

# STUART HANCOCK



## **SELECTED CREDITS**

THE ICE KING (2018)

WE'RE GOING ON A BEAR HUNT (2016)

CRAZYHEAD (2016)

ATLANTIS (2014-15)

ONE NIGHT IN TURIN (2010)

## **BIOGRAPHY**

Stuart Hancock is a film and TV composer, best known for his scores to BBC's 'Atlantis' and the animated movie adaptation of 'We're Going On A Bear Hunt'. He won a prestigious British Composer Award in 2015 for his concert work 'Snapshot Songs'. Stuart studied at Downing College Cambridge, and the London College of Music, graduating in 1998 with a distinction from the Masters course in Composing for Film and Television. This led to a full-time studio composer role with Soho-based music production company Mcasso, where Stuart excelled in commercial music composition and production. He went freelance in 2005 and has since built and maintained a varied career as a composer, arranger and conductor across all media.

Stuart quickly won industry recognition for his music and sound design, with awards for his commercial work on campaigns for the BBFC, Burberry New York and the BBC World Cup coverage. A first big film-scoring hit was with EMR, which won the Raindance Film Festival and went on general release in the summer of 2005 following its Cannes premiere. Stuart's first soundtrack releases - for the independent action movies 'Underground' and 'Bodyguard: A New Beginning' - came in June 2009 to rapturous reviews ("Hancock proves that his work is up there with the best that Hollywood has to offer. Expect great things from him in the future"; Darren Rea, review of 'Bodyguard: A New Beginning'). Stuart followed this with the World Cup football drama-documentary One Night In Turin in 2010, which went on general cinematic release, and the album of his choral/orchestral score to the fantasy film 'Hawk' garnered many accolades on both sides of the Atlantic ("I had every expectation met with this soundtrack, and more. It is a delight to listen to"; Caleb Leland, Shadowlocked).

In late 2014, Stuart took up scoring duties on the hit primetime BBC1 Saturday night fantasy drama 'Atlantis', delivering a rich cinematic rollercoaster of an orchestral score across 13 epic episodes. The soundtrack was released in December 2015 on Silva Screen Records, to instant acclaim ("A magnificent work... the score sounds vibrant and exciting in a way that many similar scores don't. Both Hancock's action writing and his dramatic compositions are compelling"; Pete Simons, Synchronones).

By 2013, Stuart had begun to receive considerable recognition for his scoring of independent films, starting with the Idyllwild Cinema Festival, California, where 'Hawk' won Best Original Score (featurette). He won the documentary score category of the Jerry Goldsmith Awards (at the International Film Music Festival, Cordoba) with his poetic music for 'The Desert Treasure', and was declared Best Composer overall for his body of work. In September 2013, 'The Desert Treasure' went on to win the coveted Violetta D'Oro at the Parma International Film Music Festival, Italy, and the Gold Medal for Best Documentary Score at the Park City Film Music Festival, Utah. In 2016, Stuart's quirky folk-inflected score for the bittersweet short 'Killing Thyme' (starring Brian Cox and Charlotte Riley) won a further Jerry Goldsmith Award in the best short film score category.

Stuart capitalised on this success in 2016 with two breakthrough television projects: dark grungy electronica for the E4/Netflix comedy horror 'Crazyhead' (from Misfits writer-creator Howard Overman) and colourful orchestral scoring for the animated adaptation of 'We're Going On A Bear Hunt' (from the makers of The 'Snowman and the Snowdog'). 'Bear Hunt' premiered on Channel 4 on Christmas Eve and was the channel's highest-rated programme of the year with over 8 million viewers, and Stuart now conducts live concert

performances of the film score to family audiences internationally (most recently in Kaohsiung, Taiwan in a double-bill with The Snowman).

Stuart's latest music for film includes the award-winning coming-of-age short 'Him & Her' (2019), and the adapted score for 'The Ice King', a feature-length BBC Storyville documentary about Olympic champion ice skater John Curry, which had a UK cinema release in April 2018. Scoring slated for 2020 includes the songs and score for the children's film musical 'Mr Tumble: the Movie', and a feature documentary marking the anniversary of Hiroshima.

Also in demand as a composer of concert music, Stuart's second youth opera - a pirate romp called 'The Cutlass Crew' - was staged by W11 Opera in Hammersmith in December 2017, and is set for its US premiere in March 2020. His previous concert work includes the ambitious collaborative song project for symphony orchestra, choir and soloists called 'Snapshot Songs', which received standing ovations for its performances at London's Barbican Centre and garnered Stuart a prestigious BASCA British Composer Award in December 2015.

Stuart released 'Raptures' in November 2019 – his first album of concert music, recorded with the BBC Concert Orchestra. It has received unanimously glowing reviews across the classical music press:

- "Wide-eyed, big-hearted... a joyous hour of large, lyrical music" (BBC Music Magazine, December 2019)
- "I really cannot praise it too highly. It is such a pleasure to be able to thoroughly enjoy a modern work, and to be able to believe that the orchestra are thoroughly enjoying themselves too" (Musicweb International)
- "Effervescent...spacious sound and detailed annotations...much to enjoy" (Gramophone, February 2020)
- "His gift for a sweeping, heart-rending theme makes this a thoroughly indulgent pleasure... expert orchestration in themes that are always big on appeal" (The Strad, February 2020)

The central piece on the album, Stuart's Violin Concerto, was performed on February 29<sup>th</sup> 2020 at London's Cadogan Hall (with Jack Liebeck as soloist with Imperial College Symphony Orchestra).

<http://www.stuarthancock.com>

## FILM CREDITS

### **Him & Her (2019)**

Directed by Abigail Scollay

### **The Morning and the Night (2018)**

Directed by Lo Pham

### **Killing Thyme (2015)**

Directed by M J McMahon

### **The Last Belle (2011)**

Directed by Neil Boyle

### **One Night In Turin (2010)**

Directed by James Erskine

### **Life in a Fish Bowl (2009)**

Directed by Gail Travers

### **The Ice King (2018)**

Directed by James Erskine

### **Mum (2016)**

Directed by Meriem Adib

### **The Desert Treasure (2012)**

Directed by Lyndal Davies

### **Hawk (2011)**

Directed by M J McMahon

### **Gin & Dry (2010)**

Directed by Oscar Plewes

### **Bodyguard: A New Beginning (2008)**

Directed by Chee Keong Cheung



**Underground (2007)**

Directed by Chee Keong Cheung

**La Lucha (2007)**

Directed by Alex Madia Levi

**Baby Boom (2004)**

Directed by Jake Barnes

**Hand Righting (2004)**

Directed by Jake Barnes

**Meat and Electricity (2003)**

Directed by Martyn Pick

**Well Heeled (2007)**

Directed by Jeremy Chopra

**An Echo of Narcissus (2005)**

Directed by Shane Ward

**EMR (2004)**

Directed by Danny McCullough & James Erskine

**Murderer Either Way (2004)**

Directed by Alex Madia Levi

**Top Dog (2002)**

Directed by Keith English

**TELEVISION CREDITS****We're Going On A Bear Hunt (2016)**

Directed by Joanna Harrison and Robin Shaw

**Atlantis (2014-15),** series 2, 13 episodes

Directed by Justin Molotnikov, Declan O'Dwyer, Lawrence Gough and Julian Murphy

**This Morning (2013)**

Theme music arrangement, ITV

**Perfect Strangers (2007)**

BBC daytime quiz show

**Guinness World Records (2004)**

Directed by Jon Kroll

**Creature Comforts (2003),** 3 episodes

Directed by Richard Goleszowski

**London's Burning (2002),** series 14, 8 episodes

Directed by Sven Arnstein, Colin Teague, Martin Hutchings and Richard Holthouse

**Crazyhead (2016),** 6 episodes

Directed by Declan O'Dwyer and Al Mackay

**Unknown Heart (2014),** 2 feature length episodes

Directed by Giles Foster

**The Other Wife (2012),** 2 feature length episodes

Directed by Giles Foster

**Now That's Embarrassing: The 80s (2006)**

Directed by Clair Breen

**Bus Life (2004),** 6 episodes

Directed by Keith English and Howard Myers

**Reborn in the USA (2003)**

Directed by Jonathan Buller

**The Lampies (2001-2),** series 1 & 2, 52 episodes

Created by David Bonner

**Fred Bastard (2001)**

Directed by Uli Meyer

**ORCHESTRATION CREDITS (Film & TV)****Capsule (2015)**

Directed by Andrew Martin (composer, Hugo de Chaire)

**This September (2010-11),** 4 feature length episodes

Orchestrator and co-composer (uncredited), directed by Giles Foster

**Rosamunde Pilcher (2007-14),** 24 feature length episodes

Various directors (composer, Richard Blackford)

**Inga Lindstrom (2007-2010),** 12 feature length episodes

Various directors (composer, Richard Blackford)



**Four Seasons (2008-9)**, 4 feature length episodes  
Orchestrator and co-composer (uncredited),  
directed by Giles Foster

**A Risk Worth Taking (2008)**  
Orchestrator and co-composer (uncredited),  
directed by Paul Seed

## THEATRE CREDITS

### **The Cutlass Crew (youth opera)**

Premiered by W11 Opera (December 2017) London  
To be staged by North Cambridge Family Opera (March/April 2020) Boston, US

### **Rain Dance (youth opera)**

Premiered by W11 Opera (December 2010) London  
Staged by North Cambridge Family Opera (March/April 2014) Boston, US  
To be staged by Summer Music on the Shannon (August 2020), Ireland  
To be staged by W11 Opera (revival, December 2020) London

### **The Father (Strindberg, incidental music)**

The Courtyard Theatre, Covent Garden, London (October/November 2006)

## VIDEO GAMES

### **Kano Star Wars The Force Coding Kit (2019)**

Themes, incidental and promotional music

### **Kano Harry Potter Kano Coding Kit (2018)**

Themes, incidental and promotional music

## CONCERT WORKS

### **Untitled piece for strings (2020) 10'**

For Dame Alice Owen's School, cond. James Widden  
Premiere scheduled for March 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 in competition, Music for Youth, London

### **We're Going On A Bear Hunt: The Film Live In Concert (2019) 15'+25'**

Orchestral score to picture, with specially composed introduction for family concert presentation  
Premiered by RTE Concert Orchestra, National Concert Hall, Dublin, February 2<sup>nd</sup> 2019, and subsequently performed in 2019 by City of London Sinfonia (Royal Festival Hall, London), Royal Welsh College Chamber Orchestra (Dora Stoutzker Hall, Cardiff) and Counterpoint Ensemble (National Kaohsiung Center for the Arts Weiwuying, Taiwan)

### **Variations on a Heroic Theme (2007, revised 2019) 6'**

For the Rehearsal Orchestra, recorded June 27<sup>th</sup> 2019 by the BBC Concert Orchestra, cond. Lev Parikian  
Premiered November 30<sup>th</sup> 2019, Bridgewater Sinfonia, Berkhamsted, cond. Steven Joyce  
For the album release *Raptures*  
Recorded June 27<sup>th</sup> 2019 by the BBC Concert Orchestra, cond. Lev Parikian  
(for the album release **Raptures**)

### **Raptures – Suite for Orchestra (2019) 20'**

Recorded June 25<sup>th</sup> 2019 by the BBC Concert Orchestra, cond. Lev Parikian  
(for the album release **Raptures**)



**Rhapsody for Accordion Orchestra (2016) 5'**

For the London Accordion Orchestra, cond. Ian Watson

Premiered in competition, May 6<sup>th</sup> 2016, at the World Accordion Championships, Innsbruck, Austria

**One Week (Buster Keaton short film score for live performance) (2011) 19'**

For St Pauls Sinfonia, cond. Andy Morley

Premiered May 20<sup>th</sup> 2011, St Pauls Deptford, London

**Folksong Suite for unaccompanied choir SATB (2011) 12'**

For the Holst Singers, cond. Stephen Layton, commissioned by Making Music

Premiered March 26<sup>th</sup> 2011, The Roundhouse, London

**Choir Straits for unaccompanied choir SATB with soloists (2009) 20'**

For Kit and The Widow and Bath Camerata

Premiered December 17<sup>th</sup> 2009, Wigmore Hall, London

**Endeavour – Dances from the Voyages of Captain Cook for wind band (2006) 15'**

For the Palace Band, cond. Caroline Franklin

Premiered November 26<sup>th</sup> 2006, Highgate URC, London

**Bitter Suite for orchestra and female vocal trio (2006) 15'**

For Juice Vocal Ensemble and the London Phoenix Orchestra

Premiered June 9<sup>th</sup> 2006, St John's Smith Square, London

**Concerto for Violin and Orchestra (2005) 30'**

For Paul Barrett and Southbank Sinfonia

Premiered June 16<sup>th</sup> 2005, St John's Waterloo, London

Recorded June 27<sup>th</sup> 2019 by the BBC Concert Orchestra, cond. Lev Parikian, soloist Jack Liebeck  
(for the album release **Raptures**)

**Raptures – Suite for flute, violin, viola and cello (2003) 20'**

For the Tullberg Ensemble

Premiered October 1<sup>st</sup> 2003, St John's Smith Square, London

**Concerto for Two Flutes and Orchestra (2003) 25'**

For Susan FitzGerald and Matilda Tullberg and the Doppler Sinfonia, cond. Peter Stark

Premiered May 19<sup>th</sup> 2003, St John's Smith Square, London

**Lucky Star (Frank Borzage silent feature film score for live performance) (2001) 85'**

For the Tempus Chamber Orchestra

Premiered February 23<sup>rd</sup> 2001, Royal Festival Hall, London

Three movement concert suite (20') derived from the full score performed on numerous occasions

