



# Grant Park Music Festival

Seventy-sixth Season

Grant Park Orchestra and Chorus

Carlos Kalmar, *Principal Conductor*

Christopher Bell, *Chorus Director*

**Twelfth Program: Planet Earth Live**

**Wednesday, July 21, 2010 at 8:15 p.m.**

Jay Pritzker Pavilion

GRANT PARK ORCHESTRA

George Fenton, *Guest Conductor*

Haley Glennie-Smith, *Vocalist*

Overture

First Steps

Gone Fishing!

Journey to the Okavango

The Snow Leopard

The Cranes

Wish You Were Here! (Nice Work if you Can Get It)

*Interval*

The Seasons

Caves

The Caribou Migration

Snow Geese

The Hunter and The Hunted

The Lucky Planet

All titles composed by George Fenton except 'Nice Work if You Can Get it' by  
George Gershwin and Ira Gershwin

Credits for Planet Earth Live

Planet Earth Live Devised and Produced by George Fenton, Alastair Fothergill and Jane Carter  
for BBC Worldwide.

Film Sequences edited by: Jo Payne, Ed Ison and Matt Swarbrick

UK Production Director: Mark Blagden

US Production Manager: Mike Runice

Technical Development: Stephen Holmes, Yeast Culture

Music Coordinator: Nicole Jacob

Music Published by Shogun Music Ltd

Orchestrations and music preparation Geoff Alexander, David Butterworth,  
Simon Chamberlain and Bill Silcock.

Also thanks to the production teams and film crews involved and the local organizations and  
communities who helped make Planet Earth possible.

Planet Earth A BBC/Discovery Channel//NHK Co-Production in association with the CBC.

This concert is sponsored by ComEd and BBC Earth.

**ComEd**





With the score for Planet Earth **GEORGE FENTON** continues his successful relationship with producer, Alastair Fothergill and The BBC Natural History Unit. Following the release of *The Blue Planet*, the first part of the Planet Trilogy for which Fenton won Ivor Novello, BAFTA and Emmy awards for Best Television Score, he created the show, *Blue Planet Live!* which has toured both in the UK and worldwide, performed by many of the world's leading orchestras. For the music for *Planet Earth* he won the Emmy and the Classical Brit Award. Later this year he will begin work on *Frozen Planet*, the final part of this Series. He

has composed for a wide variety of feature films, receiving Academy Award nominations for: *The Fisher King*, *Dangerous Liaisons* and *Gandhi* and was double-nominated for *Cry Freedom* for *Original Score* and *Original Song*. Other Scores include: *The Madness of King George*, *Groundhog Day*, *Shadowlands*, *Ever After*, *Anna and the King*, *Stage Beauty*, *Mrs. Henderson Presents*, *Hitch*, *Fool's Gold* and *The Bounty Hunter* as well as Ken Loach's films including, *Land and Freedom*, *My Name is Joe* and *The Wind That Shakes The Barley* and *Looking For Eric* and most recently, *Route Irish*. He has a Royal Television Society Lifetime Achievement Award and is a Fellow of the British Academy of Composers and Songwriters.



**HALEY GLENNIE-SMITH** was born in London and moved to the United States with her family when she was eleven. She attended schools in Charlottesville, Virginia and graduated in 2002 from Goucher College in Baltimore, where she was a member of the Goucher Chorus and Chamber Singers as well as a vocalist in the college jazz ensemble and an executive member and soloist in the mixed a cappella group, *Red Hot Blue*. Since returning to London, Ms. Glennie-Smith has worked on numerous projects: performing two Robert Johnson blues songs on the soundtrack of Stephen Woolley's feature film *Stoned*, a biopic

about Brian Jones of the Rolling Stones; working as a singing coach with Cate Blanchett on Todd Haynes' Bob Dylan-inspired film *I'm Not There*; and singing in the title music of George Fenton's score for the recent BBC nature series *Life*. Haley Glennie-Smith also writes and performs her own material around the UK.

Marjorie Johnston

Dinner-Cocktail Piano Music

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## **Celebrating the Earth as never before...**

We live on a planet of stunning natural beauty. From the towering peaks of Nepal, the lush green of the Amazon, from the dry-sculpted crescents of the Sahara to glistening polar ice-caps, our world is truly spectacular.

Planet Earth is the first natural history series to be filmed entirely in High Definition, providing an unparalleled view of awe-inspiring landscapes from all across the globe and incredible footage of the rarely spotted, almost mythical creatures that live in these habitats. From tracking great migrations, to capturing split-second action, and getting amazing footage of land-based animals in their natural habitats, no matter whether this is a mountain top, the most remote parts of the desert, or the dark depths of the forest floor Planet Earth is the ultimate portrait of our planet.

Four years in the making, this is the Earth celebrated as never before, the world's premier wildlife cameramen have travelled all over the planet, even to the most far-flung reaches, to create the biggest series the definitive look at the diversity of our planet, prepare to be overwhelmed by the beauty of Planet Earth.

### **Overture**

Approximately four and half billion years ago there was a cosmic collision that changed the course of history for our then young planet. Out of nowhere came a giant planet the size of Mars which crashed straight into our own young Earth. This terrible impact not only created our Moon but also knocked our planet off its axis and left it spinning at an angle of twenty three degrees with respect to the Sun. It's this angle to the sun that makes our planet what's known as the Lucky Planet with its incredible geology and habitats. The story of Planet Earth is the story of the relationship between our planet and the sun.

### **First Steps**

The sun creates the seasons and the conditions for life. New life in the arctic, the Antarctic and the deciduous forests are all a response to the sun's warmth. The minute they're born, the cubs and the chicks have to adapt immediately to the challenges of their habitat.

### **Gone Fishing!**

60 percent of our planet is covered by the oceans, we really do live on a blue planet. This is a tribute to one of the most versatile and intelligent of all the ocean's inhabitants, everyone's favourites, the dolphins. The sequence shows them first of all surfing to catch fish then aquaplaning in a shallow river to catch fish, and thirdly rounding up an open ocean bait ball – a great favour to a flock of hungry shearwaters.

### **Journey to the Okavango**

Although the tropical parts of our planet do not experience the seasonal change we enjoy here in temperate North America, they do have wet and dry seasons every year. In Botswana, the annual dry season forces thousands of elephants to undertake an epic trek across the Kalahari Desert in search of water. Their goal is the beautiful Okavango swamps that flood with life giving water each year. This epic journey presents a huge challenge for young elephants. They encounter dust storms which are blinding and sadly result in one young elephant thinking it's following its mother but unfortunately walking in the opposite direction. The rest of the herd join a vast array of other animals in the search for fresh water. When they finally arrive, you've never seen a happier elephant.

### **The Snow Leopard**

For natural history film makers, the Snow Leopard is the holy grail. And this elusive big cat has acquired a mythical status. Until recently nobody has succeed in filming more that a few distant seconds of one of these beautiful animals. However Planet Earth did manage to film these first intimate images in the Karakorum Mountains in Pakistan.

### **The Cranes**

The annual seasonal changes created by the Earth's tilt to the sun mean that much of our world undergoes dramatic changes through the year and for many animals this means they have no choice but move on. Millions of animals migrate thousands of miles each year and probably the most demanding and dramatic of all these migrations is undertaken by Demoiselle cranes. Each year 50,000 cranes have to cross over the Himalayas in a 2,000 mile migration from central Asia to their wintering grounds in India. They can be driven back by the weather and their young are frequently prey for Golden Eagles. If they manage to make the ascent, the lack of oxygen makes each wing beat a Herculean task. It's one of the greatest migration stories in the natural world.

### **Wish You Were Here! (Nice Work if You Can Get It)**

The unsung heroes of wildlife filmmaking are the teams behind the cameras that go to extraordinary lengths to bring back the wonderful images we enjoy.

For Planet Earth they spent a record 2,000 days in the field at over 200 locations worldwide, in 64 countries on every one of the continents.

### *Interval*

### **The Seasons**

Filming techniques have contributed greatly to our understanding of nature. The use of high speed cameras, night-vision, and powerful lenses have all played their part in research. Timelapse photography is a slow process, but not only does it show us how things grow, it also creates some stunning visual effects used here to display a range of flora and fauna from the deserts of Arizona to the deciduous forests of new England.

### **Caves**

The exploration of caves is highly dangerous, whether parachuting into the Cave of the Swallows in Mexico or charting the underwater caves of the Yucatan. But the hidden world of caves is full of surprising and exotic creatures and also displays of amazing beauty, none more so than North America's Lechuguilla which contains the worlds most spectacular gypsum crystals.

### **The Caribou Migration**

The longest of all the land migrations has to be that of the caribou. Each summer 3 million caribou head north across the tundra of Alaska and Canada in search of fresh grazing. Their round trips are almost 2,000 miles long and they travel together in vast herds, tens of thousands strong-but they do not journey alone.

### **Snow Geese**

In the summer the arctic tundra is also the home to millions of snow geese. They have travelled north from their wintering grounds down here in the states to breed. One single colony in Canada contains over half a million birds. And like the caribou these geese find they are not left undisturbed by the local residents.

### The Hunter and The Hunted

This begins with the piker and its nemesis the fox. Then we travel to Africa to witness predation sequences both on land and at sea. Perhaps the most powerful and dramatic relationships in nature are those between predators and their prey. For one, it is all about a vital meal. For the other it is a matter of life or death.

### The Lucky Planet

Our concert this evening and the Planet Earth series has been a celebration of a beautiful planet. Although over six billion people now crowd our tiny Earth, there remains so much wilderness and natural beauty still to celebrate. And yet we only have to witness the recent disaster in the Gulf of Mexico to realise how very fragile our planet is and how dependent it is on us and what we do. Survival of our planet now is far more than just the survival of the wilderness and the extraordinary creatures it supports. Today it is about the preservation of a healthy planet for our own children and grandchildren. We need to recognize that family love should not just be about our own immediate family but extend to the whole globe. Together the global family has the power to preserve the lucky planet that we are privileged to call home.

-George Fenton

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