We ask a celebrity a set of devilishly probing questions – and only accept THE definitive answer. This week: musician and presenter Jools Holland

The prized possession you value above all others... The gift of music and my voice. Without them, I don’t think I’d survive.

The biggest regret you wish you could amend... Not putting air conditioning in my recording studio at home when I had it built. I spent ten years sweating before I finally had it installed.

The temptation you wish you could resist... Thinking I’m right. Most of us have the propensity for wrongly thinking this. Other people have a view that can also be valid.

A book that holds an everlasting resonance... The Faerie Queen by Edmund Spenser. My dad, Derek, had an old edition he read to me when I was six. It made me appreciate the text that holds an everlasting resonance of Sister Rosetta Tharpe.

The priority activity if you were the Blue Lamp star... I'd steal a Rembrandt self-portrait from Amsterdam's Rijksmuseum.

The unlikely interest that engages your curiosity... People's eyes glaze over when I tell them that I love medieval Flemish history. I'm fascinated by the art and the buildings when I'm in Belgium or Holland.

The film you can watch time and time again... The Blue Lamp starring Jack Warner. It's set in London in 1949 and depicts a world that is gone, architecturally and in terms of attitude.

The person who has influenced you most... Duke Ellington. I read about him in my 20s and he taught me to believe in my sound.

The treasured item you lost and wish you could have again... My 78 rpm record of Sister Rosetta Tharpe singing Up Above My Head. Someone sat on it 30 years ago. I'm still getting over it.

The poem that touches your soul... I like poetry but, for me at least, words can't quite express what music does. The misapprehension about yourself you wish you could erase... That it was me driving when a speed camera recorded me. It's a novelty dinner plate. Right: a Rembrandt self-portrait from Amsterdam's Rijksmuseum.

The event that altered the course of your life and character... Discovering that I could play the piano. My uncle Dave showed me how to play a boogie-woogie piece of music [a fast blues style]. I was very excited when I realised that I could copy him.

The crime you would commit knowing you could get away with it... I'd steal a Rembrandt self-portrait from the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam.

The way you want to be remembered... As a kindly old gentleman who died at the age of 257 while doing boogie-woogie dancing.

ThePlug... Jools Holland will perform on 16 June at Hampton Court Palace Festival (7-24 June). Visit hamptoncourtpalacefestival.com.

As told to Rob McGibbon

Jessica Chastain stars in political drama Miss Sloane – in cinemas Friday. Harry Styles’s self-titled solo album is out the same day. And Anthony Head opens in Love In Idleness at London’s Apollo Theatre on Thursday

PS...

NEXT WEEK

● All you need to know about adopting a cat in part two of our heart-warming series
● Monty Don’s top tips for growing the tastiest tomatoes ● PLUS Britain’s best TV listings