

DARYL GRIFFITH

Daryl began his musical education at the Kent Junior Music School, studying Violin, Piano and Composition. After winning the Silver Medal for Grade 8 Violin, he continued his musical education at the Royal College of Music, studying Violin with Maria Lidka, Piano with Phyllis Sellick, Conducting with John Forster and Composition with Adrian Cruft.

Having achieved the G.R.S.M. (Hons) and A.R.C.M. diploma, he was awarded the Hecht and Alchin prize for Composition during his final year of study.

After leaving the Royal College of Music he was awarded the First Silver Medal by the Guildhall School of Music and Drama for obtaining the highest mark in the world during that session for any instrumental recital. He was subsequently appointed Professor of Violin at the Guildhall and Lecturer in Music at Thurrock Technical College.

During this period Daryl worked as a freelance violinist and pianist with many orchestras including the BBC Concert Orchestra, the BBC Philharmonic, the Hallé, the Liverpool Philharmonic and the English Chamber Orchestra. He also worked as conductor with many amateur and semi-professional orchestras, including the Thurrock Concert Orchestra, the West End Youth Orchestra and the Prudential Operatic Society.

In 1987 Daryl was appointed to a full-time position as violinist with the BBC Concert Orchestra, working with conductors such as Charles Mackerras, Barry Wordsworth and Sir Georg Solti. At this time he was also appointed Principal Conductor for a newly formed orchestra based in Luton called the Symphonia Academica, for which he wrote many orchestrations and arrangements. He was commissioned to write a new piece for the orchestra, and this resulted in his *Venetian Variations*. The programmes for the orchestra were very varied and ranged from purely classically based orchestral programmes to Opera Galas and to film music spectaculars with fireworks. He also wrote many pieces for schools and Youth Orchestras including a Clarinet Quintet and a Suite for Six Cellos!

In 1989 Daryl joined the English National Ballet as Company Pianist, and in 1990 was promoted to Principal Pianist and Conductor. He performed at all the major theatres in the UK including the Royal Festival Hall and the London Coliseum, both as Conductor and solo Pianist. He was also commissioned to compose arrangements and orchestrations for both the full Company and mid-scale Company, including *The Sanguine Fan*, *Aureole* and a special orchestration of *Happy Birthday* for the 80th birthday of Nicholas Beriossoff.

On leaving the Company in 1992 he continued as Guest Conductor, performing both in the UK and abroad in many countries, including Italy, Germany and Argentina.

Daryl was invited to become the Principal Conductor of London City Ballet in 1992 and in 1993 was promoted to Music Director. He also continued to guest with other companies including Ballet Rambert, Birmingham Royal Ballet, London

Contemporary Dance and Matthew Bourne's company, Adventures in Motion Pictures. This period also saw the start of a series of reduced orchestrations for the AMP, including Prokofieff's *Cinderella* and Malcolm Arnold's *Solitaire*, which culminated in being commissioned by Rudolf Nureyev's Publisher, Mario Bois, to produce a series of reduced orchestrations of the standard Ballet repertoire, including *Swan Lake*, *Nutcracker* and *Sleeping Beauty*.

With the closure of London City Ballet, Daryl continued to guest conduct with many companies and orchestras, including the English National Ballet, the Royal Danish Ballet, London Concert Orchestra, Scottish Chamber Orchestra and Royal Scottish National Orchestra, and was invited to conduct the West End performances of *Swan Lake* and *Cinderella* for Adventures in Motion Pictures. *Cinderella* later transferred to Los Angeles' *Ahmenson Theater*, where Daryl was not only the Music Director, but provided a specially commissioned orchestration as well.

In 1998 he started working with production companies Fireworks Music, West One Music and KPM Music (EMI), writing mostly orchestral music. He also started to write additional music, orchestrate and conduct orchestral sessions for scores such as *Arabian Knights (Hallmark)* for the BAFTA winning composer Richard Harvey and *Oliver Twist (ITV)* for the BAFTA nominated composer Paul Pritchard. He was also the orchestrator and Music Producer for *The Little Vampire* which won the composers the "Best Newcomers Award for 2000".

More recent orchestrations include various films for Nick Hooper including *Messiah III*, *The Future is Wild*, *The Girls of Chernobyl* and *The Young Visitors* which won the BAFTA for best music. He has also worked as conductor and orchestrator on many library albums for composers such as Richard Harvey, Paul Pritchard, Richard Myhill, Dave Hewson and Steve Baker.

Daryl was also invited to contribute some of his own music to albums for Fireworks, West One and KPM and these tracks have proved to be very successful, being licensed worldwide for programmes and commercials as high profile as *Sex in the City (HBO)*, *Love Child (ITV)*, *Chuck(NBC)* and *Häagen Dazs*. He has also performed many of his compositions on BBC Radios 2 and 3 with the London Salon Ensemble and the BBC Concert Orchestra, including *Orient Express*, *Aladdin* and *A Simple Life*.

Daryl's own film scores include *Sacred Journey* (released in 2001) and *In Search of an Impotent Man* (released 2002) as well as numerous shorts that have been screened worldwide.

Arrangements and compositions for Classical Crossover and Pop albums include Summer Watson, Finbar Furie, Dominic Miller, Chage & Aska (Japan), as well as the Myleene Klass album *Moving On*, which reached No.2 in the charts and was subsequently nominated for a Brit award. From this album the track *Toccata* was included in the Best Ever Classical CD compilation album of 2004 and sold almost half a million copies, and was also CD of the month for Classic FM. He also provided arrangements for the Italian pop singer Cesare Cremonini (Italy), whose album *Magesse* reached No. 4 in the Italian charts in 2005. A special double CD celebration set is now on release, as well as the live CD and DVD recordings from the concert tour.

In 2005 Daryl provided arrangements for Mastercard, Citroën and Virgin Trains commercials and composed all the orchestrations for the re-branding of the Sky News channel.

In 2006 Daryl was commissioned by KPM/EMI to write a new double album for large orchestra and electronic instruments, recorded at Abbey Road Studio 1, and it was released in 2008. He also provided a new orchestration of *Giselle* for English National Ballet, which was performed to great acclaim on their Mid-Scale tour.

He worked as orchestrator and conductor with various contemporary bands, such as Arcade Fire and McFly (Motion in the Ocean), as well as orchestrating the music for TV dramas such as the BAFTA winning *Prime Suspect*.

In 2007 Daryl was commissioned to orchestrate and arrange the music for English National Ballet's exciting new children's ballet *Angelina's Star Performance*, which had its World Premiere in September 2007. There were also various other commissions, including the score for the short film *Hourglass*, several commercials and a new piece for the London Salon Ensemble, which was performed at the Royal Festival Hall in December.

In 2008, Daryl recorded the score for *Angelina Ballerina's Star Performance* for a commercial DVD release. He completed another commission for the London Salon Ensemble, this time to celebrate English National Ballet's return to the Royal Festival Hall. He worked as orchestrator for the feature films *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* (Warner Brothers) and *Bedtime Stories* (Disney). He also composed the Idents for Bailey's sponsorship of Film on 4 and these have been shown to great critical acclaim on Channel 4, E4 and Film 4 as well as a theatrical cinema release.