

# SHAUN DAVEY



## **SELECTED CREDITS**

SING STREET (*writer 'Today, Tonight'*) (2016)

ELLA ENCHANTED (*Arranger*) (2004)

THE ABDUCTION CLUB (2002)

## **BIOGRAPHY**

Shaun Davey was born in Belfast in 1948. Originally trained at Trinity College, Dublin and The Courtauld Institute as an art historian, he has worked as a full-time professional composer since 1977. In Ireland his often large-scale, melodic, narrative compositions have been recognised as a bridge between Irish traditional music and orchestral traditions, eg 'The Brendan Voyage'. His suite for the Dublin Special Olympics was performed before an audience of 80,000 and his setting of St Patrick's prayer 'The Deers Cry' at the inauguration of the current Irish President. His work features on the Irish school syllabus.

In theatre he has composed many scores for the Royal Shakespeare Company (including 'Fair Maid of the West', 'A Winter's Tale', 'King Lear', 'Pericles') working first with Trevor Nunn and later with Adrian Noble; his score for the RSC production of 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' continues to be a popular Christmas show on both sides of the Atlantic. In the USA he has worked both on and off Broadway, with a New York Critics Award and a Tony nomination for best musical score for James Joyce's 'The Dead', a San Diego Critics Award for 'The Tempest' and a Drama Desk nomination for 'Pericles'. Work in Ireland at The Abbey includes 'The Silver Tassie, Well of the Saints' and 'Observe the Sons of Ulster marching towards the Somme'.

His work in TV and Film includes the scores for 'The Spike', 'The Burke Enigma', 'Still Love' (RTE), 'Catchpenny Twist', 'Pentecost', 'The Hanging Gale', 'Loving, Ballykissangel series 1-3' (BBC), 'Twelfth Night', 'Waking Ned Devine', 'The Tailor of Panama', 'David Copperfield' (Hallmark), 'The Abduction Club'. His work in TV and Film is recognized with two BAFTA Nominations ('The Hanging Gale', 'Ballykissangel'), an Ivor Novello Award, ('The Hanging Gale') an Ivor nomination ('Twelfth Night'), a Golden Reel Award ('Waking Ned Devine'), and a TRIC Award for best UK TV signature theme ('Ballykissangel').

Shaun Davey's concert work began with an ambitious pairing of the Irish uilleann pipes with a symphony orchestra to tell the story of a medieval leather boat crossing the Atlantic ('The Brendan Voyage'); followed by a suite for Celtic Instruments, choir and orchestra ('The Pilgrim') narrative songs about the woman clan chieftain Grace O'Malley ('Granuaile'), a symphony for peace ('The Relief of Derry Symphony'), a choral/orchestral meditation on Jonathan Swift's later years ('Gulliver'), an anthem and songs of welcome ('Suite for the Dublin Special Olympics'), suites of his music from theatre and film ('The Hanging Gale', 'Twelfth Night', 'Waking Ned', 'Ballykissangel', 'Tailor of Panama'), songs for a traditional band ('Béal Tuinne'), music for the Irish National Youth Orchestra ('A Summer Overture'), music for a series of Irish-Romanian collaboration concerts ('Voices from the Merry Cemetery'), settings of poems by Mihai Eminescu ('Dintre sute de catarge and Stelele-n-cer'), four Christmas Carols, a suite of sea shanties ('Songs from the High Seas'), settings of Latin psalms ('Sunt Angelis'), a song suite about the wife of James Joyce ('Nora Barnacle') in collaboration with Nuala ní Dhomhnaill, and music for 1000 voices to commemorate Ireland's 1916 centenary ('One Hundred Years a Nation') in collaboration with Paul Muldoon. Many feature Irish or Celtic traditional soloists (including pipeband), percussion and amateur choirs.

Recordings; CDs with Tara Records; 'The Brendan Voyage', 'The Pilgrim', 'Granuaile', 'The Relief of Derry Symphony', 'Béal Tuinne', 'May we never have to say goodbye', 'Voices from the Merry Cemetery'; soundtrack albums from 'Waking Ned', (London) 'Tailor of Panama' (Varese Sarabande), 'The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe' (RSC), 'Twelfth Night' (Silvascreen).

## FILM CREDITS

### **Sing Street (2016)**

Directed by John Carney  
Writer 'Today Tonight'  
Cosmo Films

### **Ella Enchanted (2004)**

Directed by Tommy O'Haver  
Additional Music and Arranger  
Miramax

### **The Abduction Club (2002)**

Directed by Stefan Schwartz  
Canal+

### **The Tailor of Panama (2001)**

Directed by John Boorman  
Columbia Pictures

### **Waking Ned Devine (1998)**

Directed by Kirk Jones  
Tomboy Films

### **The Break (1997)**

Directed by Robert Dornhelm  
Channel Four Films

### **Twelfth Night or What You Will (1996)**

Directed by Trevor Nunn  
Renaissance Films

## TELEVISION CREDITS

### **DR-Derude (2007)**

Directed by Soren Ryge  
Danmarks Radio

### **David Copperfield (2000)**

Directed by Peter Medak  
Hallmark Entertainment

### **Kings in Grass Castles (1998)**

Directed by John Woods  
Barran Entertainment

### **Screen Two (1996)**

Directed by Tristram Powell  
BBC

### **Ballykissangel (1996)**

Directed by Kieran Prendiville  
BBC Northern Ireland

### **The Hanging Gale (1995)**

Directed by Diarmuid Lawrence  
BBC Northern Ireland

### **Who Bombed Birmingham (1990)**

Directed by Michael Beckham  
Granada Film Productions

### **Casualty (1990)**

Directed by Jeremy Brock  
BBC

### **Pentecost (1990)**

Directed by Nicholas Kent

### **Catchpenny Twist (1980)**

Directed by Robert Knights  
BBC

### **The Burke Enigma (1978)**

Directed by Michael Feeney Callan  
RTE Studios

### **The Spike (1978)**

Directed by Noel O'Briain  
RTE Studios

### **Still Love**

RTE Studios

## **THEATRE CREDITS**

### **The Silver Tassie, Well of the Saints**

The Abbey

### **Observe the Songs of Ulster marching towards the Somme**

The Abbey

### **The Dead**

Tony Nominated

James Joyce

### **The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe**

Royal Shakespeare Company

### **Fair Maid of the West**

Royal Shakespeare Company

### **A Winter's Tale**

Royal Shakespeare Company

### **King Lear**

Royal Shakespeare Company

### **Pericles**

Royal Shakespeare Company