

BOOSEY & HAWKES

Aldwych House
71-91 Aldwych
London WC2B 4HN
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7054 7200
Email: composers.uk@boosey.com
Website: www.boosey.com

AN IMAGEM COMPANY

Boosey & Hawkes Music Publishers Limited

20 August 2013 strictly embargoed until this date

Riverdance composer Bill Whelan signs global agreement with Boosey & Hawkes



Photo: Jim McCann

Boosey & Hawkes is pleased to announce a worldwide publishing agreement with Bill Whelan, composer of the Irish dance phenomenon *Riverdance*. The agreement covers new works by Whelan, including a new *Riverdance Symphonic Suite*, as well as global administration and promotion of the McGuinness Whelan Music Publishing catalogue.

Under the deal, Boosey & Hawkes will release over 25 titles in print as well as pitching Whelan's music for synchronisation in film, TV and advertising and making the orchestral works available for performance and new choreography. In addition to the *Riverdance Symphonic Suite*, first performed by the RTÉ Concert Orchestra in Dublin last year, Whelan's concert works include *The Seville Suite*, commissioned for Ireland's National Day at Expo '92 in Seville, and *The Connemara Suite*, premiered in Carnegie Hall in New York in 2005 and including the popular *Inishlacken* movements for violin, fiddle and string orchestra. He is currently writing a flute concerto for performance in 2014 by Sir James Galway and is recording an album of new music as part of a large-scale theatre project involving an international choir, instrumentalists and dancers.



Since its first performances in 1994, *Riverdance's* infectious blend of Irish dancing and Celtic-inspired music has won it continuing acclaim. Seen as a live show by over 22 million people in 46 countries and by 2 billion global TV viewers, *Riverdance* toured China recently with spectacular success and celebrates its 20th anniversary next year with tours in Germany, Austria, Netherlands, Belgium, France, Russia and the UK. Bill Whelan's *Riverdance* album received the 1997 Grammy Award for 'Best Musical Show Album'. The album is a certified Platinum record in the US, Ireland and Australia.

Janis Susskind, Managing Director, Boosey & Hawkes comments: "As *Riverdance* continues to thrill audiences internationally, we look forward to developing new projects with Bill Whelan and expanding the reach of his music into the world's concert halls."

Bill Whelan comments: "I am much looking forward to this new collaboration with the team at Boosey & Hawkes and the potential for my orchestral music to reach new audiences."

For further information about Bill Whelan's works visit www.boosey.com/whelan.

Also visit www.billwhelan.com and www.riverdance.com.

For further information contact:

David Allenby (Head of Publicity and Marketing)
david.allenby@boosey.com +44 (0)20 7054 7253

William Marsey (Publicity & Press Assistant)
william.marsey@boosey.com +44 (0)20 7054 7254

For notes to editors, see over.

about Bill Whelan Born in Limerick in 1950, Bill Whelan has composed extensively for theatre, dance, film and the concert stage. His work in film includes *Dancing At Lughnasa*, *Some Mother's Son* and *Lamb*. Music for television includes *The Seven Ages*, Sean Ó Mordha's history of the Irish State. He was appointed composer to the W.B. Yeats International Theatre Festival at Dublin's Abbey Theatre in 1989, writing original music for 15 Yeats plays. His adaptation of *HMS Pinafore* received a Laurence Olivier Award nomination. Bill's production and arranging credits include U2, Van Morrison, Kate Bush, Richard Harris, Planxty, The Dubliners and many traditional world musicians and performers. Classical compositions include a recent work for violinist Vanessa-Mae.

Bill Whelan is a member of the Boards of Berklee College of Music in Boston, The University of Limerick, Crash Ensemble and Music Generation, the newly established music education body for Ireland. He was recently appointed adjunct Professor to Trinity College Dublin's School of Drama, Film and Music. He is a Fellow of the Royal College of Music and is on the governing body heading the programme for Limerick City of Culture in 2014.

about the Imagem Music Group

Imagem Music Group (André de Raaff, CEO and Co-founder) is the number one independent music publishing company in the world, unique for its leadership role in classical music, Broadway, and pop/rock. **Boosey & Hawkes** represents the world's leading classical composers from Aaron Copland and Igor Stravinsky to such contemporary artists as John Adams, Steve Reich and Karl Jenkins.

Rodgers & Hammerstein controls the rights to the world's most popular stage and film musicals, including THE SOUND OF MUSIC, OKLAHOMA! and THE KING AND I, as well as representing works by Irving Berlin, Andrew Lloyd Webber, Stephen Schwartz and more. **Imagem Music's** expanding pop catalogue includes such writers as Pink Floyd, Elvis Presley, Ludacris, Sammy Cahn, Phil Collins, Genesis, Iron Maiden, Mark Ronson, Temper Trap, Steve Robson, M.I.A., Bombay Bicycle Club and Daft Punk. Imagem is also active in production library music; London-based **Imagem Production Music** represents over 100,000 tracks, while California-based **5 Alarm Music** represents more than 40 different music libraries. The **Imagem Music Group** has offices in New York, Los Angeles, London, Paris, Milan, Barcelona, Berlin, Brussels and Amsterdam, and exclusive agents throughout the world. Imagem: making the difference! Website: www.imagem.com.