

## **MEDIA RELEASE #24**

Loncon 3, the 72nd World Science Fiction Convention

14-18 August 2014 at ExCeL London

<http://www.loncon3.org>

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### **Music in science fiction and fantasy: Loncon 3 announces music programme and major concert**

London, UK. 3 June 2014 – Loncon 3, the 72nd World Science Fiction Convention, has confirmed exciting plans to highlight science fiction and fantasy music through programming, special events, and live performances, including a full symphony orchestra.

Vincent Docherty, Music Programme Area Head, said: "Our goal is to highlight science fiction and fantasy music in the widest sense, and to show that, for as long as people have been making music and telling fantastic stories, the two have been linked.

"Many people's experience of the subject is limited to film soundtracks and genre-influenced popular music albums. So, we are keen to step outside the familiar Western modes to also explore mythology, history, some aspects of religious practice, and links to science and modern science fiction and fantasy. We also want to look to future developments."

The highlight of the music programme will be the Friday evening concert by the 86-piece Worldcon Philharmonic Orchestra, which will perform works related to science fiction and fantasy, exploring the history of the connection between music and the genre, and including pieces that explore what makes 'the sound of the future'.

Featuring some of the UK's finest musicians and soloists, including soprano Sarah Fox, and members of the London Symphony, Royal Philharmonic, and London Philharmonic Orchestras, the Worldcon orchestra will be led by Keith Slade (National Schools Symphony Orchestra and the Worcester Symphony Orchestra). Highlights include music from Holst's *The Planets*, Dvorak's 'Song to the Moon', Stravinsky's *Firebird Suite*, Shimomura's *Kingdom Hearts* soundtrack, and John Williams' *Star Wars Suite*, as well as a special memorial piece for Iain M Banks. The programme has been arranged by Adam Robinson, and the event will be hosted by Vincent Docherty. The concert will take place at 8pm on Friday, 15 August 2014.

The music stream is embedded throughout the Loncon 3 programme and will also feature:

- The Brideshead Ballroom Stompers swing band performing at the 1930s-themed Retro Hugo Awards ceremony and following dance on the Thursday evening
- A live ceilidh band at Friday's dance after the concert
- Gary Lloyd, who will speak about his collaboration with Iain M Banks
- Isabella van Elferen, Professor of Music at Kingston University and a Loncon 3 academic programme keynote speaker, will also feature in the wider music programme

A subsequent release will highlight Loncon 3's filk programme, and other music performances and invited speakers.

Full details of how to become a member of Loncon 3 are available at <http://www.loncon3.org/memberships>

ENDS

For more information about the music programme, please contact Vincent Docherty at [music@loncon3.org](mailto:music@loncon3.org). For general media enquiries about Loncon 3 please contact [media@loncon3.org](mailto:media@loncon3.org).

#### ABOUT THE WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION

Founded in 1939, the World Science Fiction Convention is one of the largest international gatherings of authors, artists, editors, publishers, and fans of science fiction and fantasy. The annual Hugo Awards, the leading awards for excellence in the fields of science fiction and fantasy, are voted on by the Worldcon membership and presented during the convention.

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