

Recording of the week: the Woodlark

This week's selection comes from Richard Ranft, Head of Sound and Vision.

Between February to June on southern and south-eastern English heathlands you may be lucky enough to hear a Woodlark singing. The bird emits a cascade of sweet liquid warbles, often in a large circular display flight some 50-100 metres up in the air above its territory. On windy sunny days in early spring, as we have now, its beautiful notes come and go out of hearing range when heard from a distance, giving the heathland habitat an ethereal quality.

Song of a Woodlark (*Lullula arborea*), recorded by Lawrence Shove in 1960s



Woodlark and Crested lark (On top: Woodlark; below: Crested lark) from *Nederlandsche vogelen* (Dutch birds) by Nozeman and Sepp (1770-1829)

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