

## ANDY TAYLOR : MUSIC & SOUND DESIGN

[www.AndyTaylorMusic.co.uk](http://www.AndyTaylorMusic.co.uk)

Contact: [info@andytaylormusic.co.uk](mailto:info@andytaylormusic.co.uk)

### BIOGRAPHY

Over the years I've worked with many local theatre companies, first as a script writer before moving on to becoming a sound engineer. I've also been a Producer, Director and assisted with many theatre productions at various levels.

I began composing and experimenting with sounds late in 2007 and set up a project called DarkScape, which I used to record mostly electronic, experimental and incidental music.

In April 2008, I won the Adjudicator's Award for "Best Sound & Lighting" at The Leverhulme Drama Festival in Port Sunlight for a short play called *Stealing Me*, a farcical comedy by Bev Clark about identity theft, which I had arranged and edited the music for.

Six months later, I produced my first theatrical soundtrack for the dark, twisting, comedy thriller *Murderer* by Anthony Shaffer, author of the original versions of *Sleuth* and *The Wicker Man*. I was also the director for this production and was therefore able to customise the music to fit the actions of the play.

One of the tracks from *Murderer* was later picked up by the independent music artist DJ-PD, who released a special remix of it on his album *Ruin*.

Early in 2009, I created the soundtrack for Bev Clark's original play *Remembrance Day* which was entered into the Leverhulme Drama Festival in the Spring that year. This poignant play went on to win seven awards for various categories as it toured the UK as part of the 2009 'All England Festival.' The soundtrack was later used for a special radio adaption of the play, which was aired a number of times on local radio in Wirral, Merseyside for Remembrance Day memorials. It is also being used for a WWI memorial production of the play in Devon in October 2014.

In 2012, I recorded the soundtrack for the play *After The Dream* which toured Wirral venues in June and July by Hand-In-Hand Theatre Productions. This modern sequel to Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Nights Dream*, had its magical characters brought from the past to create confusion into the present, all set to a New Age sounding score. The Royal Shakespeare Company Openstages reviewer described this comedy-drama as "Alan Ayckbourne meets Shakespeare!"

Early in 2013, I recorded the soundtrack for Arthur Miller's classic play *The Crucible*, which was staged at The Floral Pavilion, New Brighton in March by Hand-In-Hand Theatre Productions. This was reviewed by NODA and the music received a favourable review:

*"The opening music was so evocative and the insistent beat running under the singing so menacing and threatening that the overall tone was set before anyone set foot onto the stage..."*

*Sound was just right – slightly loud at the beginning to demand attention and draw the audience in and successfully setting and adding to the mood, atmosphere and psychological effect of the piece. "*

(Christine Hunter Hughes – Adjudicator for NODA.)

(Quote taken from her Adjudicators report for the UK production of "The Crucible")

A few months later, the soundtrack was used for a production at The State Theatre, Pennsylvania. The production was a great success and reviewer Madison Baer of *The Collegian* had this to say about the music:

*"However, it wasn't just the outstanding performances by the actors that stunned the audience. The use of eerie music made by string and wind instruments made audience members' hearts beat faster as the drama of the scene would climax."*

In November 2013, the soundtrack was used again for a production at The Laverty Center at the prestigious Chadwick School on the Palos Verdes Peninsula, California. The director and his technical team created an almost film-like production and set some new standards in local theatre. This production was then entered into the California State Theatre Festival for 2014 where it won the 'Best Ensemble' Award. Two cast members also won 'Best Actress' and 'Best Supporting Actress' Awards.

A month later, in early December 2013, Liberty High School in Henderson, Nevada also licensed the music for their production of *The Crucible* and the reviews of this were again, well received. Other productions in Texas and Connecticut followed in early 2014, and a special arrangement to use extracts of the music were used for a student presentation at the Osset Academy in Yorkshire in May 2014.

In January 2014, I was invited to appear on the Dave Monks show at BBC Radio Merseyside to talk about my work and play some tracks by artists which have been of influence to me.

Recently, I have completed the soundtrack to a short horror film called *Hunger* starring Silvana Maimone, which was filmed on location in London and was released in May 2014 for the Horror film festival circuit.

I am currently working on a new soundtrack for a production of Shakespeare's *A Winter's Tale*, which is being staged in New Brighton in February 2015 and will soon be working on a soundtrack for a production of George Orwell's *Animal Farm* which is being staged in Los Angeles, California in November 2014.

I have also been asked to score the music for the feature film *Breaking Free*, a dark, powerful, biographical drama based on the autobiography by the actor and writer Christopher Lee Power. Other projects include a soundtrack for a dark, twisting, psychological thriller called *Nemesis* which is to be staged in Liverpool later this year, and I am contributing new musical pieces for dance/mime for the *Wirral Remembers WWI* memorial events in October 2014. I'm also working on new ideas and compositions for my own personal projects which I am hoping to complete in the near future.

A full CV giving a detailed list of my credits is available on request.