

# Alexander 'Sacha' Puttnam

## Biography

Educated at Boston's Berklee College of Music, followed by four years at the Moscow Conservatory, Sacha Puttnam composes and arranges for movies, advertising, television, theatre and radio.

With diverse musical interests ranging from classical to rock and dance, he has conducted the Moscow State Orchestra as well as touring for several years with platinum selling rock band Bush.

Brought up in the film world, one of his earliest musical experiences was watching Paul Williams playing the original score for *Bugsy Malone* on the piano which he was receiving his own first lessons. Later, he was present as Vangelis created the theme music for the film *Chariots of Fire*, and Mark Knopfler was working on *Local Hero* and *Cal*.

"In that environment," he says, "it was impossible not to be musically stimulated."

Adding to his credentials and diversity Sacha worked alongside film composer Michael Kamen, composing some of the incidental music for the *1996 Atlanta Olympic Games* and collaborating with him on the score for Pat O'Connor's film *Inventing The Abbotts*. He later wrote the score for Oscar nominated *The Confessional*, as well as Dennis Hopper's *The Keeper*, along with additional music for Nick Love's cult movie *The Football Factory*.

For BBC Radio Four he wrote the music for Sony Award winning adaptations of *Bleak House*, *Q&A* and *A Suitable Boy*, while in 2006 his first classical album *Remasterpiece*, recorded in collaboration with Chris Coco, was released by EMI.

In the last two years Puttnam has scored the movie *Rising Tide* for Northern Media, the animated feature *Return to Rainspell Island* for Hit, the feature documentary *We are the People we've been Waiting For* for New Moon and three dramas for the BBC. *Six Suspects*, *Tokyo Murders* and *Assassins*.

Alongside his film and radio work, Puttnam is currently producing solo piano transcriptions for an autumn release.