

Greg Caffrey 1963

The Irish composer Greg Caffrey read music at Queen's University Belfast where he studied composition under Prof. Piers Hellawell and complexist composer James Clarke, completing a PhD in 2002.

He has received commissions from many performers and ensembles at home and abroad as well as from BBC Radio 3, the Irish national broadcasting station RTE and The Ulster Orchestra. His music has been represented at important international festivals: Musica Nova Festival in Sao Paulo, Brazil, Zwischen den Horizonten, Germany, Forfest Festival, Czech Republic, 45th Parallele, Valence, France, Musicahora Chile and New Music Dublin, to name a few. His recordings are represented on 12 record labels.

Numerous awards for composition include: First Prize at the Concorso Counterpoint, Italy in May 2012, finalist in the ISME- IVME 2nd International Composition Contest in Brussels in 2008; Taukay Edizioni Musicali International Composition Prize in 2012, and the Musica Domani International Composition Prize (USA). His orchestral work A Terrible Beauty was designated a "recommended work" in the 4th Uuno Klami International Composition Prize by a jury which included Magnus Lindberg and Erkki-Sven Tüür. Environments II, for guitar and orchestra was a prizewinning work in the chamber orchestra music category of the International Conductors Union Composition Contest, Ukraine in 2021. He was selected to represent Ireland at ISCM World Music Days in China 2021. Recently he was awarded the Major Individual Award. This award is the highest value honour bestowed by ACNI on artists. Greg is additionally the current recipient of the prestigious PRSf 2022 Composers Award.

He is the founder of Hard Rain Soloist Ensemble. They are N. Ireland's only professional ensemble performing modern and contemporary repertoire and as their Artistic Director he regularly champions and commissions the music of Irish contemporary composers alongside major international figures.

He is represented by the Contemporary Music Centre, Ireland.