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20th October 2013, will mark 40 years since Queen Elizabeth II declared the Sydney Opera House officially open, gracing Sydney with her Royal presence at the Opening Ceremony.

This unique footage captures the large crowds that gathered to celebrate this momentous occasion. The Queen paid tribute to the Opera House and the people who created it with a moving speech. 60,000 coloured balloons were released into the sky in celebration. Streamers fell from the rooftops. A chorus of ships horns rang out across the harbour.

The ABC had the first international telecast of this footage available by satellite to any part of the world.

The full program is 1:22:56. It has been edited it down sizably to this highlights clip (03:18).

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the clip.

Contact **[ABC Library Sales](#)** for additional footage from this program.

 ABC Commercial

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