Stewart Copeland
Composer

Stewart Copeland has spent more than three decades at the forefront of contemporary music as rock star and acclaimed film composer, as well as in the disparate worlds of opera, ballet, and world and chamber music.

Recruiting Sting and Andy Summers in 1977, Copeland is renowned as the founder of The Police, a band that became a defining force in rock music from the ‘80s through to the present day. His career includes the sale of more than 60 million records worldwide, and numerous awards, including seven Grammy awards.

Copeland moved beyond the rock arena in the mid-1980s when he returned to his classical roots with creative pursuits in concert and film music. His concert works include *BEN-HUR, A Tale of the Christ*, which features Copeland as soloist in a live orchestral score for the 1925 silent film; *Tyrant’s Crush: Concerto for Trapset and Orchestra* commissioned by Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, *Poltroons in Paradise* commissioned by the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra; and *Gamelan D’Drum*, commissioned by the Dallas Symphony Orchestra.

In 2017, The Chicago Opera Theatre premiered Copeland’s surreal chamber opera *The Invention of Morel*, a co-commission with Long Beach Opera based on the novel by Adolfo Bioy Casares. Copeland has also written two operas based on stories by Edgar Allen Poe: *The Cask of Amontillado* and *The Tell-Tale Heart.* The latter wascommissioned and performed by London’s ROH2 for their 2011 Opera Shots series, and subsequently received its US premiere by Long Beach Opera. Other works include *Holy Blood and Crescent Moon* for the Cleveland Opera, and *Horse Opera*, commissioned by Channel Four.

Copeland continues to pursue his love for opera; 2020 saw the premiere of *Electric Saint*, commissioned by Weimar DNT, as well as his Oratorio, *Satan’s Fall*, based on John Milton’s *Paradise Lost.* *Satan’s Fall* premiered in Pittsburgh in February 2020 and was performed across the US, with UK and further European performances still to come. In 2022, his rock opera *The Witches Seed* was premiered in Italy at the Tones on the Stones festival in a stunning quarry, in collaboration with Creative Partner Chrissie Hynde and with a libretto by regular collaborator Jonathan Moore with many more replicas in progress for 2023, 2024 and 2025.

Recipient of the Hollywood Film Festival’s first Outstanding Music in Film Visionary Award, Double Grammy winner for his *Divine Tides* album, inductee to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, Copeland has been responsible for some of the film world’s most innovative and ground-breaking scores. His numerous film scores include Oliver Stone’s *Wall Street*, the seminal score for the Golden Globe-nominated soundtrack for Francis Ford Coppola’s *Rumble Fish*, the score for Bruno Barreto’s Oscar-nominated *Four Days in September* and his Emmy nomination for the Showtime pilot and series *Dead Like Me*. His work in television includes contributions to *The Equalizer, Babylon V*, and *Desperate Housewives* and he also scored the blockbuster hit video game *​‘Spyro’*.

