**VICTORIA & ALBERT: THE WEDDING**

**Premieres Sundays, January 13 and 20 on PBS**

**Lucy Worsley Oversees an Authentic Reimagining of the Grand Wedding that Set the Standard for Modern Nuptials**

*Credit: Courtesy of BBC Studios/Jacobo Garcia Fernandez*

ARLINGTON, VA; DECEMBER 12, 2018 – **VICTORIA & ALBERT: THE WEDDING**, a new two-part series hosted by popular Royal historian Lucy Worsley, premieres Sundays, January 13 and 20, 2019, 10:00-11:00 p.m. ([check local listings](http://www.pbs.org/tv_schedules/)) on PBS. A BBC Studios production for PBS, this entertaining series provides an insider’s look into the elaborate planning that went into one of the most famous weddings of all time: the romantic 1840 union of Queen Victoria and her consort Prince Albert. With the help of a team of experts, Lucy oversees the meticulous recreation of the most important elements of the wedding celebration, scouring history books, archives, newspapers and even Victoria’s own diaries for details. The perfect accompaniment to the latest season of MASTERPIECE’s hit series “Victoria,” **VICTORIA & ALBERT: THE WEDDING** is a unique celebration of an enduring love that captured the imagination then and now — and a wedding that set the standard for generations of future brides everywhere.

Lucy is joined by food historian Annie Gray, clothing expert Harriet Waterhouse, military historian Jasdeep Singh and more. From the bouquet and the beautifully tiered cake to the music for the ceremony and the wedding gown — Victoria’s game-changing white dress started a tradition that still lives on — each element has been carefully researched, remade by hand, and finally put to use in a joyous recreation of the big day itself. Throughout, Lucy and her team unpack and explore the hidden iconography and symbolism of this hugely significant wedding. They uncover new insights into Victoria and Albert’s relationship, both public and private, and shed fascinating new light on the broader implications of the wedding. The series reveals how the pomp and pageantry secured the nation’s unwavering attention as Victoria gained favor with her subjects and invented the modern ideal of marriage.

“In 1840, two 20-year-olds became the most important power couple on earth,” said Worsley. "The marriage of Queen Victoria to Prince Albert of Saxe Coburg was a pivotal moment in British history. It was a political union that became the greatest royal love story of all.”

**Episode One:**

Lucy Worsley introduces the team of experts who will join her in reconstructing the wedding that changed history. As they get ready for the ceremony and investigate the stories behind the dress, the food and the music, they uncover surprising details while the reality of their enormous undertaking comes into focus. As they labor, Lucy and her co-presenters reveal the backstory of the most romantic of all Royal romances, a tale of tragedy, scandal, intrigue – with a whiff of revolution.

**Episode Two:**

Lucy and her team are in their finery for Victoria and Albert’s big day. The ceremony is the culmination of the love story at the heart of this series, and the most accurate reconstruction of the event ever staged. It’s also the launching point for an examination of the feuds and political undercurrents that meant that this union had to be a fresh start for the monarchy, with a new kind of Royal family. The ceremony is followed by a sumptuous wedding breakfast prepared in a Georgian kitchen by food historian Annie Gray, a prelude to the first night that began a marriage so iconic it saved the Crown and heralded constitutional monarchy as we know it today.

**VICTORIA & ALBERT: THE WEDDING** is written, produced and directed by Ian Denyer, edited by Alison Hunt and Helen Wickham, and executive produced by Jon Swain and Jack Bootle.

**About Dr. Lucy Worsley**

Lucy Worsley began her career as a historic house curator at Milton Manor near Abingdon in the summer of 1995. From 1996 to 2002, she was an Inspector of Historic Buildings for English Heritage in the East Midlands region. In 2001 she was awarded a DPhil degree from the University of Sussex for a thesis on *The Architectural Patronage of William Cavendish, first Duke of Newcastle, 1593–1676*. The thesis was later developed into Worsley's book, *Cavalier: A Tale of Chivalry, Passion and Great Houses*.

During 2002–2003, she was Major Projects and Research Manager for Glasgow Museums before becoming Chief Curator at Historic Royal Palaces, the independent charity responsible for maintaining the Tower of London, Hampton Court Palace, Kensington Palace State Apartments, the Banqueting House in Whitehall and Kew Palace in Kew Gardens. She oversaw the £12 million refurbishment of the Kensington Palace state apartments and gardens.

In 2005 she was elected a senior research fellow at the Institute of Historical Research, University of London; she was also appointed visiting professor at Kingston University.

Lucy is currently Chief Curator at Historic Royal Palaces. She is author of a number of history books and biographies; her most recent publication, *Queen Victoria: Daughter, Wife, Mother, Widow,* was in 2018. Lucy is a much-loved television presenter and was recently awarded an OBE in the Queen’s Birthday Honours List for services to history and heritage.

**VICTORIA & ALBERT: THE WEDDING** is part of PBS’s regal lineup of royal programming featuring stories of the British monarchy. Kicking off on Sunday, January 13 at 9:00 p.m. ET, season 3 of “**Victoria”** on **MASTERPIECE** returns and finds the young Queen facing a crisis that threatens to end her reign. Continuing on Sunday, January 27 at 10:00 pm, historian Lucy Worsley snuggles up with Britain’s past monarchs to uncover the fascinating secrets hiding within some of the most secluded spaces in an encore presentation of **TALES FROM THE ROYAL BEDCHAMBER**.Finally, onSunday, February 10 and 17, 10:00 p.m. ET, PBS presentsa two-partseries, **MARGARET: THE REBEL PRINCESS**, an intimate new biography of the trailblazing princess whose life and loves reflected the social and sexual revolution of her time.

**About PBS**

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