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Embargo

The information contained in this media guide is embargoed until 21:00 British Summer Time (GMT+1) 12 August 2012. During the Ceremony there are some things we'd like to keep secret for the audience until the moment they're revealed so please don't spoil the surprise.



HRH Prince Henry of Wales

The London 2012 Olympic Games have been extraordinary. They will stay in the hearts and minds of people all over the world for a very long time to come.

I congratulate all the athletes who have competed. They have shown us that there are few boundaries to human endeavour.

Demonstrating great pride in representing their countries, these men and women have inspired everyone with their determination and their sportsmanship.

The Games have brought together athletes and spectators from very different cultures, backgrounds and faiths, and from every corner of the planet. Their collaboration and spirit represent a magnificent force for positive change. You have captured the imagination of the world.

None of this would have been possible without the tens of thousands of people, both in the United Kingdom and around the world, who have prepared the teams for competition as well as those who have brought the Games in London to fruition.

So many of these have been volunteers and their efforts have been supreme. They have not received medals, but they assuredly share in the triumph of the London 2012 Olympic Games.



Jacques Rogge

President of the International Olympic Committee

It has been 16 days since the Olympic Flame ignited the Cauldron here at the magnificent Olympic Stadium. Tonight the Flame will be extinguished, bringing a close to the Games of the XXX Olympiad. What won't be extinguished are all the special moments and memories created during London 2012, in particular the exceptional performances of the world's best athletes.

We are here tonight to celebrate their achievements and applaud all the athletes who came to London to compete in a spirit of excellence, friendship and respect. It is thanks to them that the London 2012 Olympic Games will long be remembered as a benchmark for sporting excellence.

Of course, the Games would not have been such a success without the outstanding work of a host of different individuals and organisations. The passion for and support of the Games shown by the people of London and the United Kingdom deserve special praise as they helped create a unique and exciting environment for the athletes, visitors to the city and the billions of viewers watching around the world.

Thank you to the governments of London and the United Kingdom for your unwavering support of the organisation of the London Games. Our friends at the London 2012 Organising Committee should also take great pride in all that they accomplished. Your work from the very outset was simply outstanding.

I would also like to extend my highest praise to the unsung heroes of any edition of the Olympic Games: the volunteers. Your dedication, enthusiasm and contribution to London 2012 did not go unnoticed. Without you none of this could have happened!

Finally, thank you to the International Sports Federations and National Olympic Committees for supporting the athletes and allowing them to do what they do best for the enjoyment of billions around the world. After experiencing so many highs over the last 16 days, it is with some sadness that we bring these Games to a close. But London has been a gracious host and the Games will unquestionably leave a long and lasting legacy for the city, country and Olympic Movement.

Thank you, London! And see you in Rio in 2016!



Sebastian Coe

Chair, London 2012 Organising Committee

As the athletes prepare to enter the Olympic Stadium for the final time at the Closing Ceremony, and the world gets ready to bid farewell to the Games of the XXX Olympiad, the time has come to say goodbye, and thank you.

The Games brought the world a little closer, lifted our hopes and horizons, and reminded us of our common humanity. Together, we have delivered Games for our world and for our times – a Games for Everyone – for people of all faiths, cultures and backgrounds, a Games that connected millions of young people around the world directly with sport; a Games focused on excellence without extravagance, in the global financial downturn; and a Games delivered sustainably and responsibly.

We thank and pay tribute to the British people, whose generosity of spirit and passion for sport made these Games the amazing event they were. As well as the world's best athletes, we had the best volunteers, our Games Makers, who dedicated themselves to something positive for the world's athletes, for their country, and for the world. They can proudly say they made London 2012.

From the outset, these Games were designed for the athletes to inspire a generation, and most pleasing has been the feedback from athletes and team officials who have said they have rarely, if ever, witnessed sport so well presented, attended or so compelling and closely contested.

We worked hard through the global economic crisis to stage a Games that would inspire the world. The athletes were greeted with a sense of occasion, and there was an electric atmosphere in the venues, many of them at historic sites such as Horse Guards Parade, Hyde Park, Lord's Cricket Ground, Wimbledon and Wembley, and venues with postcard backdrops from Tower Bridge to Buckingham Palace.

Thank you to the IOC for entrusting these Games to us – we hope we have met the high expectations for London 2012; thank you to our wonderful partners and sponsors, for believing and investing in our vision for change; and thank you to the brave men and women in uniform for helping to keep us safe.

Thank you to the media for your tireless reporting and for sharing the stories of the athletes with the world. Your role in helping to take these inspirational stories to the world should never be underestimated. Above all, thank you to the athletes. When the world recalls London 2012, thoughts will return to a special time and place in our and in world history, to a journey through the mists of time back to a 'Green and Pleasant Land,' and inspiring accounts of the athletes; of epic sporting contests and uplifting performances that united our diverse planet, and inspired a generation.

Young people will know that it is possible to achieve great things, to triumph over adversity, and to challenge and change their circumstances by dedicating themselves to a task and believing in themselves. This will keep the Olympic ideal alive for future generations, until hopes of staging the Olympic Games begin to stir again, and we dream once more of welcoming you back to the 'Isles of Wonder'.

Please enjoy the Closing Ceremony – a symphony of British music, a celebration of all we have witnessed – produced by the imaginative and very talented Kim Gavin.



Rt Hon David Cameron MP

Prime Minister

The races have been run, the lengths have been swum, the medals have been awarded. This has been a truly spectacular Olympics, lit up by incredible sporting moments and an outpouring of national pride.

We've seen a new generation of heroes step into the spotlight – medal-winners who have inspired children around the world to try their best and keep trying until they succeed.

Then there are the heroes who made their mark behind the scenes: the volunteers who gave up their time to welcome the world to London; the workers who made these Games such a success. I want to thank each and every one of them.

But though the Games are drawing to a close, this isn't the end of the story – far from it. This is just the start of the next chapter, where we build on the success of the Games to leave a lasting legacy in London and across the United Kingdom – a legacy that will be measured in new investment in our cities and a new passion for sport in our communities.

At the start of this Olympics our ambition was simple: the biggest possible celebration, the greatest possible participation and the best possible legacy. I don't think anyone can deny that London 2012 has achieved all of this and more.



Boris Johnson

Mayor of London

In July 2005, when London was chosen to host the 2012 Olympic Games, Londoners began a thrilling journey. The first part of that journey ends today, as I pass the Olympic flag – along with our best wishes – to Mayor Paes of Rio de Janeiro. But this is not the end of our adventure.

As they always do, the Olympic Games have reminded us of sport's unique power to bring out the best in us, and to bring us together. The Paralympic Games, which open in this Stadium in two weeks time, will do the same.

But after the Paralympic Flag too has left these shores for Brazil, our Olympic Park will remain a beacon for sporting excellence. Its venues will inspire local communities and elite athletes alike, and its lawns will offer a hundred and one places to stretch the legs and fire the imagination.

And the legacy of the Games for London goes way beyond sport. Olympic investment has kickstarted a transformational renaissance in east London, bringing new jobs and new homes to the communities where they are most needed. The area now enjoys transport connections and communications infrastructure which, thanks to the added power of the Olympic spotlight, is already attracting investment from all over the world.

At a time of hardship, thousands of workless Londoners have found jobs thanks to the Games, and thousands more have been inspired to volunteer.

London will cherish its Olympic legacy. I hope your memories of London's Games last as long, and burn as bright.



Welcome

Welcome to the Closing Ceremony of the London 2012 Olympic Games.

After 16 days of competition, we wanted to host a celebration of all that's good about London, British people, our music and our culture. And capture the spirit that's inspired so much global creativity over the past 50 years.

First, because these are London's Games, we journey through a day in the life of the city – from early morning rush hour to glittering sunset – before moving on to an extended symphony, formed from some of the finest moments in British pop. A love letter to our invention and innovation, it's the pop music you know and love – accompanied by eye-popping visuals.

Extinguishing the Olympic Flame is a poignant moment at any Games, the climax of two weeks in which the athletes' endeavours and triumphs have caught the imagination of people across the globe. Our spectacular 'Spirit of the Flame' sequence represents the Flame's everlasting nature – may it blaze brightly in the hands of its next custodians, our friends in Rio de Janeiro.

For the 10,490 athletes, who trained exhaustively to get here, the Games are over and it's time to celebrate. We've called on some of the UK's most successful musicians – and a cast of more than 3,500 volunteers – to help us do just that.

This is London calling... calling you to a party for the world.

Kim Gavin

Artistic Director
London 2012 Olympic Games Closing Ceremony

The history of Olympic Ceremonies

Background to Olympic Ceremonies

In ancient Greece, the first day of Olympic competition opened with the competitors parading in chariots past the purple-robed judges, a herald and a trumpeter. The herald called out each competitor's name, the name of his father and his city, and then declared the Games officially open.

At the Opening Ceremony of the Games of the first modern Olympiad in Athens in 1896, athletes paraded into the stadium and a crowd of 70,000 watched as King George of Greece officially opened the Games.

Today, Greece still features prominently – their delegation leads the teams entering the Stadium for the Athletes' Parade at the Opening Ceremony, and the Greek flag is part of the formal handover from the current Host Nation to the next at the Closing Ceremony.

Ceremonies in the modern era balance the International Olympic Committee's protocol requirements – such as anthems, speeches and lighting the Cauldron – with spectacular music, dance and pageantry, reflecting the Host Nation's history and culture.

London's Olympic history

London is the first city to host the Summer Olympic Games three times.

The 1908 Games were originally awarded to Rome but, following the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 1906, London stepped in. A total of 22 nations sent 2,008 athletes (1,971 men and 37 women) who competed across 110 events. A pool, for swimming and diving, was in the centre of the track, together with platforms for wrestling and gymnastics.

The 1908 Games also featured innovations: athletes wearing uniforms paraded for the first time behind their country's flag at both the Opening and Closing Ceremonies. And the Marathon was fixed at 26 miles and 385 yards – the distance from Windsor Castle to the Royal Box in White City Stadium.

The Opening Ceremony of the 1948 Games took place at Wembley Stadium. The following weeks saw 136 events contested by 4,104 athletes from 59 nations. Known as the 'austerity Games', due to post-war rationing and hardship, there were no new venues or athletes' accommodation. The Parade of Athletes had a special symbolism as it brought together many nations that had spent the previous years ravaged by war.

The London 1948 Olympic Games was the first live event filmed in the UK. It was shown on home televisions, though few British people actually owned a TV. Volunteers were used for the first time at these Games, so the volunteer programme is coming home to where it all began.

Other London 2012 Ceremonies

Paralympic Opening Ceremony

Wednesday 29 August

Co-Artistic Directors Bradley Hemmings and Jenny Sealey promise a spectacular celebration of the inspirational spirit of the Paralympic Games that challenges perceptions of human possibility. Groundbreaking in its inclusivity and innovative staging, 'Enlightenment' will showcase the excellence of deaf and disabled artists among the professional and volunteer cast.

Paralympic Closing Ceremony

Sunday 9 September

Artistic Director Kim Gavin's 'Festival of the Flame' will see Coldplay, one of the world's best-selling music acts, perform a live and one-off concert. They'll play a set of their most iconic music in celebration of Britain's rich culture of festivals – from the ancient to the modern day – alongside a cast of almost 2,000. The Ceremony will also celebrate the achievements of amazing Paralympian endeavour over the previous 11 days and mark the last night of the London 2012 Games.

Olympic Opening Leremony

Friday 27 July

'This is for everyone' was the theme of the Opening Ceremony. The Ceremony captured the great revolutions in British society – the Industrial Revolution, the revolution of social attitudes that began in the 1960s and the digital revolution through which we're living now. Artistic Director Danny Boyle celebrated the achievements of key figures from British history and the creativity, exuberance and generosity of the British people. Performers included Rowan Atkinson in a comedy sequence with the London Symphony Orchestra, Sir Tim Berners-Lee (inventor of the World Wide Web), Sir Paul McCartney, Kenneth Branagh as Isambard Kingdom Brunel, and Her Majesty the Queen, as herself, in a scene with James Bond (Daniel Craig) shot at Buckingham Palace.

Around the UK, Sunday 12 August

People all over the UK will be coming together to celebrate the closing of the London 2012 Olympic Games. The Ceremony will be shown on big screens at 22 London 2012 Live Sites and big screens across the UK.

Embargo: 21:00 BST 12 Aug 2012

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Closing Ceremony overview

Running order

Rush Hour

God Save the Queen

Street Party

Waterloo Sunset

Parade of Athletes

Here Comes the Sun

A Symphony of British Music

The Road to Rio

Embrace

Closing of the Games

Spirit of the Flame

Finale

Key points

The Ceremony is a celebration of all that's good about London, British people, our music and our culture.

Music has been one of Britain's strongest cultural exports over the last 50 years and this evening's Ceremony brings together some of the country's most globally successful musicians, together with a cast of more than 3,500 volunteers.

A series of reinterpretations of the British flag are seen throughout the show. The Union Jack is suggested by monochrome newsprint ramps, a shimmering catwalk, the glowing tentacles of an enormous, multicoloured octopus, and Damien Hirst's red, white and blue spin painting.

Key team

Artistic Director: Kim Gavin

Associate Directors: Nathan Clarke, Gareth Walker

Music Director: David Arnold

Designer: Es Devlin

Costume Designer: Michael Sharp

Key performers

Principal performers: Alessandra Ambrósio, Beady Eye, BNegão, Russell Brand, Darcey Bussell, Naomi Campbell, Lily Cole, Taio Cruz, Ray Davies, Lily Donaldson, Jourdon Dunn, Elbow, Karen Elson, Fatboy Slim, David Gandy, Eric Idle, Georgia May Jagger, Jessie J, Richard Jones, Seu Jorge, Kaiser Chiefs, Annie Lennox, Julian Lloyd Webber, Madness, Nick Mason, George Michael, Marisa Monte, Kate Moss, Muse, One Direction, Pet Shop Boys, Queen, Mike Rutherford, Emeli Sandé, Ed Sheeran, Renato Sorriso, Timothy Spall, The Spice Girls, Take That, Tinie Tempah, Stella Tennant and The Who.

The volunteer cast of more than 3,500 hails from all over the world (every continent is represented).

They gave up their evenings and weekends to take part in a total of 135 rehearsals at two east London sites. On average, adult volunteers rehearsed for 60 hours each.

The 380 child volunteers were drawn from 10 schools in the six east London Host Boroughs.

All of the volunteers went through at least two audition sessions, which included skating, cycling and dancing.

Technology

The London 2012 Olympic Ceremonies are a celebration of – and a showcase for – 21st-century technology. Among the most exciting new ideas are the 'audience pixels'. The pixel screen extends around the audience seating area and is made up of 70,799 small panels mounted between the seats. Each of these panels has nine LED pixels – there are nearly 640,000 in total – which are controlled by a central computer. The pixel screen displays amazingly complex and beautiful images that flood the Stadium via the 317km of cable that connects to the central control. It took a team of 40 almost two months to install the system. And three people spent 40 hours lining up the images to the irregular shape of the seating bowl.

UK manufacturing

Some 737 suppliers have contributed to each of the four Ceremonies – Olympic Opening and Closing, and Paralympic Opening and Closing. Of these, 96 per cent are UK companies. This means that tens of thousands of British workers from all over the country have been involved in creating tonight's show.

Embargo: 21:00 BST 12 Aug 2012

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The Closing Ceremony scene-by-scene

Rush Hour

Duration: 00:03:09

The show begins with a journey through a day in the life of the city – from early morning rush hour to glittering sunset.

At first glance, the newsprint seems to describe rainy weather forecasts, erratic stocks and shares and sensational headlines. But look closer and it becomes clear that every line of text is from a classic of English literature.

The formation of newsprint ramps describes a monochrome Union Jack – the first of a series of reinterpretations of the British flag that will be seen during the show.

Emeli Sandé is unwrapped on a newspaper rubbish truck to sing 'Read All About It'.

Percussive noises come from within the cluster of buildings and build up to a euphoric cacophony. The source is a group of performers from Stomp, who are suspended within the structures, swinging from scaffolding.

Over this percussive turbulence floats the first few lines of The Beatles' 'Because', sung by Urban Voices Collective. It merges into Elgar's 'Salut d'Amour', performed by cellist Julian Lloyd Webber on top of the 'Royal Albert Hall'.

The print-wrapped traffic jam comes to life as a surge of newspaper-clad cars, cabs, trucks and mopeds rev their engines and honk their horns. A sea of newspaper-dressed businessmen and women emerges from the centre – just like a busy Monday morning on Waterloo Bridge.

Cast and creatives

Stomp were formed in Brighton by Steve McNicholas and Luke Cresswell in 1991. Today, there are several Stomp companies performing around the world. Stomp London recently celebrated its eighth year on the West End stage. This is the largest cast they've ever assembled, 40 performers is equivalent to five regular Stomp casts. Volunteer cast of 321.

Music

- Emeli Sandé performs 'Read All About It', which was originally written and recorded by Professor Green, with Emeli as a featured artist. It reached number one in the UK charts in 2011.
 See biography p41
- London gospel choir Urban Voices Collective perform 'Because' (1969) by The Beatles. John Lennon said the tune of 'Because' is based on Beethoven's 'Moonlight Sonata' played backwards.
- Julian Lloyd Webber with the London Symphony Orchestra (LSO) perform Edward Elgar's 1988 'salon' piece 'Salut D'Amour', originally composed for violin and piano.
- Soundtrack: The core orchestral soundtrack was recorded by the LSO, widely regarded as one of the world's leading orchestras.

Action

The audience arrives to a vision of working London, as we see it every day. The city's architectural highlights are wrapped in newspaper and crushed together at the epicentre.



Emeli Sandé is driven around the track in a newspaper rubbish truck, singing 'Read All About It'.



Members of physical theatre group Stomp 'play' London's buildings as if they were instruments – banging the structures like drums. Cars, cabs, trucks and mopeds rev their engines and honk their horns creating a chaotic cacophony of noise.



Facts and stats

108

vehicles, including 10 black cabs, 10 wedding cars, 10 vintage cars, 10 sports cars, 10 modern cars, 10 cars pulling trailers, 4 white transit vans, 10 trucks, 10 mopeds, 8 bicycles, 8 folding bikes and 8 skateboards

Background notes

- A popular image of the start of many people's working day in the capital is that of men and women crossing the River Thames from Waterloo station.
- The newsprint floor cloth features classic lines of English literature
 from the earliest surviving
 8th-century Anglo-Saxon poetry,
 Beowulf, through Chaucer,
 Shakespeare, Milton, Pope, Byron,
 Shelley, Wordsworth, Keats,
 Austen, Hardy, Dickens and Tolkien,
 right up to the current poet laureate,
 Carol Ann Duffy.
- The city's architectural highlights include St Paul's Cathedral, Big Ben, the London Eye, the Royal Albert Hall, the 'Gherkin' (St Mary Axe) and Battersea Power Station.

God Save the Queen

Duration: 00:04:19

From the top of Big Ben, the figure of Winston Churchill appears. Bellowing over the pandemonium, he speaks Caliban's poignant lines from Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, 'Be not afeard: the isle is full of noises.'

Horns blow, people shout, workers drill... the cacophony escalates until Churchill finally shouts, 'Stop!'

Everyone is silenced and Churchill gestures to the Royal Box. The road workers, wearing protective headphones, are oblivious and continue to dig with pneumatic drills. The sound merges into the drum intro to a fanfare, played by the Household Division Ceremonial State Band, which announces the arrival of His Royal Highness Prince Henry of Wales and Jacques Rogge, President of the International Olympic Committee.

A sea of Union Jacks fills the scene in a reference to the flag-mania that swept the country earlier this year in celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

The London Symphony Orchestra and Urban Voices Collective, a 60-strong vocal harmony group, lead spectators in the British National Anthem. The Union Flag is carried into the Stadium and raised by representatives of the Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force.

The printed grey rain clouds on the floor cloth are pulled away to reveal an artwork by one of the world's most famous living artists, Damien Hirst.

Cast and creatives

- Winston Churchill is played by Timothy Spall, who famously took on the role in the 2010 Oscarwinning film, The King's Speech. See biography p42
- The team of Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force personnel is led by Squadron Leader Pullen, Royal Air Force, RAF Abbeywood.
- The Union Flag is carried by Lance Sergeant Hay, Army, Unit F Company Scots Guards; Captain Mills, Royal Marines, Royal Marines Reserve City of London; Sergeant Odell, Royal Air Force,
- RAF Lyneham; Corporal of the Horse Puddifoot, Army, Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment; Warrant Officer Class 1 Randle, Royal Navy, HMS Raleigh; Leading Steward Robertson, Royal Navy, HMS Northumberland; Squadron Leader Smith, Royal Air Force, RAF High Wycombe.
- The Union Flag is raised by Guardsman Attuguayefio, Army, Wellington Barracks; Corporal Gerrard, Royal Marines, North Devon; Flight Sergeant Tate, Royal Air Force, RAF Henlow.

Music

- The LSO, Urban Voices Collective and the Household Division Ceremonial State Band perform 'God Save the Queen'.
- Performances by the Household
 Division Ceremonial State Band are
 an essential part of state ceremonial
 occasions from changing of the
 Queen's Guard at Buckingham
 Palace to Trooping the Colour at the
 State Opening of Parliament.

Action

Timothy Spall, playing Winston Churchill, gestures to the Royal Box.



Union Flags are waved from car windows during the National Anthem.



Damien Hirst's artwork transforms the Union Jack into a centrifugal explosion of red, white and blue – an expression of the dynamic, anarchic energy of British Pop Art.



Facts and stats

5,600

meters squared – the size of the specially commissioned floor cloth created by Damien Hirst

Background notes

- Winston Churchill twice served as UK Prime Minister (1940–5 and 1951–5) and is particularly celebrated for his leadership and defiance during World War II.
 He died in 1965 and has been portrayed many times on screen, stage and radio.
- Shakespeare's beautiful line from The Tempest, 'Be not afeard: the isle is full of noises', was also spoken in the the Opening Ceremony – by Kenneth Branagh in his role as Isambard Kingdom Brunel.
- HRH Prince Henry of Wales, known as Prince Harry, is the younger son of The Prince of Wales and the late Diana, Princess of Wales. He is third in the line of succession to the throne, after his father and brother, Prince William. After training as an officer in the Army, he joined the Household Cavalry and is now training to be a helicopter pilot. He is Patron to a number of charities and Joint Founder and Patron of Sentebale, which helps children orphaned by AIDS in the poverty-stricken Lesotho in Southern Africa.
- Jacques Rogge, President of the IOC, competed as a yachtsman over three Olympics – 1968, 1972 and 1976. He became the eighth President of the IOC in 2001 and has presided over six summer and winter Olympic Games. This is his final Games as President.

Street Party

Duration: 00:11:03

This year, the United Kingdom is celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee – the 60th year of her reign. Street parties and celebrations were held and the nation was draped in Union Flag bunting.

On the screens we see Michael Caine in the classic 1969 film *The Italian Job*. There's an eruption on one of the ramps. It's an exploding car – a bright yellow three-wheel Robin Reliant, instantly recognisable to fans of the classic British TV comedy *Only Fools and Horses*. The central characters, dressed as Batman and Robin, stagger out of the wreckage – in reference to one of the most famous episodes.

The infectious beats of 'Our House' by Madness kick in and the cast rips the newspaper from the cars to reveal brightly coloured vehicles.

Echoing the song's video, Lee Thompson, saxophone player with Madness, is lifted high above the truck and plays out the solo high above the stage.

Some 160 Guards from the Household Division Ceremonial State Band march behind Madness, then play an instrumental version of Blur's anthem to the multiplicity of London, 'Parklife'.

The Pet Shop Boys enter on rickshaws flanked by cyclists – all wearing fluorescent orange sculptural headgear, designed by the avant garde British fashion designer Gareth Pugh. They perform 'West End Girls'.

The final song in this section is perhaps the most innocent, and performed by the youngest band to feature tonight – the current global phenomenon One Direction, with 'What Makes You Beautiful'.

Forty members of Stomp reappear for a final blast of percussive choreography – playing dustbin lids, buckets and brooms, as they clear up the debris of torn-up newspaper.

Cast and creatives

Volunteer cast of 409.

Music

- Madness perform 'Our House' (1982), a song that evokes the tolerance and inclusiveness of cosmopolitan London – a city that revels in cultural diversity.
 See biography p40
- The Household Division Ceremonial State Band perform 'Parklife'. The title track of Blur's 1994 album, it was released at the height of the 'Britpop' phenomenon, which was crystalised in the band's feud with the other big group of the time: Oasis.
- The Hackney Colliery Band accompany the performances of 'Our House' and 'Parklife'. East London's unique take on a brass band are as diverse as the London borough that gave them their name.

- Pet Shop Boys (Neil Tennant and Chris Lowe) perform their track 'West End Girls'. Written in response to TS Eliot's 1922 poem 'The Waste Land', it is an iconic evocation of the undeniable undercurrents that pervade the city now as they did in 1984 when these lyrics were composed.
 See biography p41
- One Direction perform their track 'What Makes You Beautiful'.
 The boy band have soared to stardom over the past two years.
 Their debut album, Up All Night, was the fastest-selling album in the UK in 2011 and they're the first UK group to debut at number one with their first album in the US.
 See biography p41

Action

The voice of Michael Caine in the iconic British film *The Italian Job* echoes around the Stadium – 'Five, four, three, two, one...' – before he delivers the famous line, 'I only told you to blow the bloody doors off!'



The field of play, which had been entirely monochrome, erupts into a brilliant spectrum of brightly coloured vehicles around the perimeter track. Multicoloured balloons float out of the car boots.

Ten large trucks burst open to reveal street parties peopled with characters representing all walks of London life. The trucks are decorated with Union Flags – each one is composed of printed fabrics sourced from ground the world.



Background notes

- British film The Italian Job (1969) stars Michael Caine as the leader of a gang who undertake a complicated bullion robbery.
- The gigantic 130m wide artwork is a specially commissioned piece incorporating a red, white and blue Damien Hirst spin painting 'Beautiful Union Jack Celebratory Patriotic Olympic Explosion in an Electric Storm Painting'. Damien Hirst is Britain's most renowned living artist and the subject of a major retrospective at Tate Modern until 9 September as part of the London 2012 Festival. This is the largest reproduction of one of his works that has ever been produced.
- Street parties have a long history in the UK, dating back to Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897, and have become a popular community event to celebrate royal events. Recently, street parties were held up and down the country in celebration of Prince William's wedding and Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee earlier this year.
- British TV sitcom Only Fools and Horses first aired in 1981 and is routinely voted one of the most popular comedies in the UK. Set in south London, it revolves around the misadventures of scheming market trader Del Boy, his younger brother Rodney and their Uncle Albert.

Waterloo Sunset

Duration: 00:10:12

As the day draws to a close, the soundscape builds to the dissonant, cacophonous climax of The Beatles' 'A Day in the Life', as the elements that form the central knot of roads, traffic and buildings pull apart like a cosmological 'big bang'.

A thousand alarm clocks ring, beep and blare – the sound of the start of the day for thousands of London commuters – followed by the familiar piano chords of 'A Day in the Life' as 30 gymnasts from Spelbound contort themselves into illustrations of the lyrics .

Ray Davies arrives in a black cab and sings his 1960s hit 'Waterloo Sunset' with his band, alongside Urban Voices Collective and the London Symphony Orchestra.

Ten thousand lights transform the monochrome newsprint city into a surreal, supersaturated luminous funfair that's balanced and bounced on by clown-headed acrobatic city businessmen. A shimmering river of children weaves its way through, oblivious to the absurdities of the antics above.

The section ends with Emeli Sandé singing a reprise of 'Read All About It'.

Cast and creatives

 Spelbound are an acrobatic gymnastics troupe who rose to fame in 2010 through the British TV show Britain's Got Talent. They are all former or current members of the GB Acrobatic Gymnastics Team. Volunteer cast of 405.

Music

- Soundtrack: The Beatles 'A Day in the Life'(1967).
- Ray Davies performs 'Waterloo Sunset' (1967). Written by The Kinks' frontman, Davies, it's one of the band's best known and most acclaimed songs. The lyrics describe a narrator watching (or imagining) two young lovers passing over a bridge, and reflecting on the couple, the River Thames and Waterloo. See biography p39

 Emeli Sandé performs a reprise of 'Read All About It'.

Action

As The Beatles' 'A Day in the Life' comes to an end, the central knot of roads, traffic and buildings pulls apart in a dramatic burst.



Thirty gymnasts from Spelbound perform on and around the buildings, dressed as a gang of clown-headed city businessmen.



Ray Davies sings his 1969 hit, 'Waterloo Sunset'.



Facts and stats

10,000

lights transform the monochrome newsprint city into a supersaturated luminous funfair 40+

- the number of members of the gymnastic troupe, Spelbound

Background notes

 The 270 children who form the River Thames are from 10 schools in the six east London Host Boroughs.

Parade of Athletes

Duration: 00:14:10

The Olympic Games offer a unique opportunity to bring out the best in individuals and unite us all. This evening we celebrate the athletes from more than 200 nations whose exceptional endeavours and commitment to the Olympic values – excellence, friendship and respect – have been an inspiration to people across the world.

The athletes trained for years to get here and have achieved sporting milestones over the past 16 days. The Games have come to an end and it's time to celebrate. This is London – holding a party for the world.

The Union Flag stage graphic is transformed once again. Every Olympic nation is represented, as a stream of more than 200 flags of every colour and design trace over the roadways. A new composition by David Arnold, called 'Parade of Athletes', is performed by the London Symphony Orchestra.

Elbow perform 'Open Arms', followed by their hit 'One Day Like This', backed by the LSO and Urban Voices Collective.

The athletes flood into the Stadium and move into the 'wedges' between the ramped stage, led by the volunteers who carried the placards at the Opening Ceremony Athletes' Parade.

The Union Flag undergoes another metamorphosis – this time to a pointillist constellation of thousands of athletes wearing their national colours .

Cast and creatives

- Volunteer cast of 1,167.

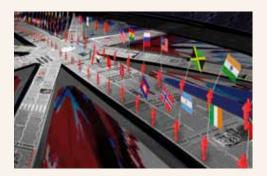
 David Arnold is the Music Director of the Olympic Closing Ceremony.

Music

 LSO perform 'Parade of Athletes' (2012), written by David Arnold for the Ceremony. Elbow perform 'Open Arms' (2011) and 'One Day Like This' (2009).
 See biography p39

Action

Flags from each of the more than 200 National Olympic Committees are carried into the Stadium by the athletes.



Elbow play 'One Day Like This' and 'Open Arms', accompanied by Urban Voices Collective and the LSO.



Here Comes the Sun

Duration: 00:20:04

A group of dhol drummers builds up an insistent percussive undercurrent, to the soundtrack of 'Running Up That Hill' (A Deal with God Remix). Drummers from the Dhol Foundation accompany the track.

Performers heave 303 white boxes – representing the 303 Olympic events – towards the centre stage. They form a pyramid on to which highlights of the past 16 days are projected. All the best bits are here: the winners and losers, their blood, sweat and tears.

The pyramid of boxes is now transformed into a stage for three elements of protocol.

Men's Marathon Victory Ceremony

In time-honoured tradition, the men's Marathon Victory Ceremony completes the Games' medal-giving.

IOC Athletes' Commission

This evening, we recognise the four newly elected members of the IOC's Athletes' Commission, who represent athletes within the Olympic Movement and uphold their rights and obligations.

Volunteer Recognition

You don't have to win a medal to be a hero. Tonight, the athletes and all of us recognise the 70,000 Games Maker volunteers whose energy, enthusiasm and remarkable dedication has contributed to the success of London 2012.

The performers shower the volunteers with petals.

Blackout. The Stadium becomes absolutely dark and silent.

Cast and creatives

Volunteer cast of 186.

 Sixteen dhol drummers. The dhol is a double-sided barrel drum widely used throughout the Indian subcontinent.

Music

 Soundtrack: Kate Bush – 'Running Up That Hill' (A Deal with God Remix) (2012). Urban Voices Collective and the Dhol Foundation perform George Harrison's 'Here Comes the Sun' (1969).

Background notes

 The Athletes' Commission upholds athletes' rights and obligations – its Chair serves on the IOC Executive Board, making representations to the IOC's executive bodies. It was created in 1981 by the then-IOC President, Juan Antonio Samaranch.

Action

Highlights of the past 16 extraordinary days of sporting endeavour, hope, disappointment, elation and achievement are projected onto a pyramid of boxes. The base of the pyramid is surrounded by colourful flower umbrellas. This film was made by the BBC.



A Symphony of British Music

Duration: 00:12:59

Over the past 50 years, British pop music has underscored memories and moments in lives all around the globe. Imagine a celestial radio tuning through the unforgettable lyrics and melodies that immediately transport the listener through time and place. 'A Symphony of British Music' celebrates those moments – a spontaneous, unpredictable synergy of styles with a spectacular sense of adventure.

Out of the darkness, snatches of music, noise and speech emerge – as if a celestial radio is tuning erratically through a range of frequencies, decades and musical genres.

The voice of Freddie Mercury echoes around the Stadium, singing Queen's 'Bohemian Rhapsody'.

Then 101 fragments of a broken sculpture become discernable, emerging from the darkness along the ramps. They come together to form a sculpture of the face of John Lennon. 'Imagine' is sung and signed by choirs from Liverpool (Lennon's birthplace), as we hear Lennon's voice and see him on the screens.

We hear the familiar keyboard introduction to the iconic 1990s anthem to liberated self-expression, 'Freedom '90', and a figure makes his way through the choir and orchestra – it's George Michael.

The song segues into his latest record, 'White Light'.

Cast and creatives

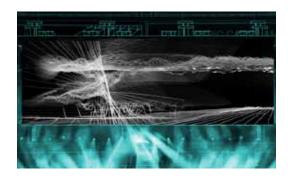
- Volunteer cast of 751.
- The footage of John Lennon singing 'Imagine' has been exclusively remastered by Yoko Ono for the Closing Ceremony. Taken from the Lennon-Ono family archive, it's the original camera roll of John's close-up from their famous 'Imagine' film shoot from 22 July 1971, which has never been seen before in its entirety. The original audio recording has also been specially remastered for the occasion by Yoko at Abbey Road Studios in collaboration with Music Director David Arnold.

Music

- Soundtrack: Queen 'Bohemian Rhapsody' (1975).
- A choir of nearly 100, including members of the Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Choir and Liverpool Signing Choir, performs 'Imagine' (1971)
- George Michael performs 'Freedom '90' (1990) and 'White Light' (2012). 'White Light' is a personal ode to endurance and survival. See biography p41

Action

Sound waves fill the screens as Freddie Mercury's voice echoes around the Stadium.



Fragments of a broken sculpture come together, like a jigsaw, to form the face of John Lennon onto which clouds are projected.



George Michael sings 'Freedom '90' and 'White Light', accompanied by the LSO.



Facts and stats

101

fragments create the face of John Lennon

173
dancers in this segment

70,799

small panels are mounted between the seats to create the audience pixel screen. Each panel has **9** LED pixels – that's nearly **640,000** in total. **317km** of cable connects the panels to the central control

25

A Symphony of British Music continued

Duration: 00:16:29

Music and fashion – twin peaks of our cultural output, inextricably linked down the decades. From Mod to rock, punk to Brit pop, British designers are renowned for capturing the sound of the suburbs in the look of the catwalk.

The Stadium plunges into a dark blue light. Spotlights reveal the Kaiser Chiefs, who play the opening chords to The Who's 'Pinball Wizard'. Inflatable silver pinballs bounce around the athletes and 50 scooters driven by Mods enter the Stadium. The Kaiser Chief's Ricky Wilson is revealed on one of the scooters as he sings the song.

Next, a sequence of sound waves on the audience pixels floats up to form images of David Bowie on the screens, as we hear a compilation of his most iconic songs. The homage to Bowie culminates in 'Fashion'.

Eight large billboards are driven around the track displaying stunning photos of British supermodels, wearing bespoke creations by British fashion designers. When the drapes are pulled off the billboards, the supermodels themselves are revealed.

The Union Jack appears again, this time as a network of eight shimmering catwalks, upon which some of the world's most celebrated supermodels strut.

Clouds of smoke surround the Olympic Cauldron and a dark skeletal ship emerges. We hear an extraordinary voice and the ship's figurehead is revealed – Annie Lennox.

As the ghost galleon steers its way back into the cloud of smoke, two men in 1970s business suits are revealed on a tightrope, high above the field of play. Ed Sheeran is discovered on the north stage, singing Pink Floyd's poignant 'Wish You Were Here'. He's accompanied by Nick Mason, Richard Jones and Mike Rutherford.

The tightrope-walking businessmen meet and, as they shake hands, one of them spontaneously combusts into flames – recreating the celebrated album cover for Pink Floyd's Wish You Were Here.

Cast and creatives

- The black-and-white shots, by the celebrated fashion photographer Nick Knight, were specially commissioned by British Vogue for their 'Gold' themed editorial shoot, to coincide with the Olympic Games.
- The photographs, which appear in the September issue of Vogue, feature nine British supermodels wearing bespoke creations by iconic British fashion designers Kate Moss and Naomi Campbell in Alexander McQueen, Lily Donaldson in Vivienne Westwood, Stella Tennant in Christopher Kane, Karen Elson in Burberry, Lily Cole in Erdem, Georgia May Jagger in Victoria Beckham, Jourdan Dunn in Jonathan Saunders and Stephen Jones and David Gandy in Paul Smith. See biographies from p38

Music

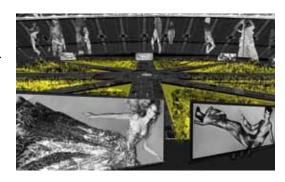
- Kaiser Chiefs perform The Who's hit 'Pinball Wizard' (1969).
 See biography p40
- Soundtrack: David Bowie 'Space Oddity' (1969), 'Changes' (1972), 'Ziggy Stardust' (1972), 'The Jean Genie' (1974), 'Rebel Rebel' (1974), 'Diamond Dogs' (1974), 'Young Americans' (1975) and 'Let's Dance' (1983). 48 Company Drummers accompany 'Fashion' (1980).
- Annie Lennox performs 'Little Bird' (1993). See biography p40
- Ed Sheeran performs Pink Floyd's 'Wish You Were Here' (1975) with Nick Mason, original drummer with Pink Floyd, Richard Jones from The Feeling and Mike Rutherford, founder member of Genesis. See biographies from p38

Action

The instantly identifiable iconography of The Who and the Mod movement – the military target symbol – radiates around the audience pixel screen. Then 50 pimped-up scooters race over the ramps as the Kaiser Chiefs perform The Who's 'Pinball Wizard'.



Nine British supermodels are revealed from behind billboards, to strut their stuff on the shimmering, criss-crossing catwalk. The tone shifts from glamour to Gothic as the 'goon squad' gather in formation on the centre stage – viewed from above, their bodies form the shape of a human skull.



Annie Lennox appears as the figurehead on a ghost galleon, singing 'Little Bird'.



Facts and stats

25

large inflatable silver pinballs released among the athletes

50

scooters pimped-up by the cast themselves

Background notes

- Mods short for Modernists were part of a subculture that originated in London in the late 1950s and peaked in the early to mid 1960s. Significant elements of Mod subculture include fashion, music and scooters.
- The iconic album cover for Wish You Were Here was created by Storm Thorgerson, who worked extensively with Pink Floyd.
- 'Pinball Wizard', from the 1969 rock opera album *Tommy*, is written from the perspective of a pinball champion astounded by the skills of the main character, Tommy.

A Symphony of British Music continued

Duration: 00:21:57

Our pavements may be grey, but by night we dream in iridescent colour. Elements of daily British life are now seen through the prism of psychedelic song lyrics. Expect the unexpected as we celebrate British individuality and freedom of spirit – the essence of the English eccentric.

Celebrated British comedian Russell Brand sings 'Pure Imagination' from Willie Wonka & the Chocolate Factory. He appears seated on top of a psychedelic tour bus, before singing The Beatles' 'I am the Walrus', accompanied by string quartet Bond. When the bus arrives at the centre stage, 21 psychedelic passengers, including Bond, emerge and the bus sprouts an enormous, fluorescent, multicoloured octopus.

British DJ Fatboy Slim rises into view from its head, spinning his decks. Two hundred dancers dance to his anthemic hits 'Right Here, Right Now' and 'The Rockafeller Skank', while others animate the eight glowing octopus tentacles into a surreal echo of the Union Jack.

Now three limousines drive around the track. One by one their passengers are revealed and perform three contemporary hits – Jessie J's 'Price Tag', Tinie Tempah's 'Written in the Stars' and Taio Cruz's 'Dynamite'.

The three singers come together to perform the Bee Gees' infectious disco hit, 'You Should Be Dancing'.

Ten black cabs perform a taxi ballet. Five of them suddenly come to life in shimmering LED: one is baby pink, one has sporty stripes, another is posh diamante, the next shows a Union Flag and the last is covered with scary animal print.

The passengers emerge, climb onto the cab roofs and are driven around the track: it's the Spice Girls – Britain's most celebrated girl group – reformed for one night only.

British band Beady Eye, led by vocalist Liam Gallagher, perform one of the defining songs of the 1990s, 'Wonderwall'.

Music

- Russell Brand performs 'Pure Imagination' and The Beatles' 'I am the Walrus' (1967), accompanied by Bond. See biography p38
- Bond are an Australian/British string quartet who have sold more than four million records worldwide.
- Fatboy Slim performs 'Right Here, Right Now' (1998) and 'The Rockafeller Skank' (1998).
 See biography p39
- Jessie J performs 'Price Tag' (2011).
 See biography p40

- Tinie Tempah performs 'Written in the Stars' (2010).
 See biography p42
- Taio Cruz performs 'Dynamite' (2010). See biography p39
- Soundtrack: the Bee Gees' 'You Should Be Dancing'.
- The Spice Girls perform 'Spice Up Your Life' (1997) and 'Wannabe' (1996). See biography p42
- 'Wonderwall' (1995) performed by Beady Eye, with lead vocalist Liam Gallagher. See biography p38

Action

Russell Brand sings 'Pure Imagination' from atop a psychedelic tour bus, accompanied by the LSO.



The scene includes an enormous, fluorescent, multicoloured octopus and three limousines from which Jessie J, Tinie Tempah and Taio Cruz emerge.



The Spice Girls ride the roofs of choreographed cabs driven around the Stadium.



Facts and stats

50m

– the diameter of the octopus when fully extended

700m

of LED lights in the octopus

20mph

- the speed the electric-powered octopus is capable of reaching

10

black cabs, 3 limousines, 21 psychedelic passengers

Background notes

- Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory (1971) is an adaptation of the children's book Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by British author Roald Dahl, known for his dark fantasies. In the song, written by Leslie Bricusse and Anthony Newley, the film's star Gene Wilder celebrates the power of the imagination.

A Symphony of British Music continued

Duration: 00:15:33

Electric Light Orchestra's 'Mr Blue Sky' fills the Stadium, as home-made flying machines begin a series of attempts to fly – the most ancient human aspiration. A human cannonball attempt fails, the would-be rocket man collapses down under the stage. He comes back to life surrounded by angels: it's Eric Idle, in a white jump suit and goggles. He leads the crowd in a heartwarming new version of the famous Monty Python song, 'Always Look on the Bright Side of Life'.

He's joined by a surreal selection of characters – Morris Dancers jigging their way up the ramps, a choir of rugby players, Bhangra dancers, a battalion of the Roman army, Scottish pipers, skating nuns and an opera singer.

A bigger, better cannon finally launches its human cannonball across the Stadium.

A British band known for their fascination with outer space, Muse perform their London 2012 Olympic song, 'Survival', from the north stage.

By the end of the song, four tipper trucks have driven up the ramps and explode in a fury of powerful pyrotechnics. In the aftermath of the explosion, a figure is discernable on each of the raised trucks – it's a film of Freddie Mercury performing live in 1986 at Wembley Stadium.

Freddie sings his famous 'call and response' with the audience – 'deyo, deyo' – before the trucks drive down the ramps to reveal Roger Taylor from Queen on drums. Bandmate Brian May plays the guitar solo from 'Brighton Rock' on the north stage then joins Jessie J for the final song, the classic Queen anthem, 'We Will Rock You'.

Music

- Soundtrack: Electric Light Orchestra
 'Mr Blue Sky' (1977).
- Eric Idle performs 'Always Look on the Bright Side of Life' (1979).
 See biography p39
- For his performance Eric is joined by opera singer Susan Bullock, Hackney Colliery Band, London Welsh Rugby Club, Reading Scottish Pipe Band and Blackheath Morris Men. Susan Bullock is one of the world's leading dramatic sopranos.
- Muse perform their London 2012
 Olympic song, 'Survival'.
 See biography p41
- Brian May and Roger Taylor from Queen perform 'Brighton Rock' (1974). They're joined by Jessie J for 'We Will Rock You' (1977). See biography p40

Action

The segment opens with home-made flying machines and a surreal selection of characters, including Morris Dancers, singing rugby players, Bhangra dancers, a Roman army battalion, Scottish pipers, skating nuns, an opera singer and angels.



Muse perform the London 2012 Olympic song, 'Survival'.



A film collage of Freddie Mercury's 1986 concert performance is projected onto trucks.



Facts and stats

2

cannons

6

flying machines

4

tipper trucks

Background notes

- Monty Python is the name given to a group of comedians – John Cleese, Eric Idle, Michael Palin, Graham Chapman, Terry Jones and Terry Gilliam – who created the surreal British TV sketch show Monty Python's Flying Circus in the late-1960s and early '70s. They went on to make a series of feature films including Monty Python's Life of Brian, which closes with the musical number 'Always Look on the Bright Side of Life'.
- Queen's extrovert frontman, Freddie Mercury, was due to perform his hit song 'Barcelona' at the Opening Ceremony of Barcelona 1992 but died eight months before the Games. A recording of the track was played instead. It became the song most closely associated with the Games.
- Chachi Valencia, alias 'The Rocket Man', has been fired from cannons for the past 23 years and is propelled 165ft into the air.

The Road to Rio

Duration: 00:08:13

At the south end of the Stadium a new stage has been set in position. It takes the form of an arrow – pointing towards the Host City of Rio 2016.

To honour the origins of the Olympic Games, the Greek flag is raised and the Greek national anthem is played.

The Olympic Flag is lowered. It's followed by the Olympic Anthem, sung by the London Welsh Male Voice Choir and the London Welsh Rugby Club Choir.

Boris Johnson, Mayor of London, then hands the Olympic Flag to Jacques Rogge, President of the International Olympic Committee, who presents it to Eduardo Paes, Mayor of Rio de Janeiro. Following tradition, each man waves the flag four times.

As London 2012 comes to its climax, the Brazilian anthem is played, the Brazilian flag is raised and the search for Rio 2016's heroes begins.

The Brazilian and Greek flags are carried and raised by the same team from the Army, Navy and Royal Air Force who carried and raised the Union Flag (see p16).

The Olympic Flag is lowered by Medicine Marine Moynihan, Royal Marines, Plymouth; Squadron Leader Stagles, Royal Air Force, Birmingham Royal Centre for Defence; Leading Physical Training Instructor Jackson, Royal Navy, HMS Drake.

Music

- National Anthem of Greece recorded by the London Philharmonic Orchestra (LPO).
- The London Welsh Male Voice Choir and the London Welsh Rugby Club Choir sing the Olympic Anthem.
- National Anthem of Brazil recorded by the LPO.

Action

The Olympic Flag is lowered by members of the Armed Forces – listed on p16



Embrace

Duration: 00:08:00

The Rio 2016 artistic segment celebrates Rio de Janeiro's contagious mix of cultures, music and dance with a warm and welcoming embrace.

The Handover marks the first time a South American country will host the Olympic Games. The Mayor of Rio de Janeiro, Eduardo Paes, will receive the Flag on behalf of over 190 million Brazilians.

Action

Street cleaner Renato Sorriso appears centre stage practising *Samba* steps. A security guard tries to remove him, but is disarmed by a *Carioca* embrace. A Carnival parade invades the stage.



Singer Marisa Monte enters with a giant gown referencing goddess of the sea Yemanjà. Her classical music piece mixes indigenous rhythms and a rendition of pop song 'Maracatu Atômico' by rapper BNegão.



Creative team

- Creative Directors:
 Cao Hamburger and
 Daniela Thomas
- Creative Supervisor:Abel Gomes

Executive Producer:
 Marco Balich

Principal performers:

Alessandra Ambrósio, BNegão,
 Seu Jorge, Marisa Monte, Renato
 Sorriso – see biographies from p38

Background notes

- Yemanjà is the loruba goddess of water. She is celebrated on New Year's Eve on the beach of Copacabana.
- Maracatu is an Afro-Brazilian style of dance. It originated in the sugar
- cane plantations of north-east Brazil and has been revisited by Brazilian contemporary music.
- Malandros were dandy characters of 1940s Lapa, a neighbourhood in Rio de laneiro.

Actor-singer Seu Jorge walks on stage in a *malandro*-style suit. He is joined by an acrobatic group of *Capoeira* fighters and by dancing couples, including model Alessandra Ambrósio. A piece of mass choreography recreates the Copacabana sidewalk.

The whole cast unites in an embrace in front of Rio's unique skyline, while the Rio 2016 logo appears on stage.





Closing of the Games

Duration: 00:06:56

Speeches

Sebastian Coe, Chair, London 2012 Organising Committee

An authentic Olympic giant, Seb Coe won two gold and two silver medals over successive Games – 1980 and 1984. In 1979 he broke three different world records in 41 days and his rivalry with fellow middle-distance runner Steve Ovett is one of the great Olympic stories.

Jacques Rogge, President of the International Olympic Committee

Jacques Rogge competed as a yachtsman over three Olympics – 1968, 1972 and 1976. He became the eighth President of the IOC in 2001 and has presided over six summer and winter Olympic Games. This is his final Games as President.

Olympic Flag

Hugely iconic, the Flag with its five interlocking Rings – designed by Pierre de Coubertin, founder of the modern Olympics – was first flown at the Antwerp Games in 1920 and represents the bringing together of the world's five inhabited continents.

Extinguishing the Olympic Flame

Burning bright noon and night across 16 days of sporting excellence, the Olympic Flame will now be extinguished, a powerful, poignant moment signifying the end of the 2012 Games – and the countdown to Rio 2016.



More details will be revealed on the night. Please look out for the Closing Ceremony update, which contains all the information you will need.

Background notes

- Designer Thomas Heatherwick's Cauldron was lit by seven young Torchbearers – aspiring athletes – at the Opening Ceremony. It was then moved to its new location in the Stadium, ceremonially relit by 1948 Torchbearer Austin Playfoot. The location in the eyesight of competing athletes is reminiscent of the location of the Cauldron at Wembley for the 1948 Games.
- After the Games, each competing team will take home one of the petals that makes up the Cauldron and the Cauldron will cease to exist. Like a flower that blooms for the duration of the competition, it's a temporary representation of the extraordinary transitory community that is the Olympic Games.

Action

Sebastian Coe, Chair of the London 2012 Organising Committee, and Jacques Rogge, President of the International Olympic Committee, make their speeches from the arrow-shaped stage at the south end of the Stadium.



Finale

Duration: 00:11:07

One of the UK's most iconic rock bands, The Who, burst into 'Baba O'Riley', which segues into 'See Me, Feel Me'.

As the band play, a montage of faces flashes onto the Stadium screens. The momentum builds as the faces multiply, expressing a sense of unity that the Games has generated in the UK and beyond.

Darcey Bussell, prima ballerina, joins the performers from Rio and leads them in a procession around the Stadium.

Finally, everyone joins in for The Who's irreverent hymn to endless renewal and regeneration. It's the final song of the Ceremony, its ultimate manifesto: 'My Generation'.

Action

The Who perform the final rousing songs of the night.



Music

- The Who perform 'Baba O'Riley' (1971), 'See Me, Feel Me' (1970), 'Listening to You' (1970) and 'My Generation' (1965). See biography p42

Background notes

- 'See Me, Feel Me' and 'Listening to You' are taken from The Who's album Tommy (1969), which is also the source of 'Pinball Wizard', performed by Kaiser Chiefs earlier this evening.

Principal performers and production team

Principal performers

'To be involved in the Olympics is such a privilege. This is a great moment in British history and I am honoured to be taking part. Together with my fellow models, this gives British fashion the collective opportunity to take centre stage in the presence of the world's greatest athletes, and is such an amazing way to support the Games.'

Naomi Campbell

In alphabetical order

Alessandra Ambrósio

Alessandra is one of the world's top models. She's the face of large global companies and often appears on the cover of international magazines. She's also an ambassador of NMSS (National Multiple Sclerosis Society) and sponsor of ABEM (Associação Brasileira de Esclerose Múltipla/Brazilian Association for Multiple Sclerosis).

Beady Eye

English rock band Beady Eye was founded in 2009 by former members of Oasis – Liam Gallagher, Gem Archer, Andy Bell and Chris Sharrock. They released their debut album *Different Gear, Still Speeding* in 2011 and have a second album in the pipeline. They've also toured the UK, Europe and America.

BNegão

BNegão is one of Brazil's most versatile and active rappers. He's performed all over the world, including Japan, USA, Mexico and Europe, and at large festivals such as Roskilde, Eurockéennes and Rock in Rio.

Russell Brand

Russell's achieved international success as an actor, comedian and writer. He's currently starring in his unscripted, late night series *Brand X* in the USA and has featured in films including *Forgetting Sarah Marshall, Arthur* and *Get Him to the Greek*. His autobiography, My Booky Wook, was on the New York Times bestseller list for five weeks.

Darcey Bussell

Darcey Bussell CBE became Principal Dancer for The Royal Ballet at the age of 20 and held the position until she retired in 2007, by which time she'd danced every major role in classical ballet. Her work across dance and the media has made her a much-loved household name.

Naomi Campbell

Naomi is one of the world's most prolific supermodels. A global icon, entrepreneur and fundraiser for charity, she was the first black model on the cover of *Time* magazine and French *Vogue*, and has appeared on more than 500 magazine covers to date. A formidable force in fashion, Naomi is also known for her Fashion For Relief charity initiative.

Lily Cole

Lily is an actress and activist. She appeared on her first British Vogue cover at 16 and graduated with double first-class honours in Art History from Cambridge University in 2011. Her new film releases include *The Moth Diaries* and *Snow White & The Huntsman*. Her first TV series premieres this year with the Sky Arts channel.

'Being born and bred in London, it fills me with pride to have such a monumental event hosted by us. When I was in school, I used to be into Athletics and was incredible at the 100m, Long Jump and High Jump. Unfortunately, I had a foot operation that hinders my ability to continue down that path but, luckily, I'm blessed with musical talents as well! I'm so honoured to be part of the Closing Ceremony!'

'This has got to be one of the most exciting moments of my entire life. I'm so honoured to be flying the flag alongside Team GB at the Closing Ceremony – all the athletes have been incredible, they've done the nation proud.'

Jessie J

Taio Cruz

Taio Eruz

London-born Taio is a BRIT Award-winning, singer-songwriter. He is YouTube's most viewed UK musician of all time with over 400 million views. The success of his debut album *Departure* in 2008 made him a sought-after producer and songwriter, leading to many collaborations – with David Guetta, Jennifer Lopez and Usher, among others.

Ray Davies

Ray, one of the most successful and influential songwriters to emerge from the British Invasion of the 1960s, founded The Kinks with his brother Dave in 1963. The band's string of top 10 international hits include 'You Really Got Me', 'Dedicated Follower of Fashion' and 'Waterloo Sunset'. He has released two solo albums, including the top 10 collaborations album See My Friends.

Lily Donaldson

Born in London, Lily is the daughter of photographer Matthew Donaldson. She's an international Vogue cover girl, with an iconic catalogue that includes shoots with photographers Mario Testino, Annie Leibowitz and Steven Meisel. She's in demand with the most powerful fashion brands including Gucci, Chanel and Burberry, to whom she was contracted for several seasons.

Jourdan Dunn

Cool and beautiful international *Vogue* cover girl, Jourdan was the first black model to walk for Prada in 13 years and was a cover star of *Vogue Italia's* iconic black issue. She's contracted for industry giants Burberry and YSL makeup and is a favourite of designers Dior, Marc Jacobs, Dolce & Gabbana and Louis Vuitton.

Elbow

Over the last five years Elbow have become one of the biggest UK bands in the world. Their multi-platinum album *The Seldom Seen Kid* led to arena tours, a Mercury Music Prize, BRIT and Ivor Novello Awards. The band composed 'First Steps', the BBC's official soundtrack for the London 2012 Olympic Games.

Karen Elson

International supermodel Karen came to notoriety when she shaved off her eyebrows and dyed her hair bright red for an Italian *Vogue* cover shoot with Steven Meisel. She's since worked for every major fashion brand in the world. Also a singer, she released her debut single 'The Ghost Who Walks' in 2010, produced by Jack White.

Fathoy Slim

Fatboy Slim was born in Norman Cook's House of Love in Brighton over 15 years ago. In that time he's conquered the world entertaining his adoring fans with his spectacular DJ shows, selling millions of records and making some of the most memorable pop music videos in history.

David Gandy

David has appeared in numerous campaigns and catwalk shows, including Fashion For Relief with Naomi Campbell. He's the face of Dolce & Gabbana's Light Blue fragrance, has worked with top international photographers Mario Testino and Steven Meisel and has appeared on covers of VMan, L'Optimum and GQ.

Eric Idle

Eric is a comedian, actor, songwriter and author. He co-created Monty Python, and The Rutles, wrote the worldwide hit, Tony Award-winning musical *Spamalot* (currently in the West End), and the words and music of the classic 'Always Look on the Bright Side of Life'.

'In these times of doom and gloom, when you're scared to open a newspaper for fear of hearing any more doomungous news, having the world here on our doorstep celebrating the greatest city on earth has cheered the cockles of our icy, cynical hearts. Sometimes you're proud, sometimes you're privileged and for the first time we can say we are proud and, indeed, privileged to be involved in such a great celebration of all the good things about the human race - Wiggo!'

Madness

Georgia May Jagger

Blessed with the genetic dream team of Jerry Hall and Mick Jagger, Georgia has cultivated her own unique style. She is brand ambassador for Rimmel, Material Girl and has just shot the campaign for her first fragrance. Georgia has appeared in British and American Vogue, and continues to work on major international fashion campaigns.

Jessie J

Jessie J has hit number one in 19 countries, sold over 2.5 million copies of her debut album, *Who You Are*, and broken UK chart history by becoming the first UK solo artist to achieve six top ten hits from one album. She was recently a coach on BBC talent show, *The Voice*.

Richard Jones

Richard is the bass player with The Feeling, alongside band mates Dan Sells, Ciaran and Kevin Jeremiah and Paul Stewart. They've sold over a million albums, won the Ivor Novello Award for Songwriters of the Year and, in 2006, were the most played act on UK radio.

Seu Jorge

From an early age, Seu Jorge knew that he wanted to be a musician. From the age of 10, he attended samba gatherings in Rio de Janeiro, and soon began to sing in nightclubs. He describes himself as a popular singer and composer, who likes innumerable musical genres, but whose origins lie in samba.

Kaiser Chiefs

Since the release of their debut chart topping album, *Employment*, in 2005 Kaiser Chiefs have won three BRIT Awards, an Ivor Novello Award and sold over six million albums. As well as touring extensively, they've had four UK top 10 albums and six top 10 singles including a number one with 'Ruby'.

Annie Lennox

Singer, songwriter, campaigner and activist, Annie has sold over 80 million records and has been honoured with countless awards for both her music and humanitarian work. Achievements include eight BRIT Awards, four Grammy Awards, an Oscar, a Golden Globe and an OBE in recognition of her tireless campaigning and championing of humanitarian causes.

Julian Lloyd Webber

Acclaimed worldwide as one of the finest cellists of his generation, Julian has worked with an extraordinary array of musicians including Yehudi Menuhin, Georg Solti, Lorin Maazel, Stephane Grappelli, Cleo Laine and Elton John. He plays a rare Stradivarius cello, dating from 1690.

Modness

Madness are a quintessentially British pop group – nutty, natty and nifty. They've sold more than 10 million albums and had 25 top 40 singles, including 'Baggy Trousers', 'Our House' and 'It Must Be Love'. Their most recent album, The Liberty of Norton Folgate, was the most well received of their career.

Nick Mason

Nick is the drummer in one of the most creative and enduring bands of all time – Pink Floyd. Over 40 years, Nick has been part of every phase of the band – from London's late 1960s underground, the creation of *The Wall*, world tours in the 1990s and the reunion with Roger Waters at Live8 in 2005.

'We're delighted to be performing at the Closing Ceremony. The atmosphere in London right now, and all across the country, is amazing and to be part of that is incredible.'

Muse

'To be involved in the Olympics is a huge honour for us. We're so grateful for the opportunity, and to perform to such a huge audience is both terrifying and truly exciting!'

One Direction

George Michael

Over a 30-year career, superstar singer-songwriter George has built a groundbreaking and enormously popular body of work. He's sold over 110 million albums worldwide, topped charts from Austria to Australia, sold out stadiums from Tokyo to Tampa, received numerous international awards and redefined popular music with his number one albums.

Marisa Monte

Over a 20-year career, Marisa has sold more than 10 million records and won numerous awards. She's recognised as one of the great singers of modern Brazilian music, with a gift for making the connection between traditional music and contemporary pop.

Kate Moss

Since being discovered by Storm in 1988, Kate has appeared on the cover of every major international fashion magazine, including 36 covers of British Vogue. Recent work includes fronting campaigns for YSL, Dior, Rimmel and Salvatore Ferragamo. Her iconic fashion status has led to design collaborations with Topshop, Longchamp, Fred and Coty.

MUSE

Since forming in 1994, Muse have released five studio albums, three live albums and an extensive list of top ten singles. Numerous awards include five MTV Europe Music Awards, five Q Awards, eight NME Awards, two BRIT Awards, four Kerrang! Awards, plus a Mercury Prize nomination and three Grammy nominations.

One Direction

Formed two years ago on the UK's X Factor, One Direction's debut album, Up All Night, has sold over two million copies and hit number one in 16 countries. They became the first British band to reach number one on the US Billboard chart with a debut album and their Live DVD has been number one in 27 countries.

Pet Shop Boys

After seven UK platinum albums, collaborations with Dusty Springfield, David Bowie and Liza Minnelli, a ballet for Sadler's Wells and a score for *Battleship Potemkin*, the duo were presented with the Outstanding Contribution to Music Award at the BRIT Awards in 2009. Their new studio album, *Elysium*, is released later this year.

Queen

Rock legends Queen are responsible for some of the best-known songs in the world, including stadium anthems 'We Will Rock You' and 'We Are the Champions'. Their *Greatest Hits* album is Britain's bestselling album ever and their single 'Bohemian Rhapsody' is year-on-year voted the best single of all time.

Mike Rutherford

Mike is a founder member, guitarist, bassist and songwriter with Genesis. Over four decades the band has sold over 150 million albums and played more than 4,000 live shows. In 1984 he formed Mike & The Mechanics and had a succession of international hits, including 'The Living Years'.

Emeli Sandé

BRIT Awards Critics' Choice winner Emeli has written songs for some of the biggest names in pop. Revered by her peers and championed by artists like Alicia Keys and Coldplay's Chris Martin, she released her debut album *Our Version of Events* in 2012 which reached number one in the charts.

'It is thrilling to perform before the world as part of the Closing Ceremony of the London 2012 Olympic Games. Generations of British musicians are coming together to celebrate the sporting achievements of our country and the whole world, and we feel very proud to have been invited to take part.'

Pet Shop Boys

Ed Sheeran

Ed's debut album + sold more than 100,000 copies in its first week, making it the biggest selling debut for a UK male in over 10 years. He's racked up a myriad of accolades, including two BRIT Awards, and has played at major UK festivals as well as selling out all of his headline shows.

Renato Sorriso

Renato found fame in 1997 when, instead of sweeping the track of the Sambodrome, he started to dance. The public loved his samba skills and charisma, which has made him popular with the Brazilian media and in demand on the lecture circuit.

Timothy Spall

One of Britain's most talented character actors, Timothy has had a distinguished career on stage and screen. Recent work includes playing Peter Pettigrew in the Harry Potter films, Winston Churchill in *The King's Speech*, Peter Taylor in *The Damned United* and the BAFTAnominated documentary *Timothy Spall: Back at Sea.*

The Spice Girls

The Spice Girls are the biggest-selling girl group of all time, selling over 75 million records. Their debut album Spice sold more than 28 million copies worldwide, they've had nine UK number one singles and 'Wannabe' is the biggest-selling single ever by an all-female group, reaching number one in more than 30 countries.

Take That

Since forming in 1990, Take That have had 54 number one singles and 35 number one albums around the world, winning a string of awards along the way. *Progress* (2010) is the second fastest-selling album in British history, while Progress Live (2011) was the fastest-selling UK tour of all time.

Tinie Tempah

Since releasing his debut number one single 'Pass Out' in 2010, Tinie Tempah has picked up two BRIT Awards, three MOBOs, an Ivor Novello Award, achieved double-platinum with his album, *Disc-Overy*, and sold out a UK arena tour. Known for his unique style, he's also launched a clothing line, Disturbing London.

Stella Tennant

Granddaughter of the Duke of Devonshire, Stella's potential was spotted by photographer Steven Meisel. She appeared in a range of campaigns before becoming the face of Chanel and muse to Karl Lagerfeld in 1996. She remains a prominent force in the fashion industry. Recent campaigns include Givenchy, Balenciaga and Celine.

The Who

The genius of Pete Townshend's songwriting and guitar playing and Roger Daltrey's vocals continue as The Who reach the end of their fifth decade, despite the loss of original members Keith Moon and John Entwistle. With 100m albums sold, numerous awards and millions raised for charity, their Olympic appearance is one of many major events – from Woodstock to Live Aid, the 2001 Concert for New York and the Super Bowl.

Artistic team

Kim Gavin

Artistic Director

Kim is widely recognised as one of the UK's leading creative directors and choreographers. From one-off TV specials to record-breaking stadium shows, he's been the creative vision behind some of the most innovative and inspirational performances in the world of music and live events over the last 18 years. Kim trained at the Royal Ballet School and after a successful career as a dancer he turned towards choreography, stage and creative direction. Recent credits include Take That's critically acclaimed Circus and Progress Tours, Children in Need Rocks, and many individual artists' performances at the BRIT Awards and Royal Variety Performance.

Nothan Clarke

Associate Director

Nathan trained as a dancer in Australia and performed worldwide before moving into choreography. Choreography credits include Burlesque (Germany and France), The Overtones, Bananarama, JLS and, as Assistant Choreographer to Kim Gavin, Take That, Katherine Jenkins and Viva La Diva tours, The BRIT Awards and Royal Variety performances.

Gareth Walker

Associate Director

Gareth's credits include creative director/choreography for Steps, Anastasia, Lulu, Chaka Khan and Mika; choreography for the Royal Variety Performance and the BRIT Awards; assistant choreography for Take That's Ultimate, Beautiful World and Circus tours; and show director for L'Oreal, Toyota and GHD. He's also presented and choreographed Ministry of Sound's fitness DVDs.

David Arnold

Music Director

David is a Grammy, BAFTA, Ivor Novello and RTS award-winning composer, songwriter and producer. Film scores include *Independence Day*, *Zoolander*, *Hot Fuzz* and five James Bond movies. He also works in theatre and television (*Sherlock*, *Little Britain*) and writes and produces with artists as diverse as Iggy Pop, KD Lang and George Michael.

Es Devlin

Designer

Es' designs include opera (Royal Opera House, ENO, La Scala), drama (RSC, National Theatre, Complicite) dance (Sadler's Wells, Rambert) and pop concerts (Take That, Lady Gaga, Kanye West). Recent awards include TPi Stage Designer of the Year 2010, 2011 and 2012, Red's Creative Woman of the Year 2011 and Olivier Award 2006.

Michael Sharp

Costume Designer

Michael has designed shows and costumes for high profile productions, music tours and videos worldwide. Working from studios in England and France, his credits include Take That's Ultimate, Beautiful World, Progress and Circus tours, Darcey Bussell, Katherine Jenkins, Goldfrapp and the BRIT Awards.

London 2012 Ceremonies executive team

Bill Morris

Director of Ceremonies, Education and Live Sites

Bill joined London 2012 six years ago from the BBC where he started as a iournalist, moved into radio and TV production and executive roles, before specialising in major events as Project Director Live Events. These included the BBC Music Live festival, the annual BBC Proms in the Park, the Olympic Torch Relay Concert in London's Mall, and the Queen's Concerts at Buckingham Palace (for which he was awarded the LVO in the Queen's Jubilee Honours List). He also coordinated broadcast live events across a number of BBC radio and television services, including Live 8 in 2005. Bill served on the Radio Academy's Council from the early 1990s, he was Chair 1998-2001, and was made a Fellow in 2001.

Martin Green

Head of Ceremonies

Trained in writing and directing theatre, Martin spent five years as Head of Events for the Mayor of London where he was responsible for producing global events such as the London New Year's Eve fireworks, major music festivals and one-off events across the city. As Director of Events at the O2 he oversaw the reopening of this now hugely successful venue. He joined London 2012 in 2007 as Head of Ceremonies. where he has recruited and inspired a world class team to deliver the Torch Relays, Victory Ceremonies, Team Welcome Ceremonies, and Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Catherine Ugwu

Executive Producer, Production

Catherine is a creative director, executive producer and consultant and has been involved in some of the world's largest and most prestigious public events. She was Executive Producer for the Glasgow Handover Ceremony of the Delhi 2010 Commonwealth Games; Senior Producer for the strategic phase of the Opening, Closing and Victory Ceremonies of the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics; she produced the Opening Ceremony for the Asian Games in Doha, Qatar in 2006, the Closing Ceremony for the Commonwealth Games in Manchester in 2002 and a large-scale performance spectacle to mark the opening of the Millennium Dome, London in 2000.

Stephen Daldry

Executive Producer, Creative

Stephen started his career at Sheffield's Crucible Theatre and directed extensively in Britain's regional theatres. In London he was Artistic Director of the Gate and Royal Court theatres: he's directed at the National Theatre, the Public Theatre in New York and transferred many productions to the West End and Broadway. His production of Billy Elliot: The Musical is currently playing in London and on tour in the USA. It recently won more Tony Awards (10) than any other British show in Broadway history. He's also made four films: Billy Elliot; The Hours; The Reader; and Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close.

Hamish Hamilton

Executive Producer, Broadcast/TV

Hamish, from Blackpool, is a Grammynominated, multi-camera television and video director. He began his career as a trainee with BBC Scotland and as a TV director for the BBC Manchester Youth Programmes Unit. Pursuing his love of live music, he's directed the BRIT Awards, the MTV European Music Awards and the Victoria's Secret Fashion Shows for nine years. His credit appears on nearly 30 million live concert DVDs. His most recent work includes the Oscars, the MTV Video Music Awards and the Super Bowl halftime shows. He is also Creative Director of the television and event production company Done and Dusted.

Mark Fisher

Executive Producer, Design

Mark's show design credits include *The Wall* for Pink Floyd in 1980 and Roger Waters in 2010; every Rolling Stones show since 1989 and every U2 concert since 1992. His architecturally innovative outdoor stages have been constructed several thousand times in cities all over the world. His event design credits include the Opening and Closing Ceremonies for the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi, the 2010 Asian Games in Guangzhou and the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. His theatre shows include KÅ and *Viva Elvis* for Cirque du Soleil in Las Vegas.

Embargo: 21:00 BST 12 Aug 2012

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