

## PBS Announces LUCY WORSLEY'S HOLMES VS. DOYLE, New Three-Part Series Premiering Sundays, December 8-22

The Popular British Historian Investigates the Love-Hate Relationship Between Sherlock Holmes, the Greatest Detective Who Never Lived, and the Complex Man who Created Him – Arthur Conan Doyle



Pasadena, CA; July 15, 2024 – PBS today announced **LUCY WORSLEY'S HOLMES VS. DOYLE**, a new three-part series featuring the popular British historian and lifelong Sherlock Holmes fan who seeks to answer why author Arthur Conan Doyle came to despise the character that made him rich and famous. Throughout the series, Worsley explores the parallel lives of Doyle and Holmes in the historical context of their times. From the dying years of Victorian England, through the imperial crisis of the Boer

war, the optimism of the early Edwardian years, to the trauma of the First World War, Arthur and Sherlock lived through them all. **LUCY WORSLEY'S HOLMES VS. DOYLE** premieres Sundays, December 8-22, 2024, 8:00-9:00 p.m. ET (<a href="mailto:check local listings">check local listings</a>) on PBS, <a href="PBS.org">PBS.org</a> and the <a href="PBS app.">PBS app.</a>

Featured in over 60 original stories and countless film and television adaptions, Sherlock Holmes has intrigued and excited fans with his intellect and powers of deduction for more than a century. Over the course of three episodes, Worsley investigates the curious relationship between detective and author.

In Episode 1, "Doctor and Detective" (December 8), Lucy unearths Holmes' origins in Doyle's early life as a medical student in Edinburgh. She unpacks the early stories, revealing the dark underbelly of late Victorian Britain, from drug use to true crime. She explores how Doyle infused his stories with cutting-edge technological developments and traces the author's growing disenchantment with his detective, heading to Switzerland to visit the site of one of the most famous deaths in literature.

In Episode 2, "Fact and Fiction" (December 15), Lucy explores Doyle's desire to distance himself from Sherlock after the detective's apparent death at the Reichenbach Falls. From the delights of the ski slopes to the horrors of the Boer War, she reveals

how far Doyle went to make himself the hero of his own story. He even took on the role of detective himself in one of the most important legal cases of the 20th century.

In the finale, "Shadows and Sleuths" (December 22), Lucy investigates the return of Sherlock. Doyle began the Edwardian age delighting in all it had to offer, but as the First World War approached, the darkness of the later stories mirrored the reality of Doyle's life. After losing his eldest son, he became an evangelist for spiritualism, and his star declined after a public spat with a famous magician. Sherlock Holmes, in contrast, found a life beyond his author on stage and screen.

**LUCY WORSLEY'S HOLMES VS. DOYLE** will stream simultaneously with broadcast and be available on all station-branded PBS platforms, including <u>PBS.org</u> and the PBS app, available on iOS, Android, Roku, Apple TV, Amazon Fire TV, Android TV, Samsung Smart TV, Chromecast and VIZIO.

**LUCY WORSLEY'S HOLMES VS. DOYLE** is a 3x60' BBC Studios production for BBC Two, BBC iPlayer and PBS. The producers are Rachel Jardine and Laura Blount, the series producer is Linda Sands and the executive producer is Amanda Lyon. The commissioning editor for BBC Arts is Mark Bell. Zara Frankel is the Executive in Charge for PBS. BBC Studios is handling global distribution.

## **About Lucy Worsley**

Lucy Worsley is the Chief Curator at Historic Royal Palaces in the U.K. and the author of numerous historical publications, including biographies of Queen Victoria, Jane Austen, and most, recently, *Agatha Christie: An Elusive Woman*. She is the host of several popular PBS specials and series including AGATHA CHRISTIE: LUCY WORSLEY ON THE MYSTERY QUEEN, LUCY WORSLEY'S ROYAL MYTHS AND SECRETS, A VERY BRITISH ROMANCE WITH LUCY WORSLEY, 12 DAYS OF TUDOR CHRISTMAS, VICTORIA & ALBERT: THE WEDDING, TALES FROM THE ROYAL BEDCHAMBER, and many more.

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