

# KEVIN SARGENT

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## COMPOSER

In October 2003, an unexpected email popped up in Kevin's inbox. In response to his music for the film **Crush**, it read:

"Your score besides being so right for the movie, also displayed a rare quality among composers these days: You write terrific melodies! I was very impressed. "

Burt Berman, President, Music Division, Paramount Pictures.

How many composers can boast Kevin Sargent's multi-faceted background as a musician and stage performer? Perhaps it is this which gives his work such appeal, work in which memorable, evocative themes are integrated in an imaginative, poly-stylistic approach. Whether it is a sinister, deadpan boss nova (BBC TV's recent **Macbeth**) or timeless autumnal lyricism (William Boyd's meditation on the Sonnets **A Waste of Shame: The Mystery Of Shakespeare And His Sonnets**, starring Rupert Graves), Kevin's artful and haunting scores never fail to lift the work they serve; he has that rare ability of capturing the very spirit of any project, and that certainly describes his deceptively simple but hugely evocative score for **Lilies**, the World Productions period drama serial for the BBC. Kevin has also just completed the score to **Saddam's Tribe**, adapted from Alan Bashirs & Lars Sigurd Sunnanaa's book "The Insider", focusing on the lives of Saddam Hussein's closest friends and family. He recently completed a magical score for the BBC's upcoming Christmas adaptation of Noel Streatfield's much loved novel, **Ballet Shoes**, as well as scoring **Honest** for Greenlit Prods and ITV.

Although an accomplished, classically-trained pianist, he in fact began his career as a drummer, percussionist and keyboardist with cult dance/rock pioneers **Thrashing Doves**. Signed to A&M and Elektra Records, he learnt his craft at the elbow of legendary producers Chris Thomas, Jimmy Iovine and jazz luminary Tommy Lipuma, recording three critically-acclaimed albums in Los Angeles, London and New York and touring the US and Europe. Their funky, and controversial, **Jesus on the Payroll** reached the Billboard Top Twenty dance chart.

As a founder member of acclaimed comedy team **The Hurricane Club**, Kevin also boasts a parallel background in theatre and comic improvisation, performing off-the-cuff sketches for many years at their weekly West End residency. As journal *Music from the Movies* noted of **Crush**, "his music not only supports but adds to the comedy." A flair for dramatic and often mischievous juxtaposition reflected in a refined compositional style, blending passion and imagination with great timing, taste and attention to detail. Kevin's bolder ideas can be cunning; for the Joan Allen/Kevin Costner dramatic comedy **The Upside of Anger**, his witty and affecting score included a set of variations on a non-existent Scandinavian folk tune, while for crime caper **Fakers**, an Italian arietta was given a zestful swing-Bach treatment. **A Waste of Shame: The Mystery Of Shakespeare And His Sonnets** gave us the chance to enjoy his serious side (for which he was nominated for an Ivor Novello Award), with a tender chamber score, rich in the mystery and finely-felt English melancholy of Shakespeare's inner world.

**Killing Joe**, directed by Mehdi Norowzian, and which Kevin scored, was nominated for an American Academy Award as Best Live-Action Short. Selections from his score for **Crush** were premiered to great acclaim before an audience of ten thousand by the Kentucky Symphony Orchestra in Cincinnati, sharing the programme with music by Leonard Bernstein, John Williams and Danny Elfman.

Kevin has also forged an enviable reputation in commercials, where his characterful, stylish and eclectic contemporary voice has complimented a host of international and prestigious campaigns including **Guinness, Adidas, Cerruti, Peugeot, Financial Times, Eurostar, Dulux, Harrods, Goodyear, Glenfiddich, Hyundai, Ford Galaxy, Land Rover** and **Patek Philippe**. His work for **Barclays**, featuring Sir Anthony Hopkins and directed by Tony Scott, was rewarded with top honours from both the D&AD and Creative Circle, while **Adidas 'Tim Henman'**, featuring counter-tenor James Bowman, saw him a finalist in the British Television Advertising Awards for Best Original Music.

Kevin is rightly building a reputation as a gifted composer for all media, whose versatility and passion is reflected in music of genuine individuality and heart. And as for actually working with him, as producer Lee Thomas discovered:

"With music, I usually reckon on either the process or the result being rewarding. With Kevin, it's both."

## COOL MUSIC LTD

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## FILMS

### **THE UPSIDE OF ANGER**

Sunlight Productions  
UK Score  
Director: Mike Binder  
Producer: Jack Binder  
Starring: Kevin Costner, Joan Allen

### **CRUSH**

FilmFour  
Director: John McKay  
Producer: Lee Thomas  
Starring: Andie Macdowell, Anna Chancellor,  
Imelda Staunton

### **FAKERS**

Director: Richard Janes  
Producer: Richard Janes  
Starring: Matthew Rhys, Kate Ashfield, Art Malik

## TELEVISION/SHORT FILMS

### **HONEST**

Greenlit Prods / ITV  
Director: Julian Holmes / Brian Kelly  
Producer: Jill Green / Eve Gutierrez  
Writer: Heidi Thomas  
Starring: Amanda Redman

### **BALLET SHOES**

BBC  
Director: Sandra Goldbacher  
Producer: Piers Wenger  
Writer: Heidi Thomas  
Starring: Emma Watson, Emeila Fox, Mark Warren,  
Richard Griffiths

### **BLUE MURDER**

Granada  
Directors: Juliet May, Graham Theakston.  
P: Mike Dormer

### **SADDAM'S TRIBE**

World Productions / BBC2 / Discovery USA  
Director: Chris Menaul  
Producer: Roberto Troni / Monica Garnsey

### **LILIES**

World Productions  
Director: David Moore  
Producer: Chrissy Skins

### **AFTERSUN**

Tiger Aspect  
Director: Peter Lydon  
Producer: Rhonda Smith

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**A WASTE OF SHAME: THE MYSTERY OF  
SHAKESPEARE AND HIS SONNETS**

BBC  
Director: John McKay  
Producer: Chrissy Skinns

**\*Ivor Novello Award Nomination 2006: Best Original TV Music\***

**MACBETH**

BBC  
Director: Mark Brozel  
Producer: Pier Wilkie

**THE CANTERBURY TALES**

BBC  
Director: John McKay  
Producer: Kate Bartlett

**E=**

Liberty Films  
Director: Alexander Ross

**KILLING JOE**

Joy Films Too  
Director: Mehdi Norwozian  
Academy Award Nominee – Best Short – Live  
Action 2000

**WET AND DRY**

BBC/C4 Brief Encounters  
Director: John McKay

**OUT & ABOUT  
WITH HP LOVECRAFT**

National Film & TV School

## COMMERCIALS

**ADIDAS**

Finalist Best Original Music British TV  
Advertising Craft Awards

**OTHERS INCLUDE:**

BT, Dulux, Barclays, Mastercard, Hyundai,  
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Renault, Harrods, Motorola, Equitable Life, Patek  
Philippe, Cerruti, The Guardian, Vidal Sasson,  
Velux, Paine Webber, Investments, Talus Wines,  
Bass Ales, Fanta, East Midlands Electricity,  
Rimmel, Shell, Weekend FT, and The Observer.

Kevin is represented by Claire Baughan at Blaze Music, London and by Seth Kaplan at Evolution Partners in the USA for commercials.

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