

BRIAN KEANE SHORT BIO-2006

Multiple Emmy and Grammy award winning composer Brian Keane is one of the most prolific, diverse and in-demand musicians in the entertainment business today. His music has been hailed as “indelible and breathtaking” by the Los Angeles Times, “piercingly beautiful” by The New York Times and “masterful” by Newsweek. And, says Film Score Monthly in its July 2006 edition, “Keane is now at the pinnacle of his career writing music on par with Hollywood’s elite composers”.

Called a “musician’s musician” by Downbeat, a “composer’s composer” by The Hollywood Reporter, and “the king of documentary soundtracks” by the Music Connection, Brian has scored some of the most memorable documentaries of our time. They include six best documentary Emmy winners in the past six years, as well as every one of director Ric Burns’ award winning films including “The Donner Party,” “Coney Island” and the classic series “New York”. His soundtrack to Burns’ Emmy-winning film “Ansel Adams” was called “one of the most impressive instrumental records of the decade” by Billboard Magazine. Brian’s collaboration with Burns continued in 2006 with the release of the critically acclaimed “Eugene O’Neill” starring Al Pacino, Liam Neeson & Christopher Plummer, and the four hour PBS mini-series “Andy Warhol”.

Keane’s more than three-hundred film credits also include two films for acclaimed director Tom Lennon; “Long Journey Home: The Irish in America” (for which he won a Grammy for his soundtrack featuring the Chieftains, Van Morrison, Elvis Costello and others), and “The Battle Over Citizen Kane” which is packaged with the original “Citizen Kane” on DVD, and won both Emmy and Peabody Awards. In addition, Brian has scored several Emmy-winning series for the late director Henry Hampton (“Eyes on The Prize”), as well as Emmy-winning series and programs for Bill Moyers, ABC News, the American Experience, and many others. He has also scored several Emmy and Peabody Award winning sports programs for HBO, ESPN, CBS, and others, and a number of feature films.

Brian began his career as a world class jazz guitarist and Bluenote recording artist, performing with many of the Jazz greats of our time, including several years in a guitar duo with Larry Coryell. He went on to become a Grammy-winning record producer, working with artists as diverse as Pete Seeger, Michael Hedges, Linda Ronstadt, and the London Symphony Orchestra to name but a few. To many, Brian is known for his landmark ethnic recordings with, among many others, Middle-eastern musician Omar Faruk Tekbilek and Irish whistler Joanie Madden. To others, Brian is known for his many New Age classics such as Windham Hill’s “A Winter’s Solstice” and “Song of the Irish Whistle” for Hearts of Space. In all in his career, Brian has produced more than three dozen Billboard-charting albums.

Brian Keane has composed the music to more than 60 Emmy Award winning films, more than 50 Columbia Dupont Award winning films, and almost two dozen Peabody Award winning films. In 2001, he became the first composer ever to sweep the Emmy Award music nominations. He followed that up that with music Emmy wins in 2002 for HBO’s “Picture Perfect” and in 2003, for the HBO comedy, “The Curse of the Bambino”. In addition to winning the music Emmy for the fourth year in a row in 2004, Keane-scored films received 19 Emmy nominations in that year alone, winning six Emmy awards including two best picture awards and one best series award. In 2005 Brian scored all five Sports Documentary Emmy nominations, three News & Documentary Emmy nominees and had four Emmy nominations for music.