

# MASTERPIECE®

**The Casebook Closes**  
***Wallander***  
**The Final Season**  
**MASTERPIECE™**  
**MYSTERY!®**

From the bestselling mystery series by Henning Mankell  
Sundays, May 8 – 22, 2016 at 9pm ET on PBS

One of the world's most remarkable actors brings a stirring detective series to an end as Kenneth Branagh (*My Week with Marilyn*, *Henry V*, *Hamlet*) plays his last season as Inspector Kurt Wallander, based on the novels of Henning Mankell, who died in 2015. MASTERPIECE Mystery! charts the final exploits of the brooding Swede in three nail-biting concluding episodes, on *Wallander*, The Final Season, airing Sundays, May 8 - 22, 2016 at 9pm ET on PBS.

From *Wallander*'s first season on MASTERPIECE in 2009, the protagonist's days have always seemed numbered. Dealing with northern Europe's most violent and deranged criminals, Wallander also battles personal demons and appalling health habits, which led him to be diagnosed with diabetes. Now, as he starts to lose his memory, his greatest fear is that he is succumbing to the same disease that felled his father: Alzheimer's. Branagh's portrayal of this terrifying struggle is a heartbreaking performance.

Branagh has previously won BAFTA's Best Actor award for *Wallander* plus Emmy® and Golden Globe® nominations, also for best actor. The series' uniform excellence was recognized with six additional BAFTAs, including Best Drama Series, Best Director, and Best Photography, as well as an Emmy® nomination for Best Miniseries.

Season III unleashed more critical acclaim, with *Entertainment Weekly* praising the premiere episode as "satisfyingly twist-filled and chilling in every sense." And *The Wall Street Journal* cited Branagh's renown for Shakespearean roles as perfect preparation for the melancholy Swede: "Branagh has never been better cast."

Returning with Branagh in the Final Season are longtime ensemble members Jeany Spark (*Da Vinci's Demons*) as Wallander's daughter, Linda, now married and a mother, bringing a ray of light to her detective dad, who makes a very doting grandfather; and Richard McCabe (*Indian Summers*) as the gloomy but good-hearted forensic pathologist, Sven Nyberg.

Introduced last season and back for this is Ingeborga Dapkunaite (*Prime Suspect 6*) as Baiba Liepa, a beautiful Latvian musician and police widow, who teamed up with Wallander in Riga to escape a death squad run by one her late husband's colleagues. And MASTERPIECE's *Downton Abbey* fans will recognize a new cast member, Harry Hadden-Paton (Edith's gentleman friend in Season 6), who plays Linda's workaholic husband, Hans.

In the Final Season, Wallander keeps burning his candle at both ends, dodging knives, bullets, vicious dogs, homicidal motorcyclists, and a sense that he is losing his focus. Will mishap, medical leave, suspension, or a well-earned retirement be his final exit from this punishing profession? The poignant end game unfolds in these thrilling cases:

**“The White Lioness” – Sunday, May 8, 2016 at 9pm ET**

In South Africa for a police conference, Wallander gets involved in the hunt for a missing Swedish woman and traces her last appearance to a clandestine shooting range, where someone has been practicing for a crime that will jolt the nation. Alarming, the South African sun or something else is leaving Wallander with blackouts and dizzy spells.

**“A Lesson in Love” – Sunday, May 15, 2016 at 9pm ET**

A woman’s knife-slashed corpse leads Wallander on a chase for the victim’s missing daughter, inciting him to a grievous oversight. In private life, he bonds with Linda’s father-in-law, a retired naval officer, who gets a menacing birthday greeting. Convinced that something is not right with his brain, Wallander sees a doctor.

**“The Troubled Man” – Sunday, May 22, 2016 at 9pm ET**

His memory is going to pieces and he’s no longer officially on duty, but Wallander draws on all his resources to find Linda’s missing father-in-law, a former top official in the Swedish navy, who is obsessed with a decades-old submarine mystery. Slowly losing his grip on reality, Wallander is desperate to solve this one last case.

*Wallander, The Final Season* is a Left Bank Pictures, Yellow Bird, TKBC series co-produced with BBC, MASTERPIECE, TV4, FiSK and Copenhagen Film Fund. Made with support from Region of Skane, City of Ystad and Ystad-Osterlan Film Fond, Sweden. In cooperation with ARD Degeto. It is adapted from two original novels by Henning Mankell. Episode one is written by James Dormer. Episodes two and three are written by Peter Harness. The Director is Benjamin Caron. Executive Producers are Andy Harries, Daniel Gylling, Kenneth Branagh, Anni Faurbye Fernandez, Rebecca Eaton, Matthew Read, and Åsa Sjöberg. The Co-producers are Ralf Ivarsson and Thomas Gammeltoft. The Producer is Sanne Wohlenberg.

**About MASTERPIECE**

The top-rated primetime show on PBS, MASTERPIECE is celebrating its 45th anniversary in 2016. MASTERPIECE is presented on PBS by WGBH Boston. Rebecca Eaton is Executive Producer. Funding for the series is provided by Viking River Cruises and Audible with additional support from public television viewers and contributors to The MASTERPIECE Trust. MASTERPIECE is known for presenting iconic shows such as *Upstairs Downstairs*, *Prime Suspect*, *The Forsyte Saga*, *Poldark*, *Sherlock* and *Downton Abbey*.

**About PBS**

PBS, with 350 member stations, offers all Americans the opportunity to explore new ideas and new worlds through television and online content. Each month, PBS reaches more than 103 million people through television and over 33 million people online, inviting them to experience the worlds of science, history, nature and public affairs; to hear diverse viewpoints; and to take front row seats to world-class drama and performances. PBS’ broad array of programs has been consistently honored by the industry’s most coveted award competitions. Teachers of children from pre-K through 12th grade turn to PBS for digital content and services that help bring classroom lessons to life. PBS’ premier children’s TV programming and its website, pbskids.org, are parents’ and teachers’ most trusted partners in inspiring and nurturing curiosity and love of learning in children. More information about PBS is available at [www.pbs.org](http://www.pbs.org), one of the leading dot-org websites on the Internet, or by following PBS on Twitter, Facebook or through our apps for mobile devices. Specific program information and updates for press are available at [pbs.org/pressroom](http://pbs.org/pressroom) or by following PBS Pressroom on Twitter.

**About WGBH**

WGBH Boston is America’s preeminent public broadcaster and the largest producer of PBS content for TV and the Web, including Frontline, Nova, American Experience, Masterpiece, Antiques Roadshow, Arthur, Curious George and more than a dozen other prime-time, lifestyle, and children’s series. WGBH also is a major supplier of programming for public radio, and oversees Public Radio International (PRI). As a leader in educational multimedia for the classroom, WGBH supplies content to PBS LearningMedia, a national broadband service for teachers and students. WGBH also is a pioneer in technologies and services that make media accessible to those with hearing or visual impairments. WGBH has been recognized with hundreds of honors. More info at [www.wgbh.org](http://www.wgbh.org).

[pbs.org/masterpiece](http://pbs.org/masterpiece)

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