



**Notes and Links on coverage of the
2013 Eurovision Song Contest
from ESC Insight**

Compiled by Ewan Spence, Thursday May 23rd, 2013.

Introduction

ESC Insight is an independent website that covers the world of the Eurovision, including this year's Eurovision Song Contest.

Set up in 2010 to act as a new home for BAFTA nominated podcaster Ewan Spence and the two year old "Unofficial Eurovision Podcast", it promised to deliver in-depth content, analysis, commentary, and knowledgeable articles around the Contest. The approach can be linked to a weekly periodical, contrasting it with daily news sites such as EscXtra.

For the 2013 Contest, ESC Insight's core team of journalists remained intact from the 2012 season (Ewan Spence, Sharleen Wright, Samantha Ross, and Steven Newby), and our pool of contributing writers expanded (including John Egan, Monty Moncrieff, John Kennedy O'Connor, Dr Paul Jordan, Roy Delaney, and others).

Following on from 2012, our 'long format' video show from Malmo focused on the meet-and-greet interviews from the first week of rehearsals, allowing us to interview every on-stage performer for Eurovision 2013. This was augmented by more traditional long-form interviews, and the return of Terry Vision, our puppet based former commentator forced out of retirement to cover the Contest. Operated by Ewan Spence, this customised Henson Muppet had his own popular series of light-hearted interviews each running between three and five minutes long.

We had two additions to our regular coverage this year.

The first was our mobile app. 'ESC Commentary' was a joint app with EscXtra, and developed by The Lab, an offshoot of O2 Telefonica is an innovation team that test new ideas & concepts fast, in an open environment. The application allowed us to stream live commentary from Malmo during the three Eurovision shows, and listeners could instantly share their opinions of each song by casting a thumbs up or thumbs down vote.

ESC Juniors (www.escjuniors.com) was a side project that gave two children (Eilidh Spence, aged 10, and Mairi Spence, aged 8) an opportunity to review every Eurovision song this year on a dedicated website for children.

Thank you for support during this year's Contest, and the whole ESC Insight team look forward to working with you in the future.

There now follows a detailed breakdown of our coverage.

Ewan Spence, Chief Editor and Founder.
ESC Insight (www.escinsight.com)

ESC Insight Ebook

The ESC Insight Guide Book

[Our fourth guide book to a Eurovision Song Contest](#) proved a popular download both in [PDF form](#) and [via Amazon](#). Featuring all 39 countries performing at this year's Contest, as well as **thoughts on each song from the ESC Insight team**, it provided the popular mix of information and opinion we're proud of to everyone. It was also a **handy reference** for us while we reported from Malmo.

ESC Insight / EscXtra Smartphone App

The ESC Commentary Mobile App

Developed for ESC Insight and EscXtra by The Lab (powered by O2/Telefonica), *ESC Commentary* was a mobile application which provided information on this year's performers, as well as links to biography data, social media accounts, and their official videos. It also provided **a live commentary stream** from the Press Room to people watching the show around the world, as well as offering them the opportunity to **share their opinions in real-time** through a thumbs up or thumbs down button press.

- [You can find ESC Commentary in the Apple App Store.](#)

ESC Insight - Written Articles

Articles, Editorial and Insight around the 58th Contest

- [Nine things we expect from Sweden and Eurovision 2013](#)
- [Stop blaming everyone else over your Eurovision loss... look in the mirror](#)
- [Where's the UK Stefan Raab? He's hiding at BBC Scotland](#)
- [An open letter to the 2013 Heads of Delegation](#)
- [Split Votes and Transparency: Improving the Jury System at Eurovision](#)
- [Nine Songs disqualified from the Eurovision Song Contest](#)
- [Not Quite Eurovision... Alternative Song Contests from around the World](#)
- [Can Phone Votes Cover The Cost Of The BBC's National Final?](#)
- [Five Alternatives To A UK National Final for the Eurovision Song Contest](#)
- [James Bond and Adele Can Win Eurovision For The United Kingdom](#)
- [Don't call the Eurovision Song Contest a Reality Show](#)
- [Can Eurovision be a Fair Contest and a Fabulous TV Show with the new Rules?](#)
- [All These Changes Are Doing Eurovision Good](#)
- [Are You Sure That's Not a Eurovision Song?](#)
- [The Fall And Rise Of Turkey At Eurovision](#)
- [A Very Eurovision Christmas](#)
- [Who Would Travel Halfway Round The World For A National Final?](#)
- [ESC Insight's Top Musical Moments of 2012](#)
- [What's Another Year? Ten Years On From Riga](#)
- [How Much Influence Does The Running Order Really Have?](#)
- [Win, Place or Show: Drawn Into The Running Order Debate](#)
- [Why the Eurovision Song Contest and the Superbowl Are Practically Family](#)
- [Runners And Riders For The UK Eurovision Entry](#)
- [Dear Eurovision Fans, It's Not Plagiarism, It's How Music Works](#)
- [It's A Heartache For The United Kingdom](#)
- [The New Ranked Scoring System: Looking Forward By Looking Back](#)
- [I've Got A Secret, Whispers The United Kingdom](#)
- [Don't Be That Fan.](#)
- [Running Order Bias, And How People Judge Eurovision Songs.](#)
- [The Diplomatic Headache Of The Running Order.](#)
- [Winners and Losers From The Running Order](#)
- [Should Melodifestivalen Award G:Son His Own Semi Final?](#)
- [Overegging the Eurovision Pudding: When Is Too Much Enough.](#)
- [Judge, Jury, and the Execution of the Eurovision Song Contest.](#)
- [Video, Video: The History Of The Eurovision Preview Shows.](#)
- [Hacksaw's Magical Musical Box Of Delights In Malmo.](#)
- [A Balkan Blackout In The First Semi Finals.](#)
- [The Spotters Guide To The Semi Finals.](#)
- [Balkans To Decide This Year's Eurovision Winner.](#)
- [Analysing the draw, and a shift in Eurovision Geo-politics.](#)
- [Eurovision and LGBT Rights: Is It A Party For Everybody?](#)
- [The Spotters Guide To The Grand Final.](#)
- [The Top Twenty Five Signs Of Post Eurovision Depression.](#)
- [Which National Finals Made The Right Choice For Malmö?](#)
- [Which National Finals Sent The Wrong Song To Sweden?](#)

The Eurovision Lists

ESC Insight is not the only website covering the Contest, and we like pointing out the big stories and opinions from around the web. That's why we have the Eurovision List, pointing out some of the best stories on the web. You can step back through them in our [Links and List index](#).

Eurovision Juniors

Eilidh (age 10) and Mairi (age 8) are the Eurovision Juniors, watching the videos and rating every song in the 2013 Eurovision Song Contest. Their thoughts on all the songs were spun out to a separate site, www.escjuniors.com.

ESC Insight – Audio Shows and Commissions

SBS Eurovision Radio

The ESC Insight team worked alongside Australian broadcaster [SBS](#) to create audio content for their website and for broadcast on their SBS Eurovision Radio station. **11 standalone thirty minute programs were commissioned** and aired during April and May (sbs.com.au/eurovision).

Juke Box Jury

In the eight weeks running up to the semi-finals and finals, we previewed each country's song in our [Juke Box Jury](#) format, with discussion between two judges and host Ewan Spence before rating each song as hit, miss, or maybe.

- [Juke Box Jury 2013 #1](#)
(Switzerland, Cyprus, Lithuania, and Denmark).
- [Juke Box Jury 2013 #2](#)
(Malta, Slovenia, Belgium, Latvia, and Russia).
- [Juke Box Jury 2013 #3](#)
(Albania, Bulgaria, Ireland, and Norway).
- [Juke Box Jury 2013 #4](#)
(Hungary, Montenegro, Netherlands, and Ukraine).
- [Juke Box Jury 2013 #5](#)
(Serbia, Israel, Iceland, San Marino, and Greece).
- [Juke Box Jury 2013 #6](#)
(Austria, Romania, Macedonia, Belarus, and Finland).
- [Juke Box Jury 2013 #7](#)
(Moldova, Croatia, Georgia, Estonia, Azerbaijan).
- [Juke Box Jury 2013 #8](#)
(Sweden, Spain, France, Germany, Italy, and the United Kingdom,).

The Alternative Commentaries

Now in their fifth year, our Alternative Commentaries are an integral part of the Eurovision experience for many of our readers and listeners as they download the commentaries to watch alongside the Song Contest, either live or synced with the on-demand streams of the Eurovision Song Contest (via www.eurovision.tv/esctv). For the third contest in a row, Ewan Spence was joined in the commentary booth by Luke Fisher, from [EscXtra](#).

- [Semi Final 1 commentary track](#).
- [Semi Final 2 commentary track](#).
- [Grand Final commentary track](#).

The Daily Podcast Chat Shows

Our successful and anticipated morning chat shows returned in Malmo as our weekly ESC Insight podcast switched to a daily schedule. This allowed us to provide our trademark in-depth coverage and analysis from backstage at the Malmo Arena, bringing all the news and opinions of the 2013 Contest as it happened, though a rotating line up of guests from many Eurovision websites.

- [Monday 6th May](#)
(with Ewan Spence, Sharleen Wright, Samantha Ross, and Steven Newby).
- [Tuesday 7th May](#)
(with Ewan Spence, Samantha Ross, and David Elder).
- [Wednesday 8th May](#)
(with Ewan Spence, Elaine Dove, and Wivian Renee).
- [Thursday 9th May](#)
(with Ewan Spence, Luke Fisher, and Garrett Mulhall).
- [Friday 10th May](#)
(with Ewan Spence, Samantha Ross, and Phil Colclough).
- [Saturday 11th May](#)
(with Ewan Spence, Roy Delaney, and Danny Lynch).
- [Sunday 12th May](#)
(with Ewan Spence, Samantha Ross, and Luke Fisher).
- [Monday 13th May](#)
(with Ewan Spence, Samantha Ross, and Steven Newby).
- [Tuesday 14th May](#)
(with Ewan Spence, Sharleen Wright, and Luke Fisher).
- [Wednesday 15th May](#)
(with Ewan Spence, Sharleen Wright, Samantha Ross, and Steven Newby).
- [Thursday 16th May](#)
(with Ewan Spence, Sharleen Wright, Samantha Ross, and Steven Newby).
- [Friday 17th May](#)
(with Ewan Spence, Monty Moncrieff, and Jacques Happe).
- [Saturday 18th May](#)
(with Ewan Spence, Samantha Ross, and Steven Newby)
- [Sunday 19th May](#)
(with Ewan Spence, Samantha Ross, Steven Newby, and DJ Ohrmeister).

ESC Insight – Video and Multimedia

Daily Shorts

With the new meet and greet format this year, a number of interviews were combined to make 'Daily Shorts' video during the first week. **All 39 countries were interviewed** and aired ahead of their first appearance, be it a semi-final or the Grand Final.

- [May 7th, 2013](#)
(Austria, Estonia, Slovenia, Croatia, Denmark, Russia, Ukraine, and the Netherlands).
- [May 8th, 2013](#)
(Montenegro, Lithuania, Belarus, Moldova, Ireland, Cyprus, Belgium, and Serbia).
- [May 9th, 2013](#)
(Latvia, San Marino, Macedonia, Azerbaijan, Finland, Malta, Bulgaria, and Iceland).
- [May 10th, 2013](#)
(Greece, Israel, Armenia, Hungary, Norway, Albania, Georgia, Switzerland, and Romania).
- [May 18th, 2013](#)
(France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom).

Video Insights

During the Eurovision Fortnight in Malmo, ESC Insight's Samantha Ross interviewed a number of the performers in a longer format interview that the Daily Shorts that allowed her to take time to really get to know the people singing at this year's Song Contest.

- ByeAlex (Hungary).
- Amandine Bourgeois (France).
- Klapa s mora (Croatia).
- Igor Vovkovinsky (Ukraine).
- Elitsa and Stoyan (Bulgaria).
- Gianluca Bezzina (Malta).

ESC Insight's Senior Interviewer, Terry Vision

After a successful 2012 season, Terry Vision returned to the Eurovision Song Contest. Our senior interviewer and his fearless camera crew spoke to many of the performers at this year's Contest, along with a number of Eurovision Legends. With his unique style and gentle acerbic wit, he brings a different angle to the traditional interview. He met:

- [Per Thoreson](#) (the Swedish Ambassador to Switzerland)
- [Christoph Jakob](#), Heilsarmee/Takasa (Switzerland)
- [Sven Epiney](#) (Swiss Commentator).
- [Emmelie De Forest](#) (Denmark).
- [The Herreys](#) (Sweden 1984).
- [The Brotherhood of Man](#) (United Kingdom 1976).
- [Anke Engelke](#) (Eurovision 2011 Host, Unser Song Fur Malmo).
- [Ulrik Munther](#) (Melodifestivalen 2012, 2013).
- [Gina Dirawi & Danny Saucedo](#) (Melodifestivalen Hosts 2013).
- [Ralf Gylenhamar](#) (Melodifestivalen 2013).
- [Johnny Logan](#) (singer Ireland 1980, 1987, composer Ireland 1984, 1987, 1992).
- [Gianluca](#) (Malta).
- [Cezar](#) (Romania).
- [Krista Siegfriids](#) (Finland).
- [Amandine Bourgeois](#) (France).
- [Klapa S Mora](#) (Croatia).
- [PeR](#) (Latvia).
- [Birgit](#) (Estonia).
- [Ryan Dolan](#) (Ireland).
- [Alyona Lanskaya](#) (Belarus).
- [Igor Vovkovinsky](#) (Ukraine).
- [Moran Mazar](#) (Israel).
- [Koza Mostra](#) (Greece).
- [Adrian Lulgjarj](#) (Albania).
- [Takasa](#) (Switzerland).
- [Eythor Ingi](#) (Iceland).
- [Elitsa Torodova](#) (Bulgaria).
- [Lys Assia](#) (Switzerland 1956, first Eurovision winner).
- [Christer Bjorkman](#) (ESC 2013 Show Producer / SVT Melodifestivalen).
- [Sarah Dawn Finer / Lynda Woodruff](#).
- [Marco Mengoni](#) (Italy).

ESC Insight Supporters and Advertisers

ESC Insight is a year-round operation, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank our supporters from the 2013 season.

BMI Regional

bmi regional, the UK's most punctual airline for the last seven years, offers a thirty minute check-in, free in-flight food and drink, a generous baggage allowance and flights to the UK and Europe from Aberdeen, Bristol, East Midlands, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leeds Bradford, Manchester and Norwich.

BMI supported ESC Insight with travel throughout the National Final season, and to travel to Malmo for the Eurovision Song Contest.

The Lab

The Lab (powered by O2) are an innovation team, powered by O2/Telefonica UK Ltd. Set up in January 2011, The Lab test new ideas & concepts fast, in an open environment.

They developed our mobile application this year, and provided server support for the app.

Contact ESC Insight

ESC Insight runs around the year, while coverage will slow down over the summer months, we'll be watching out for the start of the National Finals and our trip to Sweden for Eurovision 2014. You can get in touch with the team at any time via...

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