, we evade and exaggerate; we fake our ages, expenses and orgasms. Martin Plimmer discovers the truth about lies and reveals that you can't spot liars by their posture or the length of their noses - in fact, they look just like you and me.

A History of Human Folly (1-4)
4 x 30' - 14/05/2003
FE138

From the Trojans' wooden horse to NASA's infamous o'rings, history is littered with examples of human folly. Francis Wheen explores how people have a perennial tendency to blithely and arrogantly march into colossal blunders, despite the existence of an obviously and rational alternative.

Blue Skies: the Work of Irving Berlin
6 x 30' - 02/05/2003
FE137

A six-part series in which Henry Goodman explores the work of the great songwriter Irving Berlin, whose hits included White Christmas, Cheek to Cheek and Alexander's Ragtime Band.

Opening Nights (1-4)
4 x 30' - 11/06/2002
FE136

Russell Davies looks at the stories behind the opening nights of well known musicals.

Jailhouse Rock (1-2)
2 x 60' - 07/01/2003
FE135

The theme of prisons and the impact of doing time on American songwriting and culture.

Living With Walt

1 x 30' - 17/05/2003
FE134

How would the world look if it were run by the Disney corporation? In the alligator-infested swamps of Florida is a town built and founded by Disney. Celebration was founded in 1994, and sold to Americans as "a place of caramel apples and cotton candy, secret forts, and hopscotch on the streets". Thousands of Disneyphiles came from across the USA to resettle in the town and live the Disney dream. In winter, the town's managers blow fake snow into the streets, and in Autumn, they provide fake leaves. But there is increasing dissent in Celebration at Disney's authoritarian rule. Dylan Winter travels to Florida to hear both sides of the story.

In Search of Unicorns

1 x 30' - 19/05/2003
FE134

Kirsty Walker goes in search of the origins of the unicorn - from whence it came? Very early translations of the bible mention it, Alexander the Great reported seeing one, Queen Elizabeth I owned a unicorn's horn - it was said to protect you from poison, and in Chinese culture, the one horned animal was used to determine who was guilty.

Bernstein Unmasked

1 x 30' - 10/09/2002
FE133

Jamie Bernstein talks candidly about her father Lenny - the composer of West Side Story and one of the greatest conductors in the world. She teels about his secret homosexuality, his habit of working on his scores in the toilet and the sacrificesthat her mother and the whole family had to make to accommodate his gigantic personality.

The Kiss

1 x 30' - 11/03/2003
FE133

The kiss is never just a kiss; it is a unique form of communication; a display of affection, desire, romance, or love, and an accepted greeting between friends and family. In this revealing, informative and entertaining journey beyond the lips, Dr Gillian Rice explores the origin of the kiss, the sexual chemistry, physiology and cultural significance of the kiss, and why that first romantic kiss is such a powerful memory.

Indian Locomotion (1-2)

2 x 30' - 29/03/2003
FE132

On a unique 2000-kilometre journey from Bombay to Calcutta, Sir Mark Tully celebrates the 150th anniversary of Indian Railways with the drivers, caterers, ticket collectors, attendants and a thousand fellow travellers taking a modern trip in the shadow of the Imperial Indian Mail.

Richard Niles's History of Pop Arranging 1-7

7 x 30' - 21/03/2003
FE131

Leading arranger Richard Niles pays tribute to those largely using heroes who write the memorable riffs for trumpets, guitars and strings - people who, for the last fifty years have created the new and innovative sounds that make pop songs explode with excitement.

Groucho and Me
1 X 30' - 20/08/2002
FE129

Groucho Marx (1890-1977), he of the loping walk, greasepaint moustache and huge cigar, has had a great influence on actor Michael Roberts. His own bizarre family seemed to mirror the crazy antics of the Marx Brothers' films so it was almost inevitable that Roberts would portray Groucho on stage and radio. This is his tribute to Groucho's life and career. Featuring rare archive recordings and witticisms from Roberts' s own rendition of the wise-cracking Vaudeville hero.

Bob Hope's 100th
1 x 30' - 11/02/2003
FE129

On 29th May 2003 the singer and comedian Bob Hope celebrated his 100th birthday. He was born in a small house in south London but went on to become one of the USA's greatest entertainers. Now, in Bob Hope's 100th, the comedy writer Dick Vosburgh reflects on his extraordinary life.

A Bit of Pipe with Six Holes
1 x 30' - 07/03/2003
FE128

James Galway tells the story of the penny whistle, beginning as a bone pipe in the Stone Age. 40,000 years later came the development of sheet metals and the whistle industry boomed.

Speedboats of the Desert
1 x 30' – 25/04/2003
FE128

Camel racing has been a Bedouin pastime for centuries. It's hugely popular and is big business. A top racing camel can fetch its owner millions of dollars so breeding from a good runner makes good sense. But what do you do when the best racers are female and when they become pregnant and are out of racing for over a year?

Medicine Machines (1-5)
5 x 15' - 02/07/2001
FE127

Dr Mark Porter investigates the history and importance of five machines which changed the face of modern medicine.

Nothing Compares to Her-The Sinead O'Connor story
1 x 60 - 15/02/2003
FE126

A programme about Sinead O'Connor and her career.

A Quantity of Stuff - The Brian Eno Story
60' - 01/02/2003
FE125

Stuart Maconie presents a profile of a prolific visionary and experimentalist in the field of popular music. The programme looks at Eno's eclectic output, including the glam, ambient and techno recordings that remain outstanding examples of their genres.

The Real History of Opera (7-10)
4 x 30' - 25/09/2001
FE124

Operas are often dismissed as old fashioned and irrelevant, but in reality many of them were written about major political figures, comment on historical events and show how the cultural agenda of the day was affecting all levels of society. In this series Huw Edwards uncovers the real-life history behind the scenes of four favourite operas.

Give Me an A
1x30' – 28/02/2003
FE123

Tuning is defined as 'the adjustment of pitch to correspond to an accepted norm'. But that norm varies across centuries and cultures – so is there such a thing as *correct* tuning? Adam Hart Davis clammers into the bowels of a cathedral organ, meets the inventors of some unusual instruments and submits to recording studio trickery as he tries to find out.

What Sweeter Music
1x30' – 28/02/2003
FE123

For many John Rutter's music is as synonymous with the Christmas season as Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. Andrew Green's portrait of the composer takes us from his early breakthrough with *Shepherd's Pipe Carol* to huge popularity in the USA with his *Requiem*, which really came into its own after the events of September 11th 2001.

Hey-Nonny-Nonny & Fa-La-La
1 x 30' - 05/12/2002
FE122

From Roman soldiers' marching songs to Elizabethan madrigals with the naughty words discreetly veiled by hey-nunny-nonnies, and from the saucy repertoire of 18th century catch clubs to today's explicit popular music. Lucie Skeaping - who has performed a few bawdy ballads in her time - presents a history of sex in music.

Clappers: A History of Applause
1 x 30' - 28/01/2003
FE122

What is the etiquette when it comes to applauding at concerts? Mozart approved when a Paris audience clapped while his music was in progress. In Indian classical music and in flamenco, expressing approval during the music - at the right moment - is fine. And at pop concerts, anything goes. Pianist and broadcaster David Owen Norris examines how styles and traditions have developed down the centuries and in different cultures, and speculates on the future of showing appreciation.

The Unknown Cachery of Ogden Nashery
1 x 30' - 11/08/2002
FE121

Michael Rosen investigates a secret treasure trove of unpublished work by Ogden Nash, which was kept in forty shoeboxes by his daughter Linell Nash Smith.

The Tale of Beatrix Potter
1 x 30' - 10/10/2002
FE121

Peter Rabbit is one hundred years old this month. During his lifetime, the best-selling blue-coated bunny has never been out of print. Libby Purves takes a stroll through some of the environments associated with his creator, both in London and the Lake District, and seeks out some of her inspirations.

Little Richard - A Celebration
1 x 60' - 01/01/2003
FE120

'Aawop-bop-a-loo-mop alop-bam-boom' - Little Richard's Tutti Frutti was a smash hit around the world in 1955. In eighteen frenetic months he followed it with a string of classics, including Long Tall Sally, Ready Teddy, Lucille, Rip It Up and Good Golly Miss Molly. Then, at the height of his fame, Little Richard tried to turn his back on "the devil's music" and become a preacher man. Mark Lamarr tells the amazing story of one of the architects of rock 'n' roll and explores his influence on artists from James Brown, the Beatles and the Stones, to Prince and Michael Jackson.

Rubinstein Unmasked
1 x 30' - 01/10/2002
FE119

Artur Rubinstein was one of the world's finest pianists, renowned as a great humanitarian and bon viveur. He was also overbearing, unfaithful and had an insatiable desire for self-adulation. In this moving portrait, his youngest daughter, Anila, a psychoanalyst and musician herself, talks candidly about her difficult father while celebrating his life's work.

The Blind Musicians of Paris
1 x 30' - 31/10/2002
FE119

Since opening its doors in 1784, Paris's L'institut National des Jeunes Aveugles has launched countless of its blind pupils into successful careers. But it's in music that the students have particularly excelled. Gary O'Donoghue returns to the school he first visited as an exchange student, the school where Louis Braille himself was a pupil, to retrace the footsteps of a string of brilliant musicians - including Louis Vierne and Jean Langlais.

From This Moment On
1 x 30' - 31/08/2002
FE118

On May the fourth 1970 on the Ohio campus of Kent State University four students died and nine lay injured after soldiers of the National Guard opened fire. The students were protesting at the escalation of the Vietnam War but this bloody moment in American history was to have a far reaching impact.

The Making of an Urban Myth
1 x 30' - 14/10/2002
FE118

'Angels of Mons'. The programme investigates the Myth that a supernatural apparition of bowmen and angels, appeared to the retreating British Army at the battle of Mons, in Belgium 1914, of what is believed to be one of the first urban myths.

Hot Dog!

1 x 30' - 26/10/2002
FE117

How did a small sausage in a bun conquer - and divide - a nation? And how did it get its name? Tim Marlow travels coast-to-coast investigating America's love affair with the hot dog, with flavoursome tales of secret sauce recipes, the ketchup controversy and the diner won in a poker game.

Tripping the Light Fantastic

1 x 30' - 01/11/2002
FE117

Neon has splashed the 'American dream' across the USA since it first arrived in Los Angeles in the 1920s. It has had grand premieres and x-rated moments, but is this blazing light that graces the exteriors of buildings a piece of kitsch or a flash of inspiration from a bygone age? Ian Peacock journeys from coast to coast to meet the artists who paint with light, and trace neon's extraordinary history which culminates in the spectacular animated icons in Times Square.

Lou Reed - New York City Boy

1 x 60' - 17/08/2002
FE116

An exclusive profile of the enduring rock artist whose recordings with the Velvet Underground and later as a solo performer exemplify a certain New York sensibility. To mark his 60th birthday and a career stretching back to 1958, Reed opens up his heart to John Holstrom, a world-renowned commentator and editor of Punk magazine.

Look Into My Eyes

1 x 30' - 21/08/2002
FE115

Hypnotism is widely used for entertainment and therapeutic purposes but how much do we really understand about how it works? Dr Aric Sigman explores what happens to our brains during hypnosis, why it appears to "cure" certain illnesses and whether anyone can be hypnotised and made to do anything the hypnotist desires.

The Secret Museum

1 x 30' - 21/09/2002
FE115

Art historian Lynda Nead treads the streets of Pompeii where the first excavations revealed an amazing quantity of explicit sexual imagery. Unsure of how to cope with these artifacts the secret museum was created. Unwittingly the archaeologists had created modern pornography.

India's Route 66 (1-2)

2 x 30' - 13/09/2002
FE114

"Such a river of life as exists nowhere else in the world" is how Rudyard Kipling described India's Grand Trunk Road. Older even than the fabled Silk Road, it spans 1400km in a diagonal strip from Calcutta to Delhi, symbolising the history, squalor and splendour of a nation. Mark Tully makes a once in a lifetime chauffeured journey to experience first hand the roadside arms dealers, communist villages, holy cities and places that hold special memories for him.

High Low Fast Slow

1 x 30' - 06/08/2002
FE113

Tim Healy charts the musical extremes of pitch and tempo.

Mr Harris's Violin

1 x 30' - 30/08/2002
FE113

Dr Nigel Harris is a violin player and maker. One who thinks he has discovered the secret of what makes a violin sound sweet and has used modern science to prove his theory.

The Other Wittgenstein

1 x 30' - 14/05/2002
FE111

Pianist Paul Wittgenstein (brother of the famous philosopher) lost his right arm as a soldier in World War II. His reaction was to commission some of the world's finest composers to write for the left hand only, and to perform their works on some of the world's greatest stages.

She Died Just In Time

1 x 30' - 13/07/2002
FE111

Since dying of cancer, aged 33 in 1952, Eva Peron has become more famous than ever. Though venerated as an unofficial saint by the poor, others blame her for Argentina's current economic crisis. Joss Ackland, who played Juan Peron in the original stage musical, examines "Evita's" fascinating legacy and influence with help from living relatives and people with whom she worked.

Axles, Engines, Music and Motown

2 x 30' - 23/05/2002
FE110

In 1959 Detroit Ford motor worker Berry Gordy adapted the high volume, low cost assembly line motor manufacturing philosophy to his first love - music production. The resulting Motown company for solely black artists became a giant force in the history of popular music and a weapon in the US racial struggle. Stephen Evans talks to people who were involved with the company's rise and fall.

Repeat 'Til Fade 6 – 9

4 x 15' - 25/03/2002
FE109

Summer hits from the sixties and seventies get the treatment in the series that analyses the durability of pop songs that grab the ear and won't let go.

The Anti-Renaissance Show 1-3

3 x 30' - 09/03/2002
FE108

Terry Jones challenges some of our preconceptions about the Renaissance. 'The rebirth of civilisation and the beginning of the modern era.' But was it really? Terry looks beyond the bold claims.

Guessing Tubes

1 x 30' - 22/02/2002
FE107

Dr Graham Easton presents the story of the stethoscope - medical icon, lifesaver, engineering challenge and doctor's best friend. Invented by a Frenchman named Lannaec in the early 19th century, the original design has barely altered. But digital technology is set to change all that.

Click, Whirr... Heaven
1 x 30' - 18/05/2002
FE107

A fiftieth anniversary tribute to the jukebox.

The Sound of his Music
4 x 60' - 11/06/2002
FE105

Richard Rodgers has an astonishing track record; he wrote his first song at the age of 14 and went on to master over 40 unforgettable musicals for the stage. Don Black takes a non-chronological look at Rodgers's shows, weaving in and out of his career to reflect his extraordinary versatility as an inexhaustible melodist. The series includes over 25 specially recorded interviews.

Disneyfied 1-5
5 x 15' - 26/11/2001
FE103

Phill Jupitus looks at how Walt Disney turned the stories that many of us grew up with into animated films, which have themselves become classics in their own right around the world.

Walton Unmasked
1 x 30' - 31/03/2002
FE102

Although Walton's music brought him world-wide fame, he was a reticent public figure, prey to insecurity and frustration, vulnerable to criticism. In private he was witty and generous, with in the words of his widow, a famously "tender heart". His most recent biographer, Humphrey Burton, unmasks something of the man behind the music.

The First Song
1 x 30' - 11/04/2002
FE102

Soprano, Catherine Bott, takes a journey of discovery in an attempt to find the very first song. A quest which will eventually take her beyond musical history back to the dawn of time itself.

Little Girl Blue - The Janis Joplin Story
1 x 60' - 03/03/2001
FE101

Suzi Quatro presents the Janis Joplin Story.

Blue Angel - The Marlene Dietrich Story 1-2
2 x 60' - 11/12/2002
FE100

Sian Phillips presents two programmes which look at the life and work of Marlene Dietrich.

"You're Sensational" - The Cole Porter Story 1-8
8 x 30' - 07/12/2001
FE99

Writing both lyrics and music, Cole Porter gave the world hit songs like "You're The Top" and shows like Kiss Me Kate. He lived the life of a rich socialite, but behind the showbiz glamour lay a complex man with a hidden and tragic side. Ruthie Henshall explores his life and legacy with contributions from his friends, family and the stars with whom he worked.

Why Do Animals Sing?

1 x 30' - 06/05/2001
FE98

Eighteen years after initiating international dawn chorus day, wildlife enthusiast, Chris Baines travels to Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, home to the world's largest collection of animal sounds to find out why animals sing.

Did I Shave My Legs For This?

1 x 30' - 01/01/2002
FE98

A short history of feminism in country music presented by Liz Kershaw.

Song of the Birds

1 x 30' - 12/06/2001
FE97

Rob Stradling revisits the life of the great Spanish cellist, Pablo Casals, who died in 1973 at the age of 96.

Requiem

1 x 30' - 25/10/2001
FE97

The organist and conductor Martin Neary looks at how, for nearly a thousand years, composers have assisted the passing of the soul into heaven.

The Real History of Opera (1-6)

6 x 30' - 23/07/2000
FE96

Operas are often dismissed as old-fashioned and irrelevant but that's not the fault of their composers! Many great operas are a response to major political events and offer a fascinating glimpse of the issues of their day. Huw Edwards explores the real-life history of six favourite operas.

Real Wild Child (1-6)

6 x 30' - 05/07/2001
FE95

A celebration of the boozers, brawlers and hell-raisers of rock 'n' roll - with Sony award-winning presenter Stuart Maconie.

The Most Mysterious Manuscript in the World

1 x 30' - 04/10/2001
FE93

In 1912 Wilfred Voynich, an antiquarian book collector, bought an old manuscript richly illustrated with mysterious plants, astronomical maps and naked women. The beautiful, flowing text is written in what appears to be an unknown language. Despite efforts of the world's top code breakers, the book remains unread. Gerry Kennedy investigates.

Cinderella and the Elephant

1 x 30' - 29/11/2001
FE93

There are more jokes about the viola, the double-bass and their players than any other instrument. Now, Dominic Seldis, the principal doublebass player of the BBC National Orchestra of Wales, sets out to redress the balance in this exploration of the two instruments.

Holden Caulfield OAP
1 x 30' - 05/07/2001
FE92

In 1951, Holden Caulfield, a New York teenager, stepped out of the pages of one of the most famous American novels of the twentieth century. Now, Richard Francis explores the world of 'Catcher in the Rye' some fifty years on.

A Boy Called Kim
1 x 30' - 18/10/2001
FE92

Rudyard Kipling's novel 'Kim' was published a century ago. The story follows the travels across India of the teenage boy with an ancient Tibetan lama whom he befriends on his quest for the River of the Arrow. Mark Tully brings us his personal reassessment of the novel and its place in literature today in 'A Boy Called Kim'.

Prairie Tales
1 x 30' - 17/08/2001
FE89

"I myself must become a fairy tale" Karl May's version of the wild West and the Far East has enchanted generations of Europeans, ever since his first work appeared in 1879. May had never been further West than the Rhine and had honed his talent and knowledge in a German jail, but his passionate tales about Good fighting Evil in 1860s America continue to capture the imagination of millions. But in Britain and America he remains virtually unknown. Professor Christopher Frayling unravels the magic of May.

So Long And Thanks For All The Fish
1 x 30' - 01/09/2001
FE89

A tribute to Douglas Adams presented by Geoffrey Perkins.

200 Years of Moonlighting
1 x 30' - 19/06/2001
FE87

Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata" is 200 years old this year. He wrote it for a pupil in an attempt to woo her into marrying him. But she didn't like the piece and subsequently rejected his advances. Pianist John Lill and Professor Malcolm Wilson demonstrate the pitfalls of playing the "Moonlight", and biographer John Suchet describes the circumstances under which this most famous piano piece was written.

Hymnus Paradisi
1 X 30' - 17/08/2000
FE87

The poignant story of the composer Herbert Howells' tribute to his young son Michael, who died very suddenly when he was 9. 'Hymnus Paradisi', which was written over several painful years of emotional recovery, is one of his finest and most complex compositions, but for many years he refused for it to be performed or published. His surviving daughter, the actress Ursula Howells, remembers this period in her father's life.

Marnie Nixon - The Unsung Voice
1 x 30' - 27/03/2001
FE86

Marnie Nixon was hailed by Stravinsky as one of the best voices of the century. She was employed as the singing voice behind three of the world's greatest musicals, but she never got the credit she deserved.

Howling at the Moon
1 x 30' - 03/04/2001
FE86

The late eccentric blind composer and poet Moondog, alias Louis Thomas Hardin was a regular fixture on Manhattan's streets in the 60s and 70s. Often dressed as a Viking. He influenced many of his contemporary artists, but today his work remains little known. This is the remarkable tale of an extraordinary man.

The Devil's Rope
1 X 30' - 25/09/2000
FE85

The story of barbed wire is the story of the American West - it wouldn't have been won without it. The Devil's Rope follows an intriguing trail which begins with a French patent dated 1860 and ends in a New Mexico collectors' show that's brimming with barbed wire forgeries...

The Real Captain Bligh
1 x 30' - 29/01/2001
FE85

Was Captain William Bligh really a tyrannical, duty-obsessed sadist, as portrayed in the 1935 film 'Mutiny on the Bounty'? Not according to this dramatised reading of his diary. It picks up the story immediately after he and eighteen of his crew are given rations sufficient for only five days and cast adrift in a small boat on the South Pacific Ocean. Facing them is a journey of 3, 618 miles...

Repeat 'Til Fade (1 – 5)
5 X 15' - 14/05/2001
FE84

A series which dissects classic pop songs and explores their musical and social impact through a kaleidoscope of interpretations - both spoken and performed.

Kings Beyond The Carols
1 x 30' - 19/12/2000
FE83

Tim Marlow goes behind the scenes of King's College Choir to discover what the boy choristers and adult choral scholars are really like. How they are selected and trained, how they fit such a punishing schedule around school and university studies, and what do the town dwellers of Cambridge really think of their famous student choir?

The Christmas Story? - Myth or History?
1 X 30' - 19/12/2000
FE83

Elements of the Nativity story have puzzled historians down the ages. Our traditional Christmas narratives simply mix up a variety of traditions and sources. Should Christians take the Gospel accounts of Jesus' birth literally? Was Mary really a virgin? This programme turns to art, classical mythology, astronomy and theology in search of the answers.

The Great Mancini
4 x 30' - 20/04/2001
FE81

Henry Mancini (1924-1994) wrote hundreds of movie scores and popular themes, earning 20 Grammys and 18 Academy Awards. Don Black - a friend and collaborator - explores the impact 'Hank' had on twentieth-century music and presents a wide range of his output, from the greatest hits to the lesser known gems.

From Crocodile Dung to Electrocutation (1 - 5)
5 X 15' - 15/01/2001
FE80

"To prevent conception swallow twenty-six tadpoles fried in quicksilver - or alternatively - find a crocodile."

Caroline Quentin chronicles the fascinating and sometimes bizarre history of contraception, first recorded 4000 years ago.

The Hot Club Two (1 - 2)
2 x 30' - 12/12/2000
FE78

In 1934, Django Reinhardt and Stephane Grappelli formed the legendary Quintette du Hot Club de France, producing music of a foot-tapping freshness and vibrancy that has enchanted jazz lovers ever since. Martin Taylor, one of today's leading jazz guitarists, explores the pair's remarkable careers.

The Gilbert And Sullivan Story (1 - 4)
4 x 30' - 21/01/2001
FE77

In 1867, a barrister renowned for his caustic wit and sarcasm was introduced to an organist and composer, a professor at the Royal Academy of Music. They made an unlikely team, yet despite a turbulent relationship they wrote some of the best-loved operettas of all time, including 'The Mikado', 'HMS Pinafore', 'The Pirates Of Penzance' and 'The Yeomen Of The Guard'.

Animals That Changed The World (1 - 4)
4 x 30' - 27/11/2000
FE76

How animals have fashioned our landscape, affected our language, influenced our culture and even shaped our history.

1. The Horse
2. Rats
3. The Cow
4. Disease Carriers

The Davies Diaries (1 - 6)
6 x 30' - 23/11/2000
FE75

Ray Davies, singer, songwriter and legendary frontman of The Kinks tells the story of the band's heady triumphs in the sixties. He talks about the musicians who influenced them (from Big Bill Broonzy onwards) and remembers some of the great acts who played with them (at Philadelphia in 1965 the support band was The Supremes!). Whether you're a child of the sixties or not 'The Davies Diaries' are compulsory listening.

Rebel Yell (1 - 5)

6 x 30' - 08/11/2000
FE73

Tom Robinson presents a history of the popular protest song, of music with a message. This is a story of outrage and rebellion, political naivete and media savvy, covering everything from early guitar blues to satellite-linked benefit concerts. The series includes interviews with key players, past and present, including the late Kirsty MacColl (d. 18th Dec. 2000).

Dances With The Devil (1 - 2)

2 x 30' - 19/09/2000
FE72

Dancing is dangerous! It has the power to disturb, subvert, confront, it puts us in touch with the very rhythms of life itself. Wendy Buonaventura uses music, first-hand accounts and fiction to show how two long established dances spring from a torrid, turbulent, often scandalous past.

California Dreamin' (1 - 4)

4 x 60' - 03/10/2000
FE71

Elliott Gould chronicles the huge contribution that California has made to art, music, film, television and the computer - along with the odd Sunkist orange and pair of Levis - in the 150 years since it joined the US.

1. Land Of The Free - January 1848.
2. The Birth Of Hollywood
3. Musical Melting Pot
4. Modern Culture

Sax Appeal

1 x 60' - 23/09/2000
FE70

In 1840 Adolf Sax stuck a clarinet mouthpiece on a conical tube and invented the saxophone, a highly versatile instrument capable of flute-like softness, string-like richness or an inimitable, piercing, brilliant, metallic, sound. Today you'll hear it played everywhere from street corners to concert halls, inspiring listeners and composers from right across the musical spectrum. Miles Kington discovers the true meaning of 'Sax Appeal'.

Ladysmith Black Mambazo

1 x 60' - 16/09/2000
FE69

Ladysmith are unmistakable: they're the male voice choir whose fantastic range, trademark clicking sounds and complex harmonies have inspired artists from Dolly Parton to Des'ree. Andy Kershaw traces Ladysmith's intriguing musical journey from the remote townships of South Africa to international stardom.

Tom Jones - In His Own Words (1 - 6)

6 x 30' - 16/08/2000
FE68

How did the son of a Welsh miner become a sex-symbol and international superstar? Lynne Parsons reveals all, with the help of Tom, his friends, fellow musicians and the fans who have shared his success for nearly four decades.

A Presence Of Laughter

1 x 30' - 01/01/2000
FE67

A celebration of one of the twentieth century's most elegant and sophisticated talents - playwright, composer, singer, actor, director and cabaret artist, Noel Coward (1899-1973).

Talking Head

1 x 30' - 31/08/2000
FE67

"What I'm above all primarily concerned with is the substance of life, the pith of reality. If I had to sum up my work I suppose that's it really - I'm taking the pith out of reality."

A portrait of the hugely popular actor, comedian and playwright, Alan Bennett. John Sergeant looks at how the man who started out as an anti-establishment satirist went on to become one of Britain's 'national treasures'.

Ray Charles - Man And Music (1 - 4)

4 x 30' - 06/07/2000
FE66

To millions he's known simply as "the genius". He's equally at home in Gospel, Country, and R&B and he's largely responsible for the birth of today's Soul. At 70 Ray Charles still fills concert halls throughout the world and has a schedule that would exhaust performers half his age. Writer and broadcaster Stuart Maconie traces the career of a musical legend.

1. It Should Have Been Me
2. What'd I Say
3. Busted
4. Look What They've Done To My Song

Runaway Lives (1 - 4)

4 x 30' - 04/03/2000
FE63

Biographer Richard Holmes follows in the footsteps of four famous authors who abandoned home in the pursuit of love and inspiration.

Meetings With Remarkable Men (1 - 5)

5 x 15' - 14/02/2000
FE62

Five portraits of the vilified - people who at some stage in their career have been ridiculed, abused or dismissed as mad.

1. Jacques Derrida
2. Aleister Crowley
3. Karlheinz Stockhausen
4. Lou Reed
5. John Wesley Hardin

Re: Percussion (1 - 6)

6 x 30' - 05/01/2000
FE61

Stewart Copeland of The Police celebrates a century of drumming, from the early days of Baby Dodds, Chick Webb, Gene Krupa and Buddy Rich to Phil Collins, Steve Gadd and Billy Cobham.

1. The Birth Of The Drum Kit
2. The Beat Starts To Swing
3. Big Band Drumming
4. WW2, Be Bop And Rock
5. Drumming Goes Pop
6. Endless Innovation

Good Grief!

1 x 30' - 13/04/2000
FE60

Charles Monroe Schulz, the creator of 'Peanuts', was the world's richest cartoonist. Every day for nearly 50 years he charted the ups and downs of Charlie Brown, Lucy, Linus and Snoopy - characters who lived in a world of perpetual childhood and became icons of American pop culture. Steve Punt presents a profile of this remarkable and endearing man.

Who Put The Cat In The Hat?

1 x 30' - 04/07/2000
FE60

Who put the cat in the hat? Dr. Seuss, that's who! Seuss's wild, mind-enhancing books are bestsellers all over the English-speaking world. Michael Rosen pulls up his fox in socks and tucks into his eggs and ham to discover how the good doctor helped two generations of children to read and love words.

Parrot Talk

1 x 30' - 13/03/2000
FE58

Andrew Sachs meets an African grey parrot that talks and behaves like a precocious child, a macaw that turns on the central heating and a cockatoo that trashed its owner's kitchen. Colourful, sociable and extremely intelligent, parrots have captured our imagination - but is their behaviour evidence of real intelligence, and what are the implications of plans to re-establish endangered varieties in the wild?

Stradivari

1 x 30' - 09/12/1999
FE57

Over three hundred years ago, in Cremona, Italy, Antonio Stradivari took the art of the instrument maker to what was probably its zenith. Or did he? If he was the supreme master why did Mozart's father warn him away from Stradivari's instruments? Why do many of today's leading players have other brand loyalties? And why has virtually every instrument Stradivari made been 'improved' - in the words of some - or 'vandalised' - according to others? The violin virtuoso Tasmin Little sets out to reaffirm her belief in Stradivari's genius - or dispel it as myth - once and for all.

Heard It On The Bass Line

1 x 30' - 13/01/2000
FE57

Double bass player and former King's Singer Alastair Hume goes in search of those who spend their working lives at the bottom end of the musical stave. He explores the importance of the bass line to all forms of music and asks if bass players are miscast as providers of leaden, oompah-pah accompaniments. Given half a chance, wouldn't they prefer to soar into the melodic limelight?

**Electrifying - The History Of
The Electric Guitar**
5 x 30' - 27/01/2000
FE55

Rick Parfitt of Status Quo explores five decades of the electric guitar and its defining role in pop music.

1. The 'Fifties
2. The 'Sixties
3. The 'Seventies
4. The 'Eighties
5. The 'Nineties

**Ella - The Ultimate Jazz Diva (1
- 6)**
6 x 30' - 16/11/1999
FE46

She never had a music lesson in her life, she never bothered to warm-up before a show. Yet Ella Fitzgerald had a unique vocal style and a profound influence on jazz and popular music. The mere mention of her name was enough to sell-out any concert hall in the world. Cleo Laine explores Ella's outstanding career and her intriguing and complex personality. The programme features exclusive interviews with Ella's close acquaintances and rare live broadcasts.

In The Director's Chair (1 - 4)
4 x 15' - 14/10/1999
FE45

Film-maker Alex Cox investigates the secret lives of some of cinema's leading directors and tries to find out what was really going on in the minds of those in the director's chair.

1. Stanley Kubrick
2. Sir David Lean
3. Luis Buñuel
4. Orson Welles

**Earthquake On Orange Street!
The Story Of Ska**
1 x 30' - 05/11/1999
FE44

Over the last 40 years the tiny island of Jamaica has produced more records per head of population than any other country in the world. Reggae is its most famous musical export but Reggae would never have happened without Ska. Graham McPherson (aka Suggs from Madness) goes in search of the music that changed his life.

Can Chipmunks Sing?
1 x 30' - 11/11/1999
FE44

The Chipmunks started it, The Beatles dabbled in it, Babylon Zoo revived it... John Walters explores our bizarre taste for recordings played at the wrong speed.

Amazing Grace

1 x 30' - 21/11/1998
FE43

Every summer in Birmingham, Alabama enthusiasts gather for a three-day marathon of rousing 'shape-note' singing and flowing Southern hospitality. A celebration of one of America's oldest and liveliest musical traditions.

Shaking Up The Library (1 - 5)

5 x 15' - 26/07/1999
FE41

How five groundbreaking children's books inspired shelves of imitators - from the first famous child detectives to the original collection of nursery rhymes. Presented by poet and writer Michael Rosen.

1. Emil And The Detectives
2. The Family From One End Street
3. The King Of The Golden River
4. Forever
5. Tommy-Thumb's Pretty Song Book

Rhapsody In Blue

1 x 30' - 13/02/1999
FE40

How Gershwin's masterpiece came to be written and why it has such an undying appeal.

Long Live The Dead Parrot

1 x 30' - 14/09/1999
FE40

In October 1969 the BBC replaced a late night religious programme with a comedy. No-one expected the Spanish Inquisition! Thirty years on, Monty Python's Flying Circus has a global cult following. Carol Cleveland - the only woman to appear regularly in the series - presents an insider's guide to Monty Python. With contributions from John Cleese, Michael Palin, Terry Jones and many more.

Hitchcock - Everyone's Wicked Uncle

1 x 45' - 23/05/1999
FE37

Alfred Hitchcock (1899-1900) was wonderfully droll about film-making: "drama is life with the dull bits left out"; and "the length of the film should be directly related to the endurance of the human bladder". Yet what kind of man was he? Some talk of a dark side, of control and victimisation, others of great kindness, of prankish humour, of great self deprecation. Writer Peter Conrad sifts the evidence with the help of archive interviews with Hitch's star collaborators and new recordings featuring Peter Bogdanovich, Hitchcock's daughter Pat and Psycho screenwriter Joseph Stefano.

Up A Gum Tree

1 x 30' - 14/05/1999
FE36

It's been smuggled into orbit and found buried in stone-age graves. It's been used to mend machine-guns and plug holes in submarines. It's said to aid digestion, boost circulation and settle nerves. And we ate at least 100,000 tons of it last year. Pete McCarthy celebrates the world of chewing gum.

My Mistress Music (1 - 3)

3 x 30' - 02/02/1999
FE35

Three women - notorious as mistresses of powerful men - who were accomplished in more ways than one.

1. Nell Gwyn
2. Madame De Pompadour
3. Emma Hamilton

Joni Mitchell - Both Sides Now Joni Mitchell is one of the most influential singer-songwriters of the last 30 years. Singer Mary Black charts the development of Joni's innovative musical style - embracing folk, rock, global music and jazz - and talks to some of her many admirers, including Peter Gabriel, Natalie Merchant, Graham Nash (of Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young) and former manager, Elliot Roberts. Presented by Mary Black.
1 x 60' - 20/02/1999
FE34

Menuhin - The Master Musician 'Music, amongst all the great arts, is the language which penetrates most deeply into the human spirit, reaching people through every barrier, disability, language and circumstance...'
1 x 30' - 22/04/1999
FE33
After the Second World War Yehudi Menuhin took on an extraordinary range of commitments. He founded music festivals and a school for gifted youngsters, he taught himself to conduct, he immersed himself in oriental music and philosophy and seemed perfectly at ease playing a jazz concert one day and talking politics with a prime minister the next. Humphrey Burton explores the maestro's multi-layered and sometimes controversial life.

Menuhin - The Prodigy
1 x 30' - 22/04/1999
FE33
Sir Yehudi Menuhin: 1916 - 1999. 'The violinist of the century' proclaimed the world's press when Menuhin was still in his early teens. Bruno Walter went further: the young prodigy 'had the body and the innocence of a child, and yet the understanding and - even at the age of twelve - the spiritual quality of a mature musician'. Bernard Keffe explores the maestro's early years as a performer, from his classic 1932 recording of Elgar's Violin Concerto to the concerts he gave at Belsen with Benjamin Britten at the end of the Second World War.

Sullivan's Secret Love
1 x 30' - 21/11/1998
FE30
Sir Arthur Sullivan's operettas often tell the story of the true love that did not run smooth. Poignantly, it was also his own story - a story concealed in a series of locked diaries and coded entries that remained uncracked for over a century. Savoyard Eric Roberts has played the major comic roles in both England and America.

Elgar's Unfinished
1 x 30' - 09/01/1999
FE30

When Edward Elgar died in 1934 his Third Symphony was unfinished - 130 pages of notes, sketches and other clues. In the early seventies Anthony Payne began the long and controversial task of putting this jigsaw puzzle together. Finally, in February 1998 his work was complete and - 65 years after they commissioned it - the BBC Symphony Orchestra gave the first performance. The reception was rapturous. "I'll never forget that first run-through... when they came to the second tune in the first movement the whole string section began to smile...they couldn't tell, and Andrew Davis [the conductor] couldn't tell, where Elgar stopped and I began — I stopped worrying after that!"

Animals Behaving Badly (1 - 4)
4 x 30' - 23/12/1998
FE27

Cannibalistic hamsters, promiscuous toads, murderous rooks, vampire bats - anti-social behaviour is not confined to humans.

1. The Human Buffet
2. Neighbours From Hell
3. The Hit Squad
4. Wild Sex

The Body Farm
1 x 30' - 28/05/1998
FE20

In a secret wood in Tennessee there are corpses everywhere: dangling in trees, poking out of water, rotting in the back of a Chevy. It's a place that's famous as the setting for Patricia Cornwell's chilling novel *The Body Farm*. It's also the scene of genuine scientific research. Here the bereaved find consolation and, says Cornwell, the dead can speak - if only you know how to listen.

Artie Shaw - King Of The Clarinet
1 x 60' - 11/05/1998
FE18

"I think he was the greatest clarinet player in the world - as a matter of fact I know that's true because he told me so!" Russell Davies presents a celebration of the life and music of the temperamental, often perverse, clarinet star. Includes an exclusive interview to mark Artie's 88th birthday.

Burt Bacharach - The Story Of My Life
1 x 60' - 12/05/1998
FE17

Burt Bacharach's memorable melodies, tantalising rhythms and striking chord changes have earned him 25 Top Ten Hits, 4 Academy Awards, 3 Grammys, and 2 Oscars. Dionne Warwick tells the story of his life with help from Gene Pitney, Elvis Costello, Jack Jones and Hal David.

The Fastest Baton In The West
1 x 30' - 29/09/1997
FE15

Sir Georg Solti, 1912-1997. During his distinguished career Solti conducted every major orchestra in the world and won 32 Grammy Awards. Yet the maestro had a contrary reputation: some say he struck fear into hapless orchestral musicians; others that he had a simple lifestyle, loved football and was great company. Are both, or either, true? Humphrey Carpenter looks for the real Georg Solti - on and off the podium.

A Lion At The Opera

1 x 30' - 29/09/1997

FE15

Humphrey Burton surveys Solti's dashing career in the opera house - with the help of Birgit Nilsson, Kiri Te Kanawa and Sir Peter Hall. "He was in tears at the end and he was sobbing completely unguardedly. I loved that characteristic of him - that he was able to respond to music in the most elemental way." Richard Eyre "Solti's music-making was never sentimental; it was witty, it was brilliant, it was emotional, it was ferocious, it was always hard-edged, it was never glutinous - and I loved that!" Peter Hall

The Mellotron

1 x 30' - 17/12/1997

FE14

If you've heard the opening bars of The Beatles' Strawberry Fields Forever you'll recognise the sound of a mellotron. In the late Sixties and early Seventies it was one of the hottest sounds around. Then the instrument, a forerunner of the synthesiser, all but disappeared - until it was rediscovered by Oasis. Keyboard wizard Rick Wakeman trades mellotron memories with Paul McCartney, Blue Weaver of The Strawbs, Robert Fripp of King Crimson and Mike Pinder of The Moody Blues.

Lewis Carroll

1 x 30' - 01/01/1998

FE14

On July 4th 1862 Lewis Carroll took Alice Liddell boating and told her a story. That story has been translated into more languages than almost any other work except the Bible. That story, of course, was Alice's Adventures In Wonderland. To mark the centenary of Carroll's death Michael Rosen explores the intriguing life of the writer, curate, photographer and mathematician.

A Wonderful Life

1 x 60' - 20/09/1997

FE12

Film historian Dick Vosburgh traces the life of one of the last megastars of the Golden Age of Hollywood, James Stewart, Tinseltown's best-loved leading man. Stewart stamped his mark on screwball comedies in the '30s, heart-warming escapist drama in the '40s, before moving on to straightforward westerns and his more ambiguous roles for Alfred Hitchcock. Vosburgh also explores Stewart's radio and TV work, his marriage, his distinguished war service and his politics, and unearths some surprising facts. The programme is illustrated with clips and music from some of the most famous movies, including It's A Wonderful Life, The Glenn Miller Story and Harvey, as well as a rare early recording of the young Princeton graduate singing in the college band.

Surf's Up!

1 x 30' - 03/06/1997

FE11

John Peel looks at the career of Dick Dale, king of the surf guitar.

Mona Lisa

1 x 30' - 11/10/1997
FE11

At least fifteen racehorses have been named after her. When she visited Tokyo in 1974, twenty-seven bars and shops adopted her name, and for souvenirs you were offered a jigsaw, a snowstorm or stockings! But how and why has the Mona Lisa become the most famous painting in the world? Tim Marlow charts the history of the Mona Lisa's fame from the 16th century cult of Leonardo, through the bathroom of Francis I of France, to the irreverent imitations of Duchamp and Warhol.

Jazz A La Lee (1 - 4)

4 x 30' - 19/05/1997
FE9

An extraordinarily versatile voice, a breathtaking talent for improvisation, and a total commitment to swing are the unmistakable hallmarks of Peggy Lee. Jazz enthusiast, Mel Hill celebrates the life, music and influence of one of the greatest vocalists of the century.

DRAMAS

The Price of Light
by Hilary Mantel
1x60' - 12/03/2005
DR141

When Maria Theresa von Paradis, a musical prodigy in eighteenth century Vienna, lost her sight in early childhood her parents turned to Anton Mesmer for a cure. Under Mesmer's controversial care Maria's vision began to improve - but her musical talent seemed to deteriorate. A public and scientific scandal ensued.

The Employee
by Sebastian Baczkiewicz
1x60' - 15/04/2005
DR140

A dark comedy about the pressures of modern life. Iain Adam is Head of Maintenance in an 'intelligent' building, The Elm, and his world is starting to unravel - with spectacular consequences ...

In Search of Lost Time (1-6)
by Marcel Proust
6x60' - 06/02/2005
DR139

A six part dramatisation of one of the landmarks of world literature - a beguiling journey through time, love, loss and memory, set in France at the beginning of the twentieth century.

Tristram Shandy (1-10)
by Laurence Sterne
10 x 15' - 31/01/2005
DR138

A new adaptation of Laurence Sterne's groundbreaking comic novel - one of the greatest shaggy dog stories of all time.

"A triumph. I loved every minute of it." The Observer.

The Stranger at the Palazzo d'Oro
by Paul Theroux
1 x 45' - 17/12/2004
DR137

A dark, seductive tale of ambition and desire set in Twormina, Sicily. Successful American painter, Gilford Mariner, aged 60, returns to the Golden Hotel, a place he has not visited since he was a young boy of twenty - when he was willing to take dangerous risks.

Fighting Shaw's Corner
by Lesley Bruce
1 x 45' - 17/08/2004
DR136

George Bernard Shaw's brisk, respectable secretary's plans to be First Lady in his life are thwarted by his dragon housekeeper Mrs Laden, and Lady Nancy Astor, recently retired from parliament and in need of a "big project".

The Language of Angels
by Sebastian Baczkiewicz
1 x 45' - 20/01/2005
DR135

By Sebastian Baczkiewicz. Veteran film actor M. Emmet Walsh (Blood Simple, Blade Runner) makes his radio debut in a mysterious tale set in 1920s New York. An art dealer is all set to sell an ancient illuminated manuscript to a steel billionaire when his partner and the text go missing ...

Inspired by the real-life enigma of the Voynich manuscript. For more about the Voynich manuscript see The Most Mysterious Manuscript in the World

Letters to Fan Fan
by Deborah Davis
1 x 45' - 11/01/2005
DR134

The reign of Madame de Pompadour, France's most celebrated royal mistress, ended with her death at the age of forty-three. Here is the story of her life at Louis XV's court, told from an unexpected angle - that of the King's wife, Queen Marie Leczinska.

Gilbert Without Sullivan (6-10)
by W.S.Gilbert
5 x 30' - 15/12/2004
DR133

More engaging comic nonsense from W. S. Gilbert.

6. The Realm of Joy
7. The Wedding March
8. A Sensation Novel
9. A Colossal Idea:
10. Tom Cobb or Fortune's Toy:

For more about Gilbert Without Sullivan see DR 0104

272 Attempts
by Bryony Lavery
1 x 60' - 06/08/2004
DR132

An isolated house. A large number of tagged children. Graves in the garden. A gripping exploration, by award-winning playwright Bryony Lavery, of the future of cloning.

The play owes its title to Dolly the sheep - Dolly was the product of 272 attempts at cloning.

NB: Stations should audition before broadcast.

L'Assommoir (1 - 3)
by Emile Zola
3 x 60' - 24/10/2004
DR131

One of Zola's most powerful novels: a startlingly frank and moving account of working class life in Paris in the mid 19th century.

More Mr. Mulliner (1 - 4)
by P.G. Wodehouse
4 x 30' - 30/11/2004
DR130

The great raconteur props up the bar of the Angler's Rest for four more outlandish tales of the adventures and misadventures of the Mulliner clan.

For more Mulliner stories see Meet Mr Mulliner (DR94)

Hermit Lucas
by Martyn Wade
1x45' - 29/04/2004
DR129

The celebrated Victorian hermit, James Lucas, was just an amiable eccentric until his mother died. For the next 25 years he never left the house but was happy to talk to passers-by - ranging from complete strangers to Charles Dickens.

The Film Journal of Eve Arnold
1 x 45' - 23/08/2004
DR128

Eve Arnold's images of the Hollywood greats captured an intimacy and trust between the subjects and their photographer and brought about a new style in photojournalism. This play brings some of her legendary picture sessions to life.

The Master of Ballantrae
By Robert Louis Stevenson
2 x 60' - 02/05/2004
DR127

Two brothers engage in a bitter struggle over money, power and love, in Robert Louis Stevenson's dark and dramatic adventure story set in eighteenth century Scotland and America.

Bartleby The Scrivener
By Herman Melville
1 x 60' - 07/08/2004
DR126

A single dramatisation of one of Herman Melville's most intriguing stories. Set in London during the mid 1800's and starring Ian Holm.

Walk Right By Me
By Christopher C. Harris
1 x 60' - 22/11/2002
DR125

Gary Oldman stars as Warren, a compulsive, lonely, passionate man whose life changes entirely once he meets Carol, a petite ex-dancer in Christopher Harris' drama.

Maigret Series (1 - 4)
By Georges Simenon
4 x 45' - 19/04/2004
DR124

Four classic tales from the casebook of Chief Inspector Maigret, starring Nicholas le Prevost as Maigret and Julian Barnes as Simenon.

Pamela or Virtue Rewarded
By Samuel Richardson
2 x 60' - 30/05/2004
DR123

A battle of the wits between high estate and low in this rollicking romantic comedy, dramatised by Judith French from the eighteenth century epistolary novel by Samuel Richardson.

Monica & Linda
Devised by Laura Strausfeld
1 x 60' - 02/04/2004
DR122

Verbatim snatches from the secretly taped girl-talk that exposed one of the most famous sexual liaisons of the twentieth century. Most people had never heard of the woman involved - but the man was President of the United States. Contains frank and robust language - stations are advised to audition before broadcast.

Pugilist Specialist
By Adriano Shaplin
1 x 60' - 06/02/2004
DR121

Four highly trained American marines are assigned the task of eliminating a troublesome Middle Eastern Leader. A riveting, rapid-fire analysis of the US military mentality. From the original stage production by San Francisco's Riot Group. Contains strong language - stations are advised to audition before broadcast.

The Cemetery Confessions
1 x 45' - 06/05/2004
DR120

Père Lachaise cemetery in Paris, the most visited cemetery in the world, first opened for business in 1804. Two hundred years on, five of its most illustrious residents make their confessions to Father Lachaise - who is not without a small confession to make himself.

- Bards of Bromley**
By Perry Pontac
 1 x 45' - 06/04/2004
 DR119
- Jacqueline Swerdlow's creative writing class in Bromley attracts an unusual range of would-be authors: A.A. Milne, William Wordsworth, August Strindberg, George Eliot and Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe. Passions run high and unlikely alliances unfold as they make no bones what they think about each other's work.
- The Midwich Cuckoos (1-2)**
By John Wyndham
 2 x 60' - 06/12/2003
 DR118
- A dynamic modern dramatisation of John Wyndham's gripping sci fi classic about alien impregnation overturning the prim and proper world of a sleepy English village.
- I Have No Mouth, And I Must Scream**
By Harlan Ellison
 1 x 30' - 31/01/2002
 DR117
- In this famous science fiction story a malevolent artificial intelligence has taken over the world and delights in tormenting the handful of wretched, human survivors. Starring the author and David Soul. Adapted by Mike Walker.
- Delta Sly Honey**
By Lucius Shepard
 1 x 30' - 07/02/2002
 DR117
- A country boy exorcises his demons during the Vietnam war by making latenight broadcasts to phantom military units - until oone of the phantoms returns his call. Written by Lucius Shepard.
- Voices From Another Room**
By Philip Martin
 1 x 30' - 08/01/2004
 DR117
- An artist hears voices from the future. Voices discussing his discovery as a major talent - and his involvement in a murder.
- Ghosting**
By Gergory Evans
 1 x 30' - 22/01/2004
 DR117
- A rising young novelist agrees to ghost-write the autobiography of a supermodel and finds her life dangerously seductive.
- Skin**
By Juliet Ace
 1 x 45' - 08/03/2004
 DR116
- A wry and powerfully affecting tale of sun, flesh, naturism and mortality. In her search for success and liberation Mattie sheds her clothes on a naturis beach - only to be asked for her autograph... Written by Juliet Ace.
- The Travels of Marco Polo**
By Philip Palmer
 1 x 45' - 18/02/2004
 DR115
- Marco Polo's famous account of his journey to the East, written in a prison in Genoa at the end of the 13th Century, became one of the most popular books in Europe - despite the common held view that much of it was invented. Perhaps this account of the writing of the book contains some invention too?
- Oswald in Russia**
By Graham White
 1 x 60' - 21/11/2003
 DR114
- In the late 1950s nineteen year old Lee Harvey Oswald, determined to become a significant figure in history, took a trip from the US to Moscow. This drama based on actual events looks at a formative moment in the life of the man who would become the world's most notorious assassin.
- George Silverman's Explanation**
By Charles Dickens
 1 x 45' - 01/05/2003
 DR113
- This is a story of a man writing about his unfulfilled life; and getting it all wrong in the telling; of a boy who tries to become an irreproachable young man but who somehow fails to escape his past. Based on a short story by Charles Dickens.

Killing Maestros
By Christopher William Hill
1 x 45' - 14/08/2003
DR112

Wagner's Tristan und Isolde is the "Scottish Play" of the opera world - jinxed by mysterious deaths. Conductor Sergei Bodanov convinces himself that he too will suffer from the Opera's curse, and tells his therapist that he has six weeks to cure him of this "evil" before the first performance. Written by Christopher William Hill.

The Remains of the Day (1-2)
By Kazuo Ishiguro
2 x 60' - 10/08/2003
DR111

Based on the award-winning novel, this is a haunting tale of lost causes and lost love. It is a celebrated evocation of life between the wars in a great English country house, and the echoes of the violent upheavals spreading across Europe in the 1930s.

The Book Of Love (1-2)
By William Hazlitt
2 x 60' - 24/08/2003
DR110

The artist, admirer of Napoleon, theatre and literary critic and essayist William Hazlitt was forty three when he fell passionately and obsessively in love with his London landlady's daughter, a young woman half his age. He became paranoid, jealous and totally single minded in pursuit of her.

Rumpole (1-4)
By John Mortimer
4 x 45' - 24/09/2003
DR109

A series of four Rumpole stories. Written by John Mortimer.

Tender is the Night (1-2)
By F. Scott Fitzgerald
2 x 60' - 18/05/2003
DR107

Tender is the the Night by F Scott Fitzgerald. Adapted for radio in two parts by Michael Hastings. Starring Michael Maloney. The tragic romance of young actress Rosemary Hoyt and the stylish American couple Dick and Nicole Diver. Set on the French Riviera in the late 1920s.

The Resurrection of Miss Pym
By Jennifer Howarth
1 x 45' - 11/02/2003
DR106

The true story of novelist Barbara Pym's disappearance from the literary scene of the swinging sixties and her subsequent triumphant rediscovery - told through her own poignant journals and fascinating correspondence.

Fred Rimple
By John B. Keane
1 x 45' - 21/07/2003
DR105

Written by John B Keane, dramatised by Kerry Lee Crabbe, and starring Ardal O'Hanlon. This play about Jim Conlon's fervent attempts to cure his hypochondriac mother, is being broadcast on what would have been the Irish author's 75th birthday to commemorate his death last year.

Gilbert Without Sullivan (1-5)
By W.S Gilbert
5 x 30' - 07/05/2003
DR104

WS Gilbert is famous for his partnership with Arthur Sullivan. But his comic creations didn't end there - he also wrote these lesser known, surreal, topsy-turvy stories.

The Little Photographer
By Daphne Du Maurier
1 x 45' - 19/03/2003
DR103

The young Madame La Marquise is away on holiday - alone and bored. But then she meets the local photographer and feels the thrill of being looked at... Dramatised by Michelene Wandor this is classic Du Maurier territory - an illicit and slow-burning passion, with a surprise twist in the tail.

Carmilla
By Sheridan Le Fanu
1 x 45' - 05/06/2003
DR102

Laura is a lonely girl living in a remote Hungarian castle. Into her life comes the beautiful and mysterious Carmilla, with whom Laura strikes up what will prove a dangerous friendship.

Agatha Christie's Philomel Cottage
By Agatha Christie
1 x 30' - 14/01/2002
DR101

A new spin on a classic story by the Queen of the whodunnit, dramatised for radio by Mike Walker. When Alex meets Terry she is swept off her feet. He persuades her to leave her job with a dot com company and set up a business with him, based in an out of the way cottage in the country.

Agatha Christie's Magnolia Blossom
By Agatha Christie
1 x 30' - 04/04/2002
DR101

The 20th century's Queen of Crime can still seem astonishingly adult in the 21st century, and when a woman's adultery is exposed it can pale beside the crimes and arrogance of men.

Scrooge Blues
By Nicholas McInerny
1 x 30' - 25/12/2002
DR100

The first of two sequels to Charles Dickens' famous Christmas story, in which we visit Scrooge one year after his transformation. He has become the most generous man in London and he's preparing to host a party for his old friends the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future. But what has happened to his business? And what is the document Bob Cratchit is trying to persuade the old man to sign?

Not So Tiny Tim
By Nicholas McInerny
1 x 30' - 01/01/2003
DR100

In the second of two sequels to Dickens' A Christmas Carol, we return to the firm of Scrooge and Marley fifteen years after the events of the book. Tiny Tim has grown up and become the ruthless manager of the company, and is poised to become the most powerful businessman in London. Until he receives the first of three disturbing visitors.

Scottish Tales of Terror (1-3)
3 X 30' - 24/04/2003
DR99

Three Scottish 19th century tales of terror and mystery, dramatised by Marty Ross.

Barry Lyndon (1-2)
By William Makepeace Thackeray
2 x 60' - 05/01/2003
DR98

William Makepeace Thackeray's classic 19th century novel about the rise and fall of an Irish adventurer set during the second half of the 1700s and moving from rural Ireland to the courts of Europe to the drawing-rooms of English society.

Separate Tables
By Terence Rattigan
1 x 60' - 20/04/2002
DR97

Table Number Seven. Terence Rattigan's classic stage play about a group of residents at a small Bournemouth hotel in the 1950's who discover one of their number is harbouring a devastating secret.

The Vicissitudes of Evangeline
By Elinor Glyn
1 x 60' - 30/06/2002
DR96

Evangeline is a red-haired, green eyed young lady who, cast out into the world to seek her fortune, resolves to become an adventuress; refusing to behave as young unmarried women in the early 1900's should do. Elinor Glyn dedicated this novel to all the women with red hair. With three eligible young men at her beck and call, which one will Evangeline choose?

The Idiot (1-4)
By Fyodor Dostoyevsky
4 x 60' - 27/10/2002
DR95

In one of his most famous and personal novels, Dostoyevsky portrays the vivid inner life of Prince Myshkin, who has returned from years abroad spent trying to treat his epilepsy.

Meet Mr Mulliner (1-6)
By P.G. Wodehouse
6 x 30' - 29/04/2002
DR94

Meet Mr Mulliner features one of Wodehouse's most entertaining characters. Richard Griffiths stars as the storytelling Mr Mulliner whose narratives enlist the regular tipplers of the Angler's Rest as participants. One of the Mulliner clan writes tough detective stories, but when he inherits the cottage of another family author he finds it haunted by the spirit of all her cloying romantic fiction.

The Cry of the Owl (1-4)
By Patricia Highsmith
4 x 30' - 20/08/2002
DR93

The Cry of the Owl by Patricia Highsmith and adapted for radio by Shaun McKenna. Robert Forester didn't look like the kind of man to be a prowler. His ex-wife had told the police he was erratic, liable to violence, had even fired a gun at her. Maybe he was a psychopathic murderer...

Flashman at the Charge 1-2
By George MacDonald Fraser
2 x 60' - 13/10/2002
DR92

A two-part dramatisation by George MacDonald Fraser of one of his celebrated novels recounting the exciting if utterly deplorable adventures of the renowned cad, bounder, blackguard, liar, lecher and self-confessed coward, Sir Harry Flashman, VC.

Lewis Carroll's Adventures in Russia
By Michael Bakewell
1 x 45' - 17/07/2002
DR91

In 1867 Charles Dodgson (Lewis Carroll) made his only trip abroad when he went to Russia with his friend, the clergyman Henry Parry Liddon. But, as their journals revealed, their experiences were entirely different. And, as the journey progressed, Liddon began to get more and more irritated with his companion's taste for the absurd and the curious.

Love and Freindship
By Jane Austen
1 x 45' - 01/08/2002
DR90

Jane Austen as you have never seen her before - a wild comedy of teenage rebellion, full of love at first sight, door-slamming, theft, elopement and sudden death. Written when the novelist was only fourteen years old.

Les Miserables (1-25)
By Victor Hugo
25 x 15' - 31/12/2001
DR89

A dramatisation of one of the greatest novels of the nineteenth century.

Les Miserables, Victor Hugo's epic story of love, life and social injustice in post-revolutionary France, opens in a prison yard in Toulon, in September 1817.

Don't Look Now
By Daphne Du Maurier
1 x 60' - 09/12/2001
DR88

A tale of slowly mounting terror from the author of Frenchman's Creek and Rebecca, Daphne Du Maurier.

A Suitable Boy 1-5
By Vikram Seth
5 x 60' - 03/03/2002
DR87

A five part dramatisation of the massive and hugely popular novel by Vikram Seth. Recorded entirely on location in India.

The Blood of Strangers
By Frank Huyler
1 x 60' - 15/02/2002
DR86

The Blood of Strangers by Frank Huyler. The cowboy who is always having a heart attack, the engineer who is chased across the desert by a heat-seeking missile, the girl who drains the blood bank. This is the fragmented, fast-paced world of Dr Joe 'Babyface' Reinert, the new Junior Resident in the Emergency Room.

Foreign Bodies - 2: Murder Repeats Itself
By Didier Daeninckx
1 x 60' - 10/11/2001
DR85

Murder Repeats Itself by the Belgian author, Didier Daeninckx, dramatised by Melanie Garrett. In 1985, a history student is gunned down in a Toulouse street. Inspector Cadin discovers the victim's father was also shot dead during a street demonstration in Paris. The key to both murders can be found in a shameful episode during WWII.

Foreign Bodies - 1 : Rue de la Gare
By Léo Malet
1 x 60' - 03/11/2001
DR84

A thriller by the French novelist Leo Malet, dramatised by Chris Dolan. In 1942, Parisian private eye Nestor Burma - the French Philip Marlowe - investigates a trail of murder that leads to an address that doesn't exist!

First Love
By Samuel Beckett
1 x 45' - 27/02/2001
DR83

First Love, Samuel Beckett's previously unbroadcast short story, offers fascinating insights into his own life. Stephen Dillane reads extracts from the story, with commentary by actress Billie Whitelaw, biographer James Knowlson, and publisher John Calder.

A Thousand Ships
By Mark Haddon
1 x 45' - 28/01/2002
DR82

"Sorceress, victim. Whore, wife" - some of the myths that Helen of Troy recalls about herself as a young woman. In this moving, poetic reconstruction of her life, written by Mark Haddon, Helen remembers the pain of being trapped inside a face and body so beautiful that no-one could see past them to the person underneath - no-one that is except Paris.

Lord of the Rings (1-13)
By J.R.R. Tolkien
13 x 60' - 05/01/2002
DR81

The legendary dramatisation of JRR Tolkien's epic fantasy of good and evil, dwarves and hobbits, in the Second Age of Middle Earth. A fabulous cast includes Michael Hordern as Gandalf, John Le Mesurier as Bilbo, Robert Stephens as Aragorn and Ian Holm (Bilbo in the new film) as Frodo.

The Woman In White (1-4)
By Wilkie Collins
6 x 60' - 11/11/2001
DR80

Classic serial by Wilkie Collins.

The Black Monk
By Anton Chekhov
1 x 45' - 15/03/2001
DR79

Rupert Kingfisher's adaptation of Anton Chekhov's short story about a talented, but troubled young professor of philosophy who escapes to a house deep into the Russian countryside, only to find himself tormented by visions of a mysterious Black Monk.

Man in Snow
By Israel Horovitz
1 x 45' - 19/12/2000
DR78

Under the Northern Lights, halfway up the highest mountain in Alaska, David Kipling is in charge of twenty honeymoon couples busy trying to conceive. In solitude, he reaches out to his wife by telephone and seeks to conjure up the son who died two years previously. Poignant and passionate, Israel Horovitz's new play is powerful radio.

My Last Duchess
By Robert Browning
1 X 60' - 24/06/2001
DR77

Robert Browning's famous poem describes a great beauty who died in mysterious circumstances. Martyn Wade's play explains how she really met her end...

Alpha
By Mike Walker
1 X 60' - 06/07/2001
DR76

2022. Scientists have designed a computer so powerful that it is said to have a mind of its own. To the Church the very idea is an abomination - something must be done to shut it down... Best Radio Drama, Sony Awards 2001.

A Small Good Thing
By Raymond Carver
1 X 45' - 30/04/2001
DR75

Ann and Howard are preparing to celebrate their son Scotty's eighth birthday. A party is planned, a cake ordered from the local bakery. Tragedy arrives when Scotty is knocked down in the street, and suddenly they are in the hands of strangers; their lives revolving around a hospital bed.

Christabel
By Samuel Taylor Coleridge
1 x 45' - 13/07/2001
DR74

A beguiling tale of enchantment and desire - wonderfully atmospheric performance of the poem by Samuel Taylor Coleridge.

The Thirty-Nine Steps
By John Buchan
2 x 60 - 18/03/2001
DR73

John Buchan's ever-popular spy thriller, first published in 1915, is dramatised in two parts by Bert Coules.

Naples '44
By Norman Lewis
1 x 60' - 27/10/2000
DR72

In 1944 the great travel writer, Norman Lewis was posted as an army intelligence officer to Italy. He recorded his experiences there in a diary, hailed as one of the great war books of the twentieth century.

A Confirmed Bachelor
By Arthur Schnitzler
1 x 60' - 19/08/2000
DR71

Set at the turn of the twentieth century, it's the story of a doctor's search for the perfect romantic partner.

Bucket... And The Whited Sepulchre
By James Hendrie
1 x 45' - 03/08/2000
DR70

This comedy crime thriller 'borrows' a famous fictional detective - Inspector Bucket from Charles Dickens' 'Bleak House'. Bucket investigates the case of the Reverend Nicodemus Skimpton, a vicar with a mistress, expensive tastes and a father-in-law who dies in unusual circumstances...

Starring Neil Pearson as the vicar and Tony Haygarth as Bucket.

Ellen Brassheart's Obduracy
By Jennifer Howarth
1 x 45' - 03/11/2000
DR69

George Bernard Shaw enjoyed a "delicious flirtation" with the actress, Ellen Terry - conducted entirely by letter. When, after many years, the correspondents came face to face, it was, perhaps a little too late...

Shaw wrote 'Captain Brassbound's Conversion' especially for Ellen Terry. Jennifer Howarth's play is based on their intimate letters.

The Tunnel Under The World
By Frederik Pohl
1 x 45' - 22/12/2000
DR68

Guy Buckhardt wakes up each morning to the same day. A day dominated by advertisements, special offers, endless invitations to buy. But one morning he finds out what's really going on...

Pohl's story is a classic from "the golden age of science fiction". Films like 'Groundhog Day' and 'The Truman Show' have borrowed similar themes, but as this intriguing and compelling tale shows, Pohl was there long before them.

Nicholas Nickleby (1 - 30)
By Charles Dickens
30 x 15' - 25/10/1999
DR67

Charles Dickens' magnificent, sprawling novel in short, cliff-hanging episodes - very much as first published in the magazine, 'Bentley's Miscellany', in 1838-9.

The Handmaid's Tale (1 - 3)
By Margaret Atwood
3 x 60' - 09/01/2000
DR66

Margaret Atwood's chilling vision of twenty-first century America. The Moral Majority have taken power, pollution has sent the birth rate plummeting and women are banned from the workplace - their job is to breed. It couldn't happen, could it?

Made by the same team as the award-winning 'Bleak House'. Recorded on location at The John Hay High School, Cross River and Bedford Hills, New York.

- Falk**
By Joseph Conrad
 1 x 60' - 16/09/2000
 DR65
- Christian Falk is an eccentric, yellow-eyed, giant of a man, the only pilot working out of Bangkok. He cannot bring himself to talk to the girl he loves because he has a terrible secret...
- Hotel Europa**
By John Dryden
 1 x 60' - 07/10/2000
 DR64
- A psychological thriller, set in a London tourist hotel, starring Kerry Fox and Roshan Seth. Hotel Europa appears to be staffed by illegal immigrants from Eastern Europe. Are they innocent refugees - or something more sinister?
- Murke's Collected Silences**
By Heinrich Böll
 1 x 45' - 04/09/2000
 DR63
- Murke's passion is the collection of radio silences! He's a producer of the old school - a man definitely not in tune with the new Director of Radio's "paradigmatic guidelines". He is soon on a collision path with the new regime - with bizarre and funny consequences.
- Another Shakespeare**
By Martyn Wade
 1 x 45' - 19/04/2000
 DR62
- A comic, true-life story of an eighteenth century forger.
- It started innocently enough. William-Henry's early forgeries were simple documents, made to please his Shakespeare-besotted father. By the time an entire "newly discovered" play was presented on the London stage things had got rather out of hand...
- Pierre And Jean**
By Guy de Maupassant
 1 x 60' - 27/11/1999
 DR61
- In Guy de Maupassant's story, two brothers compete for the hand of a young, wealthy widow. A family secret turns them into jealous, suspicious rivals...
- The Inn At Lydda**
By John Wolfson
 1 x 60' - 28/04/2000
 DR60
- An extraordinary confrontation in Judea. Crazy, bloodthirsty Emperor Caesar Tiberius is dying - there is only one man who can cure his illness. Will Jesus of Nazareth save him?
- A clever, entertaining and thought-provoking play.
- Music And Silence (1 - 15)**
By Rose Tremain
 15 x 15' - 05/06/2000
 DR59
- A tale of romance, intrigue and passion from the author of the award-winning and best-selling 'Restoration' - Rose Tremain.
- In seventeenth century Denmark the King is betrayed, the country faces crisis, a young musician finds and loses his heart's desire, and women scheme for their survival...
- The Picture Of Dorian Gray (1 - 2)**
By Oscar Wilde
 2 x 60' - 18/12/1999
 DR58
- A beautiful young man is granted eternal youth - and pays a terrible price. A famous Gothic melodrama, dripping with delicious bon-mots:
- "There is only one thing in the world worse than being talked about, and that is not being talked about."
- Two-part dramatisation by Nick McCarty.

Cousin Bette: The Poor Relation (1 - 3)
By Honoré de Balzac
3 x 60' - 09/04/2000
DR54

A blistering comedy of greed, betrayal and revenge. Cousin Bette has spent her life watching her relatives prosper while she scrapes by. She particularly resents the success of her beautiful cousin, Adeline, who has married into the aristocracy. When Adeline's daughter robs Bette of the beautiful young man she intends to marry, Bette has only one thought on her mind - revenge. Balzac's masterpiece, written and set in mid-19th century Paris, is one of the final works in the series of novels known as the Comédie humaine.

The Murders In The Rue Morgue
By Edgar Allan Poe
1 x 60' - 22/01/2000
DR53

A baffling double-murder is committed by a fiend of super-human strength...This classic tale of the macabre is also one of the earliest detective stories. Here are all the hallmarks of the genre: the brilliant but eccentric detective, the admiring but less astute companion and the puzzling, nigh inexplicable crime.

The Swansong
By David Greig
1 x 60' - 11/02/2000
DR52

A surreal modern take on the legend of Leda and the Swan. On a freezing night in Edinburgh, Lydia crouches on the edge of a pond, about to hurl herself in. As she nerves herself with gin, a handsome stranger waddles out of the rushes and whisks her off for a bizarre night of clubbing, passion and cocaine.

Vanilla
By Lesley Bruce
1 x 45' - 24/11/1999
DR51

An intriguing comic fable, by Lesley Bruce, about food, love and obsession. The secret of Wyndham's ice-cream is one, very special ingredient...

Derek Jacobi stars.

Plum's War
By Michael Butt
1 x 45' - 07/07/1999
DR50

A controversial episode in the life of a great comic writer. P.G. Wodehouse, creator of Jeeves and Bertie Wooster, never quite recovered from the condemnation he received during the Second World War. Michael Butt's play takes up the story...

The Complete Adventures Of Claudine (1 - 4)
By Colette
4 x 45' - 01/09/1999
DR49

Colette was famous, in life as much as in art, for her dedication to "the secrets of the flesh". The brazen heroine of her first novels shares these interests. Her erotically reckless adventures became the greatest French best-sellers of all time.

Sketches By Boz (6 - 10)
By Charles Dickens
5 x 30' - 05/07/1999
DR47

Five more of the gloriously comic tales that helped make the young Charles Dickens' name.

6. Love and Oysters
7. The Steam Excursion
8. Sentiment
9. The Boarding House
10. Horatio Sparkins
6. Love And Oysters
7. The Steam Excursion
8. Sentiment
9. The Boarding House
10. Horatio Sparkins

The Double Of E12
By Jeremy Front
1 x 60' - 31/07/1998
DR46

How would you feel if you arrived at work to find your double sitting at your desk? Not only taking over your life but making a success of it? A black comedy for the over-stressed.

Cloudberryes
By Elaine Feinstein
1 x 45' - 26/05/1999
DR42

200 years ago, in Moscow, Alexander Pushkin was born. He was ugly yet attractive to women, a wit and an irrepressible rebel, and he died in a duel defending his wife's good name. This is the story of the father of Russian literature.

Bleak House (1 - 5)
By Charles Dickens
5 x 60' - 29/11/1998
DR41

Dickens' late masterpiece is a courtroom satire (the never-ending case of Jarndyce and Jarndyce), a romance, a thriller and a whodunnit, all rolled into one. This wonderfully evocative version was recorded entirely on location at Chiddingstone Castle in the south of England.

Net Suicide
By Stephen Wyatt
1 x 30' - 04/09/1997
DR40

A City dealer conceals his losses in an endgame account. Ruin seems certain - until he's introduced by the internet to The Suicide Club. Should he sign up?

What? So What?
By Chris Savage-King
1 x 30' - 27/04/1998
DR40

What did happen at the Rum Go? And why did Sheryl bare all at Ian's presentation? Late at night, in a crowded restaurant, a warring couple entertain their fellow diners.

The Man Without The Mobile
By David Pownall
1 x 30' - 28/12/1998
DR39

It's easy to lie about your whereabouts when you've got a mobile phone. But do it on a crowded train and you can never be sure who's listening...A cautionary tale with an unexpected twist.

The Sanctuary

By Kara Miller

1 x 30' - 04/01/1999

DR39

The Summer Of A Dormouse

By John Mortimer

1 x 60' - 12/06/1999

DR36

Two young girls hitch a lift in a city centre, never to be seen again. A chilling tale and a superbly creepy performance from Timothy Spall.

A new play for radio by the creator of Rumpole of the Bailey. A melancholic but amusing portrait of life's disappointments and missed opportunities. Does it all, in the end, amount to so little - in the words of Byron - to "the summer of a dormouse"? A dream cast is led by Paul Scofield.

"knocked me sideways" Financial Times

"utterly absorbing" The Guardian

"superb performances" Sunday Express

Enoch Arden

By Alfred, Lord Tennyson

1 x 45' - 04/01/1999

DR32

Mrs. Shakespeare

By Robert Nye

1 x 45' - 23/03/1998

DR31

Lady Susan (1 - 10)

By Jane Austen

10 x 15' - 11/01/1999

DR30

Andrew Sachs recites Tennyson's emotional tale of love, loss and sacrifice - to a stirring piano accompaniment written by Richard Strauss.

Like much of his life, Shakespeare's will is shrouded in mystery: why did he leave his wife "his second-best bed"? Robert Nye's play offers a beguiling explanation.

A comic portrait of a wicked woman. Jane Austen was still in her teens when she wrote this story but there's nothing remotely innocent about her heroine. Lady Susan is a wrecker of households, a beautiful widow who seduces all around her - single, betrothed or married - and who will stop at nothing to get her own way.

Audio Diaries (1 - 5)

By Kay Stonham

5 x 30' - 07/04/1998

DR28

The series that follows ordinary people through a momentous period in their lives... "delicious parodies" Daily Express

1. Doreen/Dorinda
2. Bob Gives Up His Day Job
3. A Home For Heidi
4. Northern Husbands
5. Cure In The Community

Sketches By Boz (1 - 5)

By Charles Dickens

5 x 30' - 01/09/1998

DR27

Boz was the pseudonym of the young Charles Dickens and these sketches the engaging comic tales that first made his name.

1. The Tuggs's At Ramsgate
2. The Bloomsbury Christening
3. The Great Winglebury Duel
4. The Private Theatricals or Mrs. Joseph Porter
5. Mr. Watkins Tottle

The Hound Of The Baskervilles
(1 - 2)
By Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
2 x 60' - 28/06/1998
DR25

A noble family, a desolate location, a terrible legend... "Not an arm's length away, still and silent, lay the body of Sir Hugo. The men stayed their horses, frozen deep in terror at the unspeakable sight before them. But it was not the mortal remains which raised the hair upon their heads." This starry adaptation of one of Conan Doyle's most popular stories continues our definitive edition of the complete Sherlock Holmes.

1. The Powers Of Evil
2. Death On The Moor

An Epiphanous Use Of The Microphone
By David Pownall
1 x 60' - 15/05/1998
DR24

On May 28th 1923 radio drama began. Shakespeare's Twelfth Night was performed live from the studios of the BBC. In this celebration of 75 years of the radio play David Pownall cleverly intercuts the behind the scenes drama of that first night with the story of an even more momentous premiere three hundred years earlier - the first night of Twelfth Night, in the presence of Queen Elizabeth I.

The Shadow Of Mir
By Nick Fisher
1 x 60' - 08/05/1998
DR23

Space Station Mir rattles round the earth one hundred and thirty miles above our heads. The elderly satellite is on its last legs, its constant malfunctions a menace to its crew. Something must be done - but what? The Russian authorities fly up Valentina, a middle-aged bureaucrat, to make a report... Recorded on location at Cranfield College of Aeronautics.

The Pickwick Papers (1 - 6)
By Charles Dickens
6 x 30' - 24/12/1997
DR21

The irresistible adventures of Samuel Pickwick, Esquire. Dickens' hugely enjoyable novel contains some famous set-pieces: Christmas at Dingley Dell, the Election at Eatanswill, Pickwick's incarceration in the infamous Fleet Prison. Wherever he and his companions venture, Mr. Pickwick always anticipates the best - and usually encounters the worst!

The Chimes Of Midnight
By Nick Fisher
1 x 30' - 02/10/1997
DR20

The gruesome secret of an astonishing clock.

Twisted
By Anthony Neilson
1 x 30' - 30/10/1997
DR20

A taut confrontation between a killer and his psychologist. "I can authorise your immediate release and you'll be out within two months. Now I'm prepared to do that. But if I do, I want something in return... I want you to kill someone!" (Rufus Sewell is best known for his performances in Cold Comfort Farm and Middlemarch. He also plays leading roles in two major American movies: Dark Empire and Courtesan).

Fergus The Big Kiss
By Phelim Rowland
1 x 30' - 06/11/1997
DR19

The little-known story of an Irish saint who made women pregnant - just by talking to them! "Listen and I will tell you the true tale of Fergus the Martyr, Fergus the Big Kiss. I saw it all. It's a tale of the word and the flesh, and it starts with soft words and yielding flesh over a hundred years ago..."

Phone Tag
By Israel Horovitz
1 x 30' - 03/02/1998
DR19

Comedy drama set in the world of answerphones, where love is complicated and chaos is easy.

"cleverly plotted ... delicious" Independent on Sunday

"I laughed all the way to my message-screening button" Guardian

Five Kinds Of Silence
By Shelagh Stephenson
1 x 60' - 29/07/1996
DR15

A true life story of secrets, madness and murder. "...the really remarkable thing about the play was that it persuaded you to believe the incredible, that for thirty-odd years Billy could terrorise his family, shooting at their feet and violently beating them for buttering his bread in the wrong direction - and that nobody knew, nobody told and nobody asked." Independent on Sunday

The Aspern Papers (1 - 2)
By Henry James
2 x 60' - 31/08/1997
DR13

In the romantic city of Venice, an American poet writes love letters and sonnets to the girl with beautiful eyes, Juliana Bordereau. Fifty years later, a literary bounty hunter will do anything to get a glimpse of the papers...

"hypocrisy, duplicity, are my only chance... there is no baseness

I wouldn't commit for Jeffrey Aspern's sake".

Accused Of Murder (1 - 2)

By Pieter Rogers

2 x 45' - 05/03/1997

DR12

Two real-life Victorian murder mysteries:

1 - My Beloved Husband

"Miss Smith was the only unmoved, cool personage to be seen. From the first moment to the last she preserved that un-daunted defiant attitude of perfect repose which struck every spectator with astonishment."

2 - The Alabama Belle

"...of course I take arsenic and strychnine - they are tonics; taken in moderation they make me feel able to cope with life. If it weren't for the medicines I take, you would have driven me to drink!"

COMEDIES

The Museum of Everything
5x30' – 26/08/2005
CO27

The Museum of Everything is a treasure trove of obsessive collectors, dedicated re-enactors and painstakingly inaccurate historical exhibits. Join the museum's disgruntled guides as they journey around its infinite gallery of strange displays and even stranger characters.

That Mitchell and Webb Sound (6-10)
5 x 30' - 10/02/2005
CO26

A return of the lop-sided world of Mitchell and Webb's sketch comedy.

I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue (34-39)
6x30' - 17/11/2003
CO25

The famous antidote to panel games returns with inspired nonsense, pointless revelry, and Colin Sell at the piano. Presiding over the chaos is reluctant chairman Humphrey Lyttelton and eager as ever to handle the teams' points is the delightful Samantha.

Little Britain
7 x 30' – 27/08/2004
CO24

The Sony Award winning comedy sketch show exploring ordinary life in Britain as lived by some less than ordinary British folk.

NB: Intended for evening scheduling at weekly intervals. Stations are advised to audition before broadcast.

That Mitchell and Webb Sound (1-5)
5 x 30' - 28/08/2003
CO23

David Mitchell and Robert Webb invite you into their gloriously lop-sided world of quirky characters and twisted situations, where everything echoes the familiar, pushed just a little bit further ...

I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue (26-33)
8 x 30' - 27/05/2002
CO22

Another intoxicating round of the antidote to panel games in which four of radio's most clueless panellists are given silly and unusual things to do by their hapless chairman. Musical accompaniment in keys known and unknown is provided by the show's resident pianist and, as usual, sitting on the chairman's right hand is the delightful Samantha who "never fails to score"...

The Mark Steel Lectures 5-10 By Mark Steel
6 x 30' - 18/09/2002
CO21

Another six comic takes on men whose passions and endearing idiosyncrasies shaped their times. Presented by stand-up comedian and newspaper columnist Mark Steel.

- At Home With The Snails (5-8)**
By Gerard Foster
 4 x 30' - 18/07/2002
 CO20
- Alex has shaken off his obsession with snails, moved to London and now has a job and a girlfriend. Meanwhile, his parents have feigned their own deaths - George intends that Alex's grief will furnish material for his new book and Beverly hopes their ruse will ultimately reunite her family. But even the best-laid plans can go awry...
- The Hitch-Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy (7-12)**
By Douglas Adams
 6 x 30' - 29/11/2002
 CO19
- The show that began with the end of the world continues with a new epic adventure in time and space. It includes some helpful advice on how to avoid certain death and see the Universe for just over thirty Altairian dollars a day.
- I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue (18-25)**
 8 x 30' - 04/10/2002
 CO18
- Another potent batch of the antidote to panel games - for the young at heart and broad of mind. Four panellists provide homespun wireless entertainment as they run the gamut of the reluctant chairman's silly suggestions and the pianist's bold attempt at musical accompaniment.
- Think The Unthinkable (1-4)**
By James Cary
 4 X 30' - 16/10/2001
 CO17
- A satire by James Cary on that modern curse - the management consultant.
- Sorry I Haven't A Clue (13-17)**
 6 x 30' - 08/11/1999
 CO16
- The multi-award winning antidote to panel games.
- At Home With The Snails (1 - 4)**
By Gerard Foster
 4 x 30' - 26/06/2001
 CO15
- Geoffrey Palmer plays a Professor of Symbolics at Oxford, desperately trying to write a book. His son, Alex, is clearly depressed and has done nothing since university. Then he finds himself a hobby, slowly he becomes more and more obsessed... with snails... And his father is delighted. Here is the subject for his next book. Meanwhile the mother sits in the conservatory making "nice things" for all her family. And so this nice middle class, middle England family go quietly more mad together.
- The Sunday Format**
 6 x 30' - 07/11/1999
 CO14
- Do you dread the arrival of that Sunday paper? Does it take you all week to read it? Then you need The Sunday Format, radio's first quality weekend newspaper.
- I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue (7 - 12)**
 6 x 30' - 30/11/1998
 CO13
- Six more doses of the legendary "antidote to panel games". In this show the chairman makes fun of the questions, the panellists avoid the right answers, the pianist is sent up relentlessly... only sexy Samantha knows the score.
- Quite simply the funniest programme on radio.

The Hannibal Lecture
Written & presented by Steve Punt
1 x 30' - 11/01/1999
CO12

What is it about murder that's so fascinating, so amusing? Steve Punt delivers a factual but humorous guide to our grim fascination with gore.

Recorded at the 1999 Edinburgh Festival.

"There is a new type of comedian, and Steve Punt is one of the best... capable of taking a serious subject... using shafts of wit and one-liners... as entertaining a show as you're likely to see." (The Scotsman)

The Mark Steel Lectures (1 - 4)
By Mark Steel
4 x 30' - 09/09/1999
CO11

Four comic takes on men who've changed the course of history. Presented by stand-up comedian and newspaper columnist Mark Steel.

The lectures were recorded at different venues - including the 1999 Edinburgh Festival.

The four subjects under scrutiny are:

Oliver Cromwell
W.G. Grace -
Charlie Chaplin
Thomas Paine

Goodness Gracious Me (1 - 6)
6 x 30' - 05/07/1996
CO9

A refreshing all-Asian sketch show which sends up Western culture Asian culture and everything in between - and puts the fun back into fundamentalism.

Winner of the 1997 Sony Comedy Award.
'A triumph, a truly witty show' -The Times.

The Hunt For The Wild Guffaw (1 - 2)
Written & presented by Frank Muir
2 x 30' - 22/07/1998
CO5

The late Frank Muir (he died in January 1998) was half of one of the best-loved comedy teams on radio. He and Denis Norden were not only the writers behind classic comedies like Take It From Here, they were also accomplished performers, stalwarts of popular panel games like My Word and My Music. Here in tribute to Frank is a solo turn he did at the Hong Kong Arts Festival in 1983. It's everything you'd expect of the man - witty, stylish, beautifully delivered and very funny.

People Like Us (13 - 16)
By John Morton
4 x 30' - 19/07/1997
CO4

The incomparable Roy Mallard, king of mixed metaphor and muddled thinking, continues his award-winning reports.

13. The Pilot
14. The Bank Manager
15. The Mother
16 The Photographer

HITCH-HIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY, THE (01-06) A futuristic comedy series set in Outer Space.

By Douglas Adams

6 x 30' - 28/06/1977

CN3149