

Conductors Sir Malcolm Sargent and Marin Alsop address the audience with their traditional Last Night speeches – from 1957 and 2013

Sir Malcolm Sargent: Young ladies, young gentlemen. We have come to the end... We have come to the end of the 63rd Season of Henry Wood Promenade Concerts and I want first of all, because I usually forget, I want first of all to thank you Promenaders so much for these floral tributes, for the lovely buttonholes you've bedecked the orchestra with. I've never seen them look more attractive. And above all for this very kind gift, this cheque you've given me to pass on to the Musicians' Benevolent Fund. Your generosity is almost equal to your good looks.

Marin Alsop: Well done, well done, you sound like natives. I mean that in a good way. As I so well know the BBC Proms is the ultimate showcase for great artistry and superb audiences. I'll get to you in a minute. For now, let's put our hands together and let's give a big round of applause to the hundreds of artists who have made this year's Proms the most successful ever with 57 sold out performances. Let's hear it for everybody.

Sir Malcolm Sargent: I have here, some vital statistics... There have ... to the concerts this year, the Promenaders, there have attended no less than over, get these noughts right, 300,000 people. Which means an average of over 6,000 every night. And what is interesting, more than half of the concerts were completely sold out. That is to say they were filled from the Gods to those whatever you call them in the lower region.

Marin Alsop: And this evening gives us an opportunity to pay tribute to the founder conductor of the Proms, Sir Henry Wood, who's looking down upon us. I feel certain that he would see this evening as a natural progression towards more inclusion within classical music, wouldn't you agree? Now quite a lot has been made of me being the first woman to conduct the Last Night of the Proms. Thank you, I'm incredibly honoured and proud to have this title, but I have to say I'm still quite shocked that it's 2013 and that there can be firsts for women.

Sir Malcolm Sargent: My parting this evening is sweet, because in spite of many misunderstandings, I look forward to leading the BBC Orchestra at your next Promenade Season...