

SATURDAY 30 MAY 2009**SAT 19:00 Legends (b00hq4qt)**
The Motown Invasion

Documentary revealing what made Motown special in Britain through the lens of two decisive moments in 1965 - the Motown Revue UK tour and the Sounds of Motown Ready Steady Go! television special.

Arriving in London in March 1965, the Supremes, Martha and the Vandellas, Smokey Robinson and Stevie Wonder were bussed across Britain on a tough but crucial tour.

The television special, recorded during the tour, kicked open the door, thrusting Motown's slick routines and magical music into front rooms across the nation.

SAT 20:00 Motown at the BBC (b00hq4qr)

To mark the 50-year anniversary of Motown in 2009, a compilation of some of the iconic record label's greatest names filmed live in the BBC studios. Visitors from Hitsville USA over the years have included Smokey Robinson and the Miracles, Diana Ross and the Supremes, the Temptations, Stevie Wonder, The Four Tops and The Jackson 5.

SAT 21:00 Storyville (b0074qf6)

Standing in the Shadows of Motown

Documentary telling the story of the Funk Brothers, the Motown session musicians who were behind more number one hits than the Beach Boys, the Rolling Stones, Elvis and the Beatles combined. Drawn together from Detroit's jazz and blues scene, the film recounts their evolution of the Motown sound from its origins to its demise in LA during the 1970s, and reunites the surviving Funk Brothers for the first time in thirty years.

SAT 22:45 What's Going On: The Life and Death of Marvin Gaye (b0074rqj)

Marvin Gaye is one of the great and enduring figures of soul music, but his life was one of sexual confusion, bittersweet success and ultimately death by the hand of his own father. Through Marvin's own words and intimate memories gathered from rare film and recordings, director Jeremy Marre tells the story of a 'life of outer grace and inner torment'.

Including interviews with the singer's family, friends and musical colleagues, with re-enactments and archive film of Marvin on stage, at home and in the recording studio.

SAT 23:45 Motor City's Burning: Detroit from Motown to the Stooges (b009372j)

Documentary looking at how Detroit became home to a musical revolution that captured the sound of a nation in upheaval.

In the early 60s, Motown transcended Detroit's inner city to take black music to a white audience, whilst in the late 60s suburban kids like the MC5 and the Stooges descended into the black inner city to create revolutionary rock expressing the rage of young white America.

With contributions from Iggy Pop, Alice Cooper, George Clinton, Martha Reeves, John Sinclair and the MC5.

SAT 00:45 Legends (b00hq4qt)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 today]

SAT 01:45 Motown at the BBC (b00hq4qr)

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:00 today]

SAT 02:45 What's Going On: The Life and Death of Marvin Gaye (b0074rqj)

[Repeat of broadcast at 22:45 today]

SUNDAY 31 MAY 2009**SUN 19:00 North and South (b007c8w3)**

Episode 3

Thornton is heartbroken and humiliated, but at least the strike is over. As Margaret travels to London to see the Great Exhibition a chance to impress her presents itself. (2004)

SUN 20:00 The Weather (b00jzjhx)

Winds

Documentary series about the weather. This episode looks at wind - a phenomenon caused by the interaction of temperature,

pressure and the earth's rotation, which took scientists over a thousand years to fully explain.

We witness some remarkable wind-related stories, such as the tornado that flung Dorothy Allwright and her caravan into the air, and how Scottish engineer James Blyth invented the first electricity-producing wind turbine in 1887.

Once we looked to the gods to explain the wind, until science unlocked its mysteries. Today, we may have come to understand the wind, but we have also realised that we will never master it, and that this elemental force cannot be ignored.

SUN 21:00 The Jet Stream and Us (b00909b0)

Documentary tracing how human understanding of the jet stream - a ribbon of fast moving air high in the atmosphere - has grown.

It has been responsible for bewildering effect on bomber pilots during the Second World War, turbocharging modern transatlantic flyers, the infamous 1987 hurricane and devastating floods. Scientists believe this powerful weather phenomenon is now changing its pattern of behaviour and could have an even bigger impact on our climate and the way we live our lives.

Interviewees include Sir Brian Hoskins, University of Reading and Kirsty McCabe from the BBC Weather Centre.

SUN 22:00 California Dreamin': The Mamas and the Papas (b00kpv4)

Documentary charting the formation, instant rise and success of Californian pop group the Mamas and the Papas. Interviews with the band, coupled with performance and archive footage, show the group in their heyday, and the band give detailed accounts of the writing and recording of their hit songs, as well as their personal responses to (and problems with) instant fame and success.

SUN 22:55 Rock Family Trees (b0077lk1)

Series 2

California Dreamin'

Series charting the musical and human dramas behind some of the best known rock and pop groups of the last 40 years. This programme looks at the stories of the Mamas and the Papas and the Lovin' Spoonful, the classic 60s bands responsible for California Dreamin', Monday, Monday, Summer in the City and Daydream.

SUN 23:45 The Old Grey Whistle Test (b00ksj9q)

Richard Williams presents rock and pop performances from Elton John, Fanny, The Rolling Stones, the Mamas and the Papas, Andy Pratt and Isaac Hayes.

SUN 00:30 California Dreamin': The Mamas and the Papas (b00kpv4)

[Repeat of broadcast at 22:00 today]

SUN 01:25 The Weather (b00jzjhx)

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:00 today]

SUN 02:25 Rock Family Trees (b0077lk1)

[Repeat of broadcast at 22:55 today]

SUN 03:15 The Old Grey Whistle Test (b00ksj9q)

[Repeat of broadcast at 23:45 today]

MONDAY 01 JUNE 2009**MON 19:00 World News Today (b00ktrbt)**

The latest national and international news, exploring the day's events from a global perspective.

MON 19:30 Terry Jones's Barbarians (b00791nv)

The Primitive Celts

Terry Jones pieces together new archaeological evidence to reveal the startling truth about the Barbarians, in the process discovering how the Roman propaganda machine was able to pull off a great con-trick and turn their enemies into monsters fit for children's stories.

In 58 BC Julius Caesar invaded Celtic Gaul. He claimed it was to protect the northern borders of the Empire from these volatile people. But Terry discovers that Caesar's account was a smokescreen for a more sinister truth.

The Celts, according to Rome, were a warring and illiterate people. Yet Terry discovers that these people had mathematical know-how way beyond the Romans. They also had a society that, in stark contrast to Rome, was compassionate and protected the young and the weak, one built on an advanced and complex trading network that spread way beyond the borders of the Celtic world.

So why was Caesar so hell-bent on the destruction of these civilised people? The latest archaeological evidence has revealed that the Celtic world was built on vast deposits of gold, and the Celts were gold miners par excellence. The ambitious Caesar was in poverty and the rich, sophisticated Celts were there for the taking.

MON 20:30 A Poet's Guide to Britain (b00ktrbw)

Lynette Roberts

Poet and author Owen Sheers presents a series in which he explores six great works of poetry set in the British landscape. Each poem explores a sense of place and identity across Britain and opens the doors to captivating stories about the places and the lives of the poets themselves.

Lynette Roberts is not a famous poet. She only published one full collection of poems and her work has been almost forgotten, but her vivid, modern, hot-blooded writing about a Welsh village and her time there during the Second World War reveals an extraordinary woman and a brilliant poetic voice who Robert Graves described in the 1940s as 'one of the few true poets now writing'.

Roberts was brought up in a wealthy family in Argentina but married a writer from Carmarthenshire in 1939 at the outbreak of war and spent the next nine years living in poverty in a Welsh-speaking village. She involved herself in every aspect of village life and despite being accused of being a spy found a fierce passion for the local people and the landscape.

Sheers visits the unassuming village of Llanybri where she lived and is now buried, and uncovers the moving story behind her poem called simply Poem from Llanybri, an invitation to the young soldier poet Alun Lewis to pay her a visit. He talks to locals who remember her and admire her work, and to the National Poet of Wales, Gillian Clarke.

MON 21:00 How the Celts Saved Britain (b00ktrby)

Salvation

Provocative two-part documentary in which Dan Snow blows the lid on the traditional Anglo-centric view of history and reveals how the Irish saved Britain from cultural oblivion during the Dark Ages.

He follows in the footsteps of Ireland's earliest missionaries as they venture through treacherous barbarian territory to bring literacy and technology to the future nations of Scotland and England.

MON 22:00 Storyville (b00ktrcd)

The Genius and the Boys

D Carleton Gajdusek won the Nobel Prize for the discovery of Prions - the particles that would emerge as the cause of Mad Cow disease - while working with a cannibal tribe on New Guinea. He was a star of the scientific world. Over his years working amongst the tribes of the South Seas, he adopted 57 kids, bringing them to a new life in Washington DC. His adoptions were hailed as wonderful fatherly beneficence. But, at the height of his career, rumours began to spread he was a paedophile.

Gajdusek would argue that if sex with children was okay in their own cultures, he wasn't wrong to join in. How could a great mind like Gajdusek's lose insight so totally, and why would the scientific community to which he was a hero be so quick to leap to his defence and dismiss the allegations?

Carleton Gajdusek himself participates in the film, as well as some of the men and women who came to know him closely as children - a majority of whom, when contacted by the film, claimed not to have been abused.

Leading scientist friends of Gajdusek, including Benoit Mandelbrot, one of the founders of Chaos Theory; Robert Gallo, who discovered HIV; and the world-famous author and neurologist Oliver Sacks, discuss whether matters of science can seem more important to some than questions about sex and criminality.

The film also features Gajdusek's own - previously never before released - films of first contact with stone-age communities in the South Seas.

This striking and powerful documentary explores the limits of insight and the power of self-delusion, through one of the

century's true geniuses - a man prepared to defy convention and challenge people's most cherished beliefs, a man whose scientific brilliance seemed to blind many to his extraordinary personal failings.

MON 23:20 Michael Wood on Beowulf (b00kpv23)

Historian Michael Wood returns to his first great love, the Anglo-Saxon world, to reveal the origins of our literary heritage. Focusing on Beowulf and drawing on other Anglo-Saxon classics, he traces the birth of English poetry back to the Dark Ages.

Travelling across the British Isles from East Anglia to Scotland and with the help of Nobel prize-winning poet Seamus Heaney, actor Julian Glover, local historians and enthusiasts, he brings the story and language of this iconic poem to life.

MON 00:20 A Poet's Guide to Britain (b00ktrbw)

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:30 today]

MON 00:50 How the Celts Saved Britain (b00ktrby)

[Repeat of broadcast at 21:00 today]

MON 01:50 Terry Jones's Barbarians (b00791nv)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:30 today]

MON 02:50 Merlin the Legend (b00dpspb)

A look at the mythical roots in art and literature of Merlin - magician, hero and historical mystery. Merlin is the archetypal wizard, Welsh and Celtic in origin but with connections across the water in Cornwall and middle Europe, and, of course, the Arthurian legends. Clearly, Merlin is the distant relative of Dumbledore and all those weird and wonderful wizards in literature.

MON 03:50 A Poet's Guide to Britain (b00ktrbw)

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:30 today]

TUESDAY 02 JUNE 2009

TUE 19:00 World News Today (b00kv0cy)

The latest national and international news, exploring the day's events from a global perspective.

TUE 19:30 Landscape Mysteries (b0078msq)

The Terraces of Avalon

One of the mysteries surrounding Glastonbury has been the origin of a series of stepped terraces on the Tor. They may have been part of a Neolithic maze, or possibly fortifications built by King Arthur on his Isle of Avalon.

Professor Aubrey Manning explores whether there is a connection between the terraces and the myths and legends which permeate this area. A new geophysical survey of the Tor helps Aubrey assess the evidence as he looks for clues in the history of the surrounding countryside. But it is the once-prosperous abbey at the base of the Tor which points Aubrey towards a link he hadn't suspected between the terraces and the Glastonbury myths.

TUE 20:00 Michael Wood on Beowulf (b00kpv23)

[Repeat of broadcast at 23:20 on Monday]

TUE 21:00 Meet the British (b00kv0d0)

Semi-naked women, wurltizers and prize goats are just a selection of items used by the British government to promote the country's image abroad.

For four decades, the government produced thousands of short films in order to sell an ideal Britain overseas and now, for the first time, they are shown to the country that inspired them.

TUE 22:00 We Need Answers (b00hw3yw)

Series 1

Wine

Mark Watson, Tim Key and Alex Horne lead a comic quiz show with a difference, adapted from their award-winning Edinburgh show. Jilly Goolden and Jay Rayner take part in a knock-about quiz to find out which one of them is the smartest, the funniest and the best at surreal physical challenges. All the questions come from the audience members and text-messaging services and are on the subject of wine.

TUE 22:30 Flight of the Conchords (b00kps9v)

Series 2

Murray Takes It to the Next Level

When Murray decides to move Bret and Jemaine up from the level of 'colleagues' to 'friends', they meet Murray's best friend Jim and accidentally insult him.

TUE 23:00 The Armstrong and Miller Show (b008dd10)

Series 1

Episode 5

Scratch beneath the surface of po-faced British respectability and you'll find a wealth of great characters, as evidenced in Alexander Armstrong and Ben Miller's sketch show.

TUE 23:30 Make 'em Laugh (b00kv0d2)

Slip on a Banana Peel: The Knockabouts

Six-part series chronicling over 100 years of American comedy, introduced by Billy Crystal and narrated by Amy Sedaris.

Physical comedy and slapstick have always found rich soil in America. From the mastery of Charlie Chaplin and Buster Keaton to the computer-generated antics that helped transform Jim Carrey into a human cartoon, slapstick has evolved into a sophisticated art, stretching the boundaries of time and space.

This episode explores the comic genius of teams like Laurel and Hardy, the Three Stooges, Martin and Lewis, the Marx Brothers and Lucille Ball.

TUE 00:25 Meet the British (b00kv0d0)

[Repeat of broadcast at 21:00 today]

TUE 01:25 I've Never Seen Star Wars (b00jwck4)

Series 1

Nigel Havers

Marcus Brigstocke hosts a chat show in which he invites his guest Nigel Havers to step out of his comfort zone and try some new experiences for the first time.

TUE 01:55 I've Never Seen Star Wars (b00k21gn)

Series 1

David Davis

Marcus Brigstocke invites his guest, politician David Davis, to try some new cultural experiences for the first time.

TUE 02:25 I've Never Seen Star Wars (b00k36fl)

Series 1

Esther Rantzen

Marcus Brigstocke invites his guest Esther Rantzen to step out of her comfort zone and try some new cultural experiences.

TUE 02:55 Make 'em Laugh (b00kv0d2)

[Repeat of broadcast at 23:30 today]

WEDNESDAY 03 JUNE 2009

WED 19:00 World News Today (b00kv0h5)

The latest national and international news, exploring the day's events from a global perspective.

WED 19:30 Masterpieces of the British Museum (b0074smw)

The Assyrian Lion Hunt Reliefs

Among the greatest artistic masterpieces of the ancient world, the Assyrian reliefs were found in the 19th century by an Iraqi archaeologist working for the British in competition with the French. The stone reliefs depict the great Assyrian monarch King Ashurnipal in his favoured practice of hunting lions.

WED 20:00 How the Celts Saved Britain (b00ktrby)

[Repeat of broadcast at 21:00 on Monday]

WED 21:00 Feasts (b00kv0k6)

Mexico

Series in which food writer and presenter Stefan Gates immerses himself in some of the most extraordinary feasts and festivals on earth. By joining ordinary people in these strange and wonderful distillations of their culture and beliefs, he hopes to gain a revelatory insight into how the world thinks and feels.

Stefan goes on a wild emotional and spiritual rollercoaster ride, starting with a teenage girl's bizarre coming-of-age ceremony and ending with the Day of the Dead, a cacophonous cross-cultural festival of the senses during which Mexicans truly believe that their loved ones come back from the dead for three days every year to spend the day with them.

In Oaxaca, he is dressed up as a dead woman and made to dance like a lunatic at the head of a procession as it makes its way through town. He is turned into an emotional wreck at the moment the dead return, bursting into tears as Dias de los Muertos makes him experience grief and loss for the first time.

But then in the next breath, the family Stefan is living with teach him to celebrate and laugh at death. They turn his views on their head, allowing him to embrace and conquer his fear of death through an extraordinary sensual onslaught of food, flowers, songs and smells. The sight of the graveyards overflowing with flowers and mesal-drinking revellers is a truly life-changing experience.

WED 22:00 Meet the British (b00kv0d0)

[Repeat of broadcast at 21:00 on Tuesday]

WED 23:00 Simon Schama's John Donne (b00k5jj1)

Simon Schama celebrates the life and work of one of Britain's greatest love poets, John Donne.

For Schama, Donne is the poet who transformed English poetry through his emotional honesty and skilled use of language. With the help of academic John Carey and actor Fiona Shaw, he undertakes a passionate appraisal and forensic examination of Donne's work.

WED 00:00 Feasts (b00kv0k6)

[Repeat of broadcast at 21:00 today]

WED 01:00 How the Celts Saved Britain (b00ktrby)

[Repeat of broadcast at 21:00 on Monday]

WED 02:00 Batman (b0088yn8)

Series 1

True or False-Face

Fantasy adventure series. False Face steals the Mergenberg Crown, replacing it with a replica, gasses the Dynamic Duo and then epoxies them to subway tracks with quick setting plastic cement as a train approaches.

WED 02:25 Batman (b0088z1z)

Series 1

Holy Rat Race!

Superhero adventures. After escaping from the clutches of False Face, Batman and Robin deduce that his next crime will be to replace the money in the city bank vault with counterfeit notes. But the dynamic duo surprise the villain by replacing the money with themselves.

WED 02:50 Mad Men (b00j8bqv)

Series 2

Maidenform

Drama series which takes an unflinching look at the world of advertising in 1960s New York. Don and Duck try to bury the hatchet and Peggy attempts to join in on the execs' after-hours meetings at a strip joint. Duck's family turn up at the office, while Don and Bobbie continue to get involved.

WED 03:35 Mad Men (b00jf36g)

Series 2

The Gold Violin

Drama series which takes an unflinching look at the world of advertising in 1960s New York.

At Roger's behest, Don buys a new car which befits his image as an executive who has 'arrived'. Don's secretary makes a grave error, which puts her at odds with Joan. Bertram Cooper has a new piece of art in his office that attracts the interest of the employees at Sterling Cooper. Betty learns an ugly truth from

Jimmy Barrett. Salvatore invites Ken home for dinner, but there are overtones.

THURSDAY 04 JUNE 2009

THU 19:00 World News Today (b00kvbhw)

The latest national and international news, exploring the day's events from a global perspective.

THU 19:40 The New Avengers (b0011v3x)

Series 2

Emily

The trio are on the trail of a mysterious agent called The Fox. He escapes, but leaves a palm print on the roof of a car called Emily, owned by the elderly Miss Daly. The Avengers have to preserve the print at all costs to make a positive ID on their target, but events conspire against them.

THU 20:30 Masterpieces of the British Museum (b0074spf)

Head of an Ife King from Nigeria

The Benin bronzes and an exquisite bronze head known as the Head of Ife, estimated to be eight hundred years old, caused Europeans to revise completely their cultural assumptions about Africa. It is both artistically refined and made by masters of the technology of bronze casting.

THU 21:00 Sir Gawain and the Green Knight (b00kvbny)

Simon Armitage goes on a journey to discover the language and landscape of our first great Arthurian romance, Sir Gawain and the Green Knight. For JRR Tolkien, Gawain is 'a fairy tale for adults', but Armitage finds strong modern relevance in the trials of its stripling hero and a tale of do or die. A marvel of the imagination, Armitage argues that Gawain must take its place alongside Chaucer and Shakespeare at the head of the canon.

THU 22:00 A Poet's Guide to Britain (b00ktrbw)

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:30 on Monday]

THU 22:30 Feasts (b00kv0k6)

[Repeat of broadcast at 21:00 on Wednesday]

THU 23:30 Sir Gawain and the Green Knight (b00kvbny)

[Repeat of broadcast at 21:00 today]

THU 00:30 Storyville (b00ktr0)

[Repeat of broadcast at 22:00 on Monday]

THU 01:50 Feasts (b00kv0k6)

[Repeat of broadcast at 21:00 on Wednesday]

THU 02:50 The New Avengers (b0011v3x)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:40 today]

THU 03:45 A Poet's Guide to Britain (b00ktrbw)

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:30 on Monday]

FRIDAY 05 JUNE 2009

FRI 19:00 World News Today (b00kvd32)

The latest national and international news, exploring the day's events from a global perspective.

FRI 19:30 In Search of England's Green and Pleasant Land (b00jz5ch)

East

Nicholas Crane grew up in Norfolk, and now returns to see if it is possible to swap urban life for a rural dream.

On his journey through the region, he discovers how the countryside has changed, and looks for a perfect slice of English country life.

Along the way he meets those who have left the city behind for a new life working in north Norfolk, joins a self-sufficient community in Suffolk and finds out how farmer Mark Siggers has restored a piece of working Cambridgeshire countryside back to the ways of the last century.

FRI 20:00 Mendelssohn in Britain (b00kvd36)

Charles Hazlewood celebrates the 200th anniversary of the birth of Felix Mendelssohn with three performances from the BBC Proms of some of his best loved music. Includes the Danish virtuoso Nikolaj Znaider's performance of the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto.

FRI 21:00 Keep on Running: 50 Years of Island Records (b00kvd38)

Damian Lewis-narrated documentary telling the colourful story of Island Records, the Jamaican-founded record label built by maverick boss Chris Blackwell which celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2009.

The film features a rare, in-depth interview with Blackwell alongside contributions from former Island artists Grace Jones, Toots Hibbert, Amy Winehouse, Sly and Robbie, PJ Harvey, U2, Brian Eno, Spencer Davis, Yusuf Islam/Cat Stevens, the B52s, Kid Creole, Greg Lake, Ian Anderson, Trevor Horn, Paul Weller, Richard Thompson and Keane.

News archive and rare performance footage are used to tell the story of the label - its part in bringing reggae music into the world; its expansion into progressive rock in the late 1960s; the rise of Bob Marley into a global star; and the label's reputation for consistently signing, producing and championing innovative acts from the UK and all over the world.

FRI 22:30 Island at the BBC (b00kvd3b)

Compilation of performances from the BBC archives of top Island Records artists, including Cat Stevens's Father and Son, Roxy Music's Do the Strand and Stir It Up by Bob Marley and The Wailers, plus tracks from Steel Pulse, U2, PJ Harvey, Baaba Maal and Amy Winehouse.

FRI 23:30 Flight of the Conchords (b00kps9v)

[Repeat of broadcast at 22:30 on Tuesday]

FRI 00:00 We Need Answers (b00hw3yw)

[Repeat of broadcast at 22:00 on Tuesday]

FRI 00:30 Keep on Running: 50 Years of Island Records (b00kvd38)

[Repeat of broadcast at 21:00 today]

FRI 02:00 Island at the BBC (b00kvd3b)

[Repeat of broadcast at 22:30 today]

FRI 03:00 Mendelssohn in Britain (b00kvd36)

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:00 today]