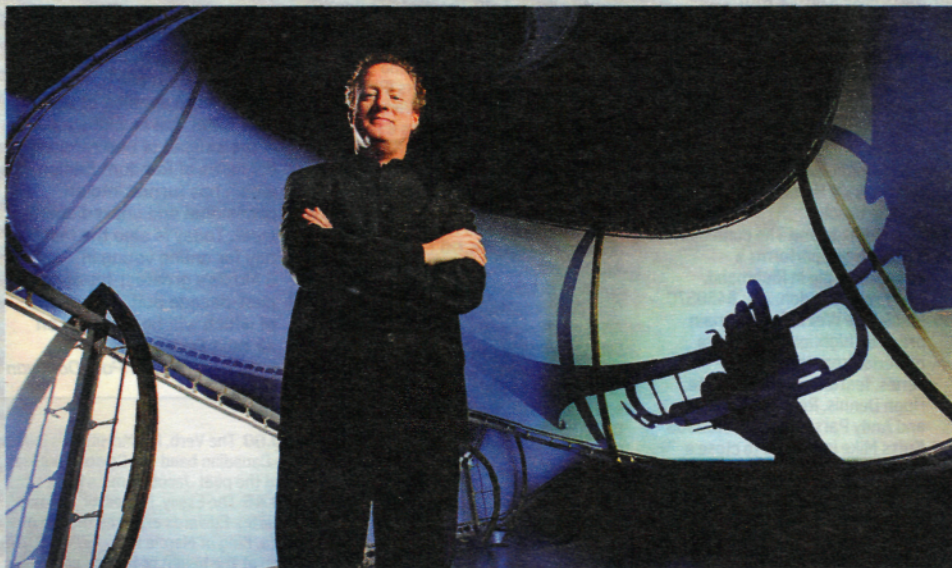


Saturday

26 January

Critics' choice



Pick of the day

Howard Goodall's Story Of Music
(BBC2, 9.30pm)

The composer begins his riveting chronicle with the suggestion that a palaeolithic cave system in France is the earliest known site of musical expression. Moving on a few millennia, he explains how the ancient Greeks had musical talent contests — "The Epsilon Factor" — before describing key developments to the dawn of the

17th century, including Christian plainchant, the invention of annotations and staves, Europe's Muslim-influenced troubadours and the first love songs and operas. The programme, the first of six, is a treat — even if the graphics leave something to be desired and occasionally give the impression the studio has caught fire.

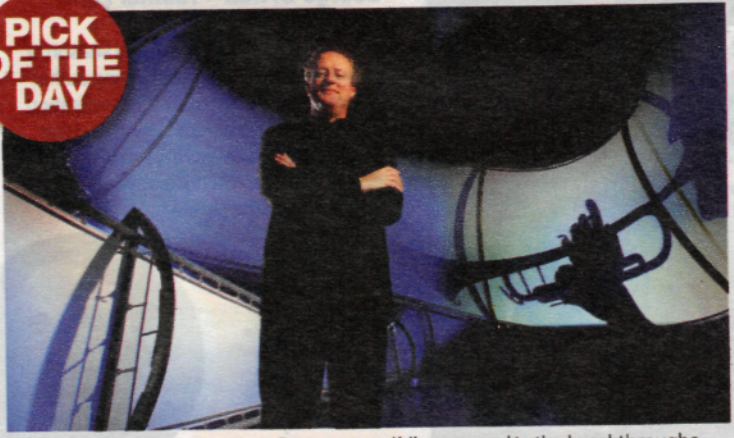
There is also live coverage of **Australian Open Tennis**, with the women's final today (Eurosport, 8am; BBC2, 8.25am) and the men's tomorrow (Eurosport, 8am; BBC2, 8.15am).

MARTIN JAMES

Mail on Sunday - Live - Jan 2012

SATURDAY

PICK OF THE DAY



Howard Goodall's Story Of Music BBC2, 9.30pm

From couples' first dances at weddings to songs played at funerals, music in the 21st century underpins all human experiences and is never more than a download away. But composer Goodall (above) opens his chronological trawl through one of the 'dazzling fruits of human civilisation' with a reminder that once it was just 'a feeble whisper in the wilderness' and that a cast of musical mavericks and beat masters were behind the emergence of harmony and melody. This fascinating story of our ongoing polyphonic revolution begins in the French caves of Chauvet, before

gliding onward to the breakthroughs made by sacred music - confounding the notion that the Devil has always had the best tunes. ★★★★★



S-Telegraph - Seven - 2012 Jan 2013

Saturday



BORGEN Sidse Babbett Knudsen as Birgitte Nyborg

Today's Highlights

Patrick Smith

SPLASH!

ITV, 7.00pm

Olympic bronze medallist Tom Daley's much-derided (but popular) reality show - in which he helps celebrities learn to dive - continues. Tonight it's the semi-finals as comedian Omid Djalili, actor Jake Caruso, ski jumper Eddie "the Eagle" Edwards and Sky Sports presenter Charlotte Jackson are among the brave contestants. At 90 minutes long, the programme can be tedious - even if famous people belly flopping into large pools of water does elicit a certain *schadenfreude*.

HOWARD GOODALL'S STORY OF MUSIC

BBC Two, 9.00pm.

Composer Howard Goodall is an enthusiastic and knowledgeable guide to this history of the development of Western music. The six-part series starts in the Stone Age when music played a vital part in human evolution, and takes us right through to the Renaissance and the origins of the love song.

Independent on Sunday 20/1/13

SATURDAY 26 JANUARY

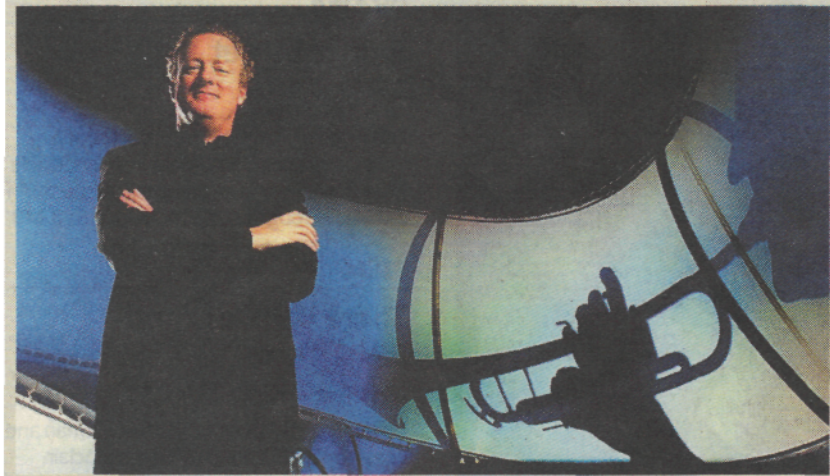
Documentary

Howard Goodall's Story of Music - The Age of Discovery 9.30PM BBC2



In this new series, the composer (above) examines the history and development of music, beginning at humanity's first, faltering steps. He examines archaeological evidence showing that music was as important in the late Stone Age as it is now and charts how Gregorian chant started with a handful of monks singing the same tune in unison.

Day 26



★ CHOICE

**Howard Goodall's
Story of Music**

BBC2, 9.30pm

"Whatever music you're into – Monteverdi or Mantovani, Mozart or Motown, Machaut or mash-up, the techniques music relies on didn't happen by accident – someone, somewhere, thought of them first," says

composer Goodall in his introduction to *The Age of Discovery*, the first programme in this exciting history of music since our ancestors first began to sing, he claims, in around 32,000BC. At times he flirts with dry, music-room theory – how else do you explain triads? – but get past that and you'll find much of interest here. Worth watching alone for dazzling violin virtuoso Nicola Benedetti in full flight at the close. **Mike Bradley**