**Stewart Copeland Biography 2019/20**

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 five 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 most recent 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 the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, *Poltroons in Paradise* commissioned by the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra; and *Gamelan D'Drum*, commissioned by the Dallas Symphony Orchestra for the world percussion group D'Drum.

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*. Copeland has continued writing for Opera and 2020 will see the premiere of *Electric Saint,* commissioned by Staaskapelle Weimar as well as his Oratorio, *Satan’s Fall*, based on John Milton’s Paradise Lost, which premiered in Pittsburgh in February 2020.

The 2018/19 season saw Stewart Copeland premiere concerts of his project *Stewart Copeland Lights Up The Orchestra*, a concert showcasing the life of Stewart and his compositions, from The Police to Spyro the Dragon and Tyrant’s Crush with performances taking place across Germany and the UK. This season, Copeland will debut a new project, *Stewart Copeland: The Police Deranged for Orchestra*, which focuses on the epic rise of his career. The concert is an evening bursting with The Police’s biggest hits including ‘Roxanne’, ​‘Don’t Stand To Close To Me’ and ​‘Message in a Bottle’ sung by a four singers and arranged for full symphony orchestra as well as hand-picked highlights from Copeland’s compositions. The world premiere will be held at the Concertgebouw, Amsterdam in August 2020.

Recipient of the Hollywood Film Festival's first Outstanding Music in Film Visionary Award, a Grammy nominee for his 2005 CD *Orchestralli*, and a 2003 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 T*he Equalizer, Babylon V*, and *Desperate Housewives*. He also scored the blockbuster hit video game ‘*Spyro*’.

The rise, subsequent success, and ultimate demise of The Police over an eight-year period were all recorded and kept as a video diary in 8mm film by Copeland. That diary became the film Everyone Stares: The Police Inside Out, which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and debuted on the Showtime network.

Between international performances of his many orchestral works, Stewart has also presented the highly rated “On Drums – Stewart Copeland!” for BBC 4 and has filmed a new 3 one-hour documentary series for them, called “What Is Music” broadcast in Autumn 2019.