

Derek Williams

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PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Alongside my career as an educator, I have been self-employed variously as composer, conductor, musical director and record producer for a range of international clients, including The University of Edinburgh and Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, EMI Music, Australian Broadcasting Corporation, Caroline O'Connor, Sir Robert Helpmann, Sir Howard Morrison. My work has featured in performances at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, Royal Albert Hall and Garrick Theatre (London), Sydney Opera House and Melbourne Hamer Hall (Australia), the Australian Embassy (New York), Sala Accademica di Santa Cecilia (Rome) and Edinburgh University. I have been orchestrator, associate composer, musician for 21 feature films, television documentaries, mini series, and 15 album titles and have been a frequent conductor of studio orchestras, including Melbourne Symphony Orchestra for the feature film *Frauds*. Many of the media to which I have contributed have themselves achieved critical and popular acclaim, including BAFTA Award (*The Making of Longbird*), Best Film Score (*Crush*), an Oscar (*Adventures Of Priscilla, Queen Of The Desert*), Triple Platinum record sales (*Come In Spinner - ABC*) and an Australian Aria Award nomination (*Cash Landing - EMI Music*). Stars in films I have orchestrated include Russell Crowe, Cate Blanchett, Hugo Weaving, Phil Collins, Josephine Byrnes, Lee Majors, Jack Scalia, Bob Peck, Guy Pearce, Terence Stamp. I worked with Torvill & Dean as arranger and pianist for their album *Here We Stand*. I have performed extensively as keyboardist, including over 400 performances of Andrew Lloyd Webber's show *Cats* (Really Useful Theatre Company) and *Phantom of the Opera* (Cameron Mackintosh Limited), and as musical director for independent productions. My current commission is to compose a new 4 movement symphony for the Orchestra of the Canongait.

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

PhD	Music Composition, The University of Edinburgh (2012)
BMus	Bachelor of Music, The University of Auckland (1973) New Zealand (conferred 1975) First. All music subject passes with Distinction (A) or High Distinction (A+) Winner Hollinrake Memorial Prize and Senior Scholarship for best graduate student
DipTeach	Diploma in Teaching, New South Wales Dept of Education & Training (1997) Australia
DipTchg	Diploma in Teaching, New Zealand Education Department (1982) New Zealand
Diploma	Teaching, Auckland Secondary Teachers College (1978) New Zealand
FTCL	Fellow of Trinity College of Music, London (1977)
LTCL	Licentiate (Piano) Trinity College of Music London (1977)
LMusTCL	Licentiate (Composition) Trinity College of Music London (1976)

RECENT ACADEMIC RESEARCH (recent within PhD; cf. Appendix I for publications)

- Compositional techniques and their contribution to the diversity of contemporary music
- Acoustic tonal chamber and symphonic composition and orchestration with an exploration of emotional engagement
- Researching Oscar Wilde to facilitate the composition of a full-scale opera recounting the last years of his life, with an investigation of dramaturgical gender roles in music theatre
- Arrangement as a compositional process
- Use of technology to compose original music and realise virtual performance

TEACHING EXPERIENCE – left permanent employment October 2006 to study full time at Edinburgh University

- 2007- present The University Of Edinburgh [Old College, South Bridge EH8 9YL]**
Lecturer, Tutor, Examiner (Associated Staff)
- Lecturing, Tutoring, Examining MMus and 3rd year BMus undergraduates in Orchestration and Composition
 - Lecturing to BMus undergraduates in the use of the score writing software Sibelius
- 1986-2006 NSW Department Of Education & Training [GPO Box 33, Sydney 2001, Australia]**
Teacher of Music, Software Design & Development, Information Processes & Technology, Computing
- 1989-2006 NSW Board Of Studies [117 Clarence Street, Sydney 2000 Australia]**
Higher School Certificate (HSC) Music Examiner & Computing Studies Advisor
- Conducting live music performance examinations for the Higher School Certificate examinations
 - Examiner for Composition & Computing Studies examination candidates for the Higher School Certificate
- 1995-2006 Sydney Community College [2A Perry Street, Lilyfield 2004, Australia]**
Lecturer – Steinberg Training Centre (part time) – Authorised Trainer
- Designing and delivering a range of courses in Music Technology
- 1984 Progeni Systems Ltd/Polycorp secondment [14-18 Pretoria Street, Lower Hutt 5011, New Zealand]**
Computer Programmer of educational software for New Zealand schools
- 1979-1985 New Zealand Ministry Of Education [PO Box 1666 Wellington 6140]**
Teacher of Music, English and Computer Awareness
- 1979 Waiariki Technical Institute [Mokoia Drive, Rotorua 3046, New Zealand]**
Lecturer – Theory of Music (part time)

- 1974-1978** **New Zealand School Of Music Ltd [157 Symonds Street, Auckland 1010 *NB wound up in 1978]**
Founder / Director / Teacher
- 1973-1974** **Auckland University Conservatorium Of Music [Private Bag 92019 Auckland 1142]**
Lecturer, Tutor & Examiner (part time) – Harmony & Aural Training

TECHNICAL SKILLS – details on website www.derekwilliams.net

Competencies acquired through running my private digital composing, recording, mixing and mastering studio including:

Equipment

- Kurzweil K2500R, K250 & K250R; Roland RD-300SX & JX8P; Korg M3R & Nanopads; M-Audio ProKeys Sono 88; Apple Mac Pro; Windows 7 P6T WS PRO Intel X58 i7 930 Quad Core 2.8GHz 6.4GT/s; Behringer DDX3216; Mark of the Unicorn MTPAV & 2408 MkIII; EsI M8U-XL; Tascam US-224; Yamaha SPX90 & NS20; Beyers M500N; Shure SHR-16AM

Software

- Final Cut Pro; ProTools; Cubase; Halion; Reason; Digital Performer; MachFive; MSI Software Sample Player; Composers' Mosaic; Complete Vienna Symphonic Library Symphonic VST Cube & Orchestral Cube Pro Edition; Finale; Sibelius; Gigastudio; Kontakt; Garritan Personal Orchestra & Jazz Libraries; Waves Gold Bundle; Auto-Tune; MIDI Interface Manager & Patch Librarians; PhotoScore Ultimate; PDFtoMusic; Readiris Pro; Dragon Dictate (Mac & Windows); iWork; iLife; Microsoft Office (Mac & Windows); full Adobe Suite

AFFILIATIONS

- **2012** Member British Academy of Songwriters, Composers and Authors (BASCA)
- **1985** - Australasian Performing Right Association Ltd, Writer Full Member (current)
- **1985** - NSW Teachers Federation (current)
- **1985** - Music Arrangers Guild of Australia Inc (MAGA - current)
- **2007-2009** Music Postgraduate Student Representative, Edinburgh University Students Association
- **2008-2009** Funding Manager of Executive Board, Edinburgh Contemporary Music Ensemble (ECME)
- **2007-2008** Corporate Fundraising Manager/Committee Member, Edinburgh University Studio Opera (ESO)
- **2007** Musical Director, Edinburgh University Savoy Opera Group (EUSOG)
- **1985-2007** Musicians Union of Australia
- **1995-1996** Musical Director/Orchestra/Choral Conductor, Waverley-Randwick Philharmonic Society Inc.
- - **2006** Auckland University Alumni Association Inc

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS – details in Appendix 1 and website www.derekwilliams.net

- **2015** Composer/Arranger/Conductor for Glenfiddich 21yo Whisky TV and online media campaign with McOpera Orchestra
- **2014-2016** Commission to compose full scale Symphony in 4 movements for Canongait Orchestra of Edinburgh Scotland
- **2013-14** Composer *Medea* –1 act opera premièred Edinburgh Jazz Bar, Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2013 & Reid Hall 2014
- **2013** *Waltz* commissioned by Edinburgh University & Royal Conservatoire of Scotland for Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2013
- **2012** Commission by The University of Edinburgh to compose String Quartet for Professor Raymond Monelle Conference
- **2012** Commissioned arrangement/orchestration by Caroline O'Connor for Hamer Hall official opening, Melbourne
- **2011** Commission by *Artisan Trio* to compose *Quintet for Clarinet, Horn, Violin, Cello and Piano* (under grant from Edinburgh University Roberts Fund)
- **2011** Commission by *Seiras Quintet* to compose *Piano Quintet No 1* for performance at Sala Accademica di Santa Cecilia in Rome, March.
- **2007-2013** Pianist, big band musical director for Sinatra interpreter Frank Holden's live and recorded performances
- **1985-2013** Numerous orchestrations and compositions performed at diverse venues including the Sydney Opera House and the Royal Albert Hall as well as in many television documentaries, mini-series and films including the Oscar winning *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*, Aria award nominee album *Cash Landing* for EMI Music and the platinum award winning Australian Broadcasting Corporation jazz album *Come in Spinner*
- **1983-2013** Orchestrator, conductor, musical director and record producer for leading international figures including Sir Robert Helpmann, Sir Howard Morrison and English National Opera star Caroline O'Connor
- **2006-2010** Composing a full-scale opera, *Wilde*, scenes from which have been workshopped by the professional touring opera company, Opera Circus, and recordings made by professional opera singers
- **2009** Record producer and participant composer for the recording of a University funded CD of string quartets with guest soloists featuring PhD student compositions performed by The Edinburgh Quartet and guests
- **2008** Répétiteur for Edinburgh Grand Opera's semi-professional production of Gounod's *Faust* at the Edinburgh Festival Theatre and offstage conductor for the live performances
- **2007** arranger for Caroline O'Connor *Night of 1,000 Voices* concert at the Royal Albert Hall, later New York & Melbourne
- **2007** Musical director and conductor for the Edinburgh University Savoy Group's performance the musical *Salad Days*
- **2007** String Quartet *Caledonian Quartet* premiered by The Edinburgh Quartet, Scotland's leading professional string quartet, and included in a University funded CD of student compositions for commercial release
- **1985-2001** Conducting studio orchestras performing my orchestrations for many film scores and commercial albums including the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra for the film *Frauds* starring Phil Collins
- **1979-1994** Performing as pianist and keyboardist in live theatre including over 400 performances of Andrew Lloyd Webber's show *Cats* at Sydney's Theatre Royal, Australia
- **1993** Orchestrator for feature movie *Crush*, which wins Best Film Score and 3 other awards
- **1990** Arranger/Conductor Australian Broadcasting Corp's album *Come In Spinner* which achieves Platinum sales
- **1973, 1974** Winner of Professor Hollinrake Memorial Scholarship, and Senior Scholarship for Best Student at the Auckland University Conservatorium of Music
- **1972** World tour as chorister with the Auckland University Festival Choir, conductor Professor Peter Godfrey CBE

APPENDIX 1 – PUBLICATIONS AND MUSIC CREDITS (full details, audio/video at www.derekwilliams.net)

Variously arranger, orchestrator, composer, conductor, performer

Film details at www.imdb.com/name/nm0930427

- *Hildegard* – Australian Film Commission (2001)
- *Empire* – Australian Broadcasting Corp. (1997)
- *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert* – Polygram Filmed Entertainment (1994)
- *Frauds* – J & M Entertainment (1993)
- *Crush* – Australian Film Council (1992)
- *Blinky Bill* – Yoram Gross Productions (1992)
- *The Rainbow Warrior Conspiracy* – 7 TV Network
- *The Crossing* – Beyond Productions (1990)
- *Ring of Scorpio* – Nine Network Australia (1990)

Television (refer also IMDB as above)

- *Hard Knox* – Peter Bloomfield (2001)
- *Thank God He Met Lizzie* – Stamen Films Ltd (1997)
- *Seven Deadly Sins* – ABC (1993)
- *The Other Side of Paradise* – 10 TV Network (1992)
- *Children of the Dragon* – ABC (1991)
- *Police Rescue* – ABC (1991)
- *Come in Spinner* – ABC (1990)
- *Bodysurfer* – Ian Barry (1989)
- *The Last Resort* – ABC (1988)

Documentary www.imdb.com/name/nm0930427

- *The Making of Longbird* – Atzi Muramatsu (2013)
- *Black Swan* – Aaron McCann (1995)
- *Widows* – Australian movie (1994)
- *The Wonderful World of Dogs* – Mark Lewis (1990)
- *In Grave Danger of Falling Food* – Bill Mollison (1989)
- *Flashbacks* – Australian Broadcasting Corp. (1988)

TV/Radio Themes, Commercials and Infomercials

- *Glenfiddich 21yo* – TV & Online Media Campaign (2015)
- *ABC Cable Television News Service* (1995)
- Numerous Ads (1986-1995)
- *Channel 7 Sports Themes* (1988-1990)
- *Channel 7 IDs* including *Let's Celebrate '88*
- *Arthur Young, Australia* – Broadcom (1988)

Albums (full details www.derekwilliams.net Portfolio)

- *Encounters* – CD Edinburgh University (2009)
- *Caroline O'Connor – A Tribute to Garland* (2005)
- *Frank Bennett – Cash Landing* – EMI Music (1998)
- *Frauds* – J & M Entertainment (1993)
- *The Crossing* – Beyond Productions (1989)
- *Come in Spinner* – Platinum Album ABC Records, Australian Broadcasting Corporation (1990)
- *Seven Deadly Sins* – ABC (1993)
- *Aloha* – Cast Album (1983)
- *Glenn Wood Tap – The Syllabus* (2004-present)
- *History of Australia* – Cast Album (1988)
- *Torvill & Dean - Here We Stand* (1989)
- *New Zealand Choral Music* – Kiwi Records (1972)

Additional Conducting Repertoire (videos available)

- Beethoven *Symphony No 1 & 6; Coriolan Overture*
- Haydn *Symphony No 104*
- Mozart *Overture to Così Fan Tutte; Ave Verum*
- Weber *Clarinet Concerto*
- Mendelssohn *Violin Concerto*
- Bach *Cantata Christ Lag in Todesbanden*
- Handel *Excerpts from The Messiah*
- Grieg *Excerpts from Peer Gynt Suite*
- Verdi *The Anvil Chorus*
- Dvorak *Slavonic Dance*
- Bizet *Farandole*
- John Williams *Star Wars Overture*
- Bellini *La Sonnambula*
- Bruch *Kol Nidrei*
- Edinburgh University Composers' Orchestra (guest)

Opera and Musical (videos available)

- *Medea* – opera, Composer (Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2013)
- *Jekyll & Hyde - The Opera* – Composer, (commission 2013)
- *Wilde* – Composer, full scale opera in 2 Acts (2006-2011)
- *Caroline O'Connor – The Showgirl Within*, Garrick Theatre, London (2010), *End of the Rainbow*, Sydney Opera House (2005), Arranger/Orchestrator
- *Faust* – Répétiteur, Offstage Conductor, Edinburgh Grand Opera (2008)
- *Opera Shorts* – Répétiteur, Recordist (2008)
- *Salad Days* – Musical Director, Répétiteur, Edinburgh University Savoy Opera Group (2007)
- *Lulu* – Musical Director, Arranger, Répétiteur, Pianist (1996)
- *The Last Empress* – Score Programmer (1996)
- *Phantom of the Opera* – Keyboards, Cameron Mackintosh Ltd (1995)
- *Cats* – Keyboards, The Really Useful Theatre Co (1985-94)
- *Leopard's Leap* – Arranger, Recordist (1990-1994)
- *Nunsense* – Répétiteur, Keyboards (1991)
- *Thirteen Daughters* – Arranger, Recordist (1989)
- *History of Australia (Manning Clark)* – Arranger (1988)
- *Rasputin* – Keyboards, Associate Chorus Master (1987)
- *Cinderella* – Musical Director (1987)
- *Aloha* – Musical Director, Arranger/Orchestrator (1983-85)
- *Oklahoma* – Musical Director (1983)
- *Godspell* – Musical Director (1980)
- *Earthfire* – Keyboards & Associate MD (1980)
- *Jesus Christ, Superstar!* – Keyboards (1979)

Live Performance (videos available)

- *Medea* – opera, (Edinburgh Fringe 2013, Reid Hall 2014)
- *Jake Howarth – Rhapsody For Two Pianos*, 2nd Pianist, Edinburgh University Composers' Orchestra (2012)
- *Tidemarks* – Suzanne Parry John, Dumfries, Pianist (2012)
- *Julien Lonchamp – Verso-Tempo, and Fall of a Window Cleaner*, Edinburgh & Glasgow, Conductor (2011-12)
- *Quintet No 2* – Artisan Trio & guests, Composer (2011)
- *Quintet No 1* – Seiras Quintet, Rome, Composer (2011)
- *De Novo* – for Ryan Somerville, Conductor (2010)
- *"Fortune & Men's Eyes" Octet* – Kings Space London (2009)
- *Caroline O'Connor – Official Opening*, Melbourne Hamer Hall (2012) *Night of 1000 Voices*, Royal Albert Hall (2007), *Australia Day*, New York Embassy (2008), *Tribute to Garland*, Taronga Park, Sydney (2005), Arranger, Musician
- *Frank Holden Big Band* – Musical Director (2007-present)
- *The Edinburgh Quartet* – Composer (2007-2009)
- *Araluen Receptions* – Resident Pianist (1995-2006)
- *Fornicon* – Arranger, Graham Murphy *Sydney Dance Company* - Sydney Opera House (1995)
- *Berlin* – Arranger, Graham Murphy *Sydney Dance Company* - Sydney Opera House (1995)
- *Grace Knight* – Arranger, Musical Director (1990)
- *Debbie Newsome* – Arranger, Musical Director (1989)
- *Kate Ceberano* – Arranger, Session Conductor (1988-89) with *Wendy Matthews* – Keyboards ABC TV Special
- *Australian Singing Competition* – Arranger (1985-89)
- *Sir Howard Morrison* – Keyboards (1982)
- *Auckland University Festival Choir* – Chorister (1972)

Other Compositions (videos available)

- *Waltz* – Composer, (Edinburgh Festival commission 2013)
- *Quintet Piano, Strings, Horn, Clarinet* – Artisan Trio (2011)
- *Piano Quintet* – commission Seiras Quintet, Rome (2011)
- *Fortune & Men's Eyes* – Octet, Kings Place, London (2009)
- *Caledonian Quartet* - String Quartet (2007)
- *Surfing Ballet (Aloha)* – commission Eaton Magoon Jr
- *Statue of Charles at Charing Cross* Tenor and Piano (1983)
- *Sonata in Ab Minor for Flute, Clarinet, Viola & Piano* (1975)

APPENDIX 2 – REFEREES & REFERENCE LETTERS

Referees

1. **Professor Peter Nelson**
The University of Edinburgh
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Alison House
12 Nicolson Square
Edinburgh EH8 9DF
SCOTLAND

Email: p.nelson@ed.ac.uk
Telephone: +44 131 650 2428
Fax: +44 131 650 2425
<http://www.eca.ed.ac.uk/reid-school-of-music/peter-nelson>
2. **Dr Carl Hammond**
920 Emaus
Pudahuel, Lomas de lo Aguirre
Santiago 9061253
CHILE

Email: carlhammond@me.com
Cell phone: +56 22 640 9134
www.musicalcompositions.net/newcomposerpg.html
3. **Emeritus Reid Professor, Nigel Osborne MBE (retired)**
The University of Edinburgh
Department of Music
Alison House
12 Nicolson Square
Edinburgh EH8 9DF
SCOTLAND

Email: n.osborne@ed.ac.uk
Telephone: +44 1368 830 420
Fax: +44 131 650 2425
www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/arts-culture-environment/music/staff/academic-staff
4. **Mr Martin Armiger**
Head of Screen Composition
Australian Film, Television & Radio School
PO Box 2286
Strawberry Hills
NSW 2012
AUSTRALIA

Email: martin.armiger@aftrs.edu.au
Telephone: +61 2 9805 6468
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<http://www.aftrs.edu.au/staff/degree-program/martin-armiger>
5. **Mr Garry Traynor**
Principal
Sydney Community College
PO Box 247
Leichhardt
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www.sydneycommunitycollege.com.au/About/Board

Reference Letters – available on request

- Professor Nigel Osborne
- Professor Peter Nelson
- Emeritus Professor, Dr Charles Nalden
- Emeritus Professor, Dr John Tiffin
- New South Wales Board of Studies (2)
- Mr Martin Armiger, Australian Film, Radio & Television School
- Mr Guy Gross, Screen Composer
- Mr Michael Stavrou, Sound Engineer
- Mr Geoff McNeil, Principal, Randwick Boys High School
- Mr Geoff Cramond, Principal, Rotorua Boys High School