

James Harrison.



LIVE THEATRE & ENTERTAINMENT

Nurse Nellie/Dame Dolly Saves Panto — Music Supervisor / Director

Evolution Productions (Paul Hendy & Emily Wood) 2020-2021 Season.

The Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury / The Crucible Theatre, Sheffield / Theatre Royal, York / The Hawth Theatre, Crawley / Assembly Hall Theatre, Tunbridge Wells / The Octagon Theatre, Yeovil / Lichfield Garrick Theatre

ITV This Morning's Panto — Music Arranger / Track Producer

Music Producer for "This Morning's Christmas Panto" starring Joanna Lumley, Sheridan Smith, Holly Willoughby, Phillip Schofield & More.

ITV Studios

The Knights Of Music — Music Supervisor / Director

Schofield Productions (Starring Phillip Schofield and Sophie Evans)

UK Tours / Various Top Cruise Lines

Peter Pan — Entertainer / Musician / Actor

Gary Starr Productions (Performing as Starkey The Accordion Playing Pirate, driving around the grounds on a moving, musical pirate ship!)

2020 Burton Constable Hall

Alice In Wonderland — Entertainer / Musician / Actor

Gary Starr Productions (Performing as The Musical, Smoking Caterpillar, driving around the grounds on a moving, musical giant mushroom!)

2020 Burton Constable Hall

Mister Maker & Rebecca (from CBeebies) — Musical Director / Entertainer / Actor

2020-2021 UK Tour / Butlin's Resort

The Wizard Of OZ — Musician / Actor

Tom Rolfe Productions (A variety of crazy JH musical roles in this show, from Uncle Henry, A Munchkin & A Gorilla, to The Wizard Of OZ himself!)

Summer Panto Picnic In The Park 2020

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www.jamesharrisonmusician.com

AWARDS

2020 Award Winner for BEST MUSIC in The Great British Pantomime Awards.

2020 Award Winning BEST SHOW for Cinderella - Evolution Productions.

TESTIMONIALS

"James Harrison is one of the best Musical Directors I've ever worked with. Not only is he very talented, he's such great fun to work with, and just a great guy... I even got to jam with him in a club after the show one night!"

— John Altman ("Nasty Nick")

(BBC's EastEnders)

Cinderella — Musical Supervisor/Director

Evolution Productions (Starring Joanne Clifton, Strictly Come Dancing & Phil 'Mister Maker' Gallagher, CBeebies & Damian Williams, Sheffield Legend) - Award Winning "Best Show" from GBPA.

2019-20 Sheffield Lyceum Theatre

Cinderella — Musical Supervisor

Evolution Productions (Starring Rebecca Keatley, CBeebies & Sam Rabone, Lichfield Legend)

2019-20 Lichfield Garrick Theatre

Grimms' Scary Tales — Entertainer / Musician / Actor

Gary Starr Productions (Working as "Death" the Musical Grim Reaper, whilst driving a custom built mobility scooter with an evil Church Organ mounted to it!)

2019 Yorkshire Wildlife Park

Peter Pan, Aladdin, Cinderella, Snow White, Jack & The Beanstalk — Music Supervisor

Shone Productions (Starring various celebrities and an all star cast)

2014 - 2021 Number One Venues across The UK

Jack And The Beanstalk — Music Supervisor

Tom Rolfe Productions

2019 The Princess Alexandra Auditorium

Crooners The Show — Deputy Pianist

2019 UK Tour

Sleeping Beauty — Music Supervisor/Musical Director

Tom Rolfe Productions (Starring BGT Winner, Jai McDowall)

2019 Billingham Forum Theatre

Dick Whittington — Musical Director

Extravaganza Productions (Starring Todd Carty, EastEnders & Philip Green, BGT)

2018-19 Middlesbrough Theatre

Cinderella — Music Supervisor

Tom Rolfe Productions (Starring Double Trouble)

2018 The Princess Alexandra Auditorium

"When I first met James, I hadn't sung for 17 years, in public, on stage, so I was absolutely terrified. His calm and great nature gently eased me back into the process, and then on stage we had such fun playing about, doing a bit of 'Jazzy Joseph'. I've watched him in control of an incredible band as our Musical Director, and thought we're all in very safe hands. He's made it a really enjoyable experience!"

— Phillip Schofield
(ITV's *This Morning*)

"What can I say about Mr. James Harrison!? He's extremely, actually quite stupidly talented... he's very funny, quite a character! Somebody you'll never forget. I feel quite privileged to have worked with him."

— Adele Silva
(ITV's *Emmerdale*)

"5 Show! Musical Director and stunning pianist James Harrison arguably steals the show. He offers remarkable arrangements and seamless mixes which drive this pace and perfectly produced production." - The Knights Of Music starring Phillip Schofield.*

— Alex Belfield
(*Celebrity Radio*)

The Barricade Boys — Music Producer

Sisco Entertainment Ltd (Starring some of the worlds finest male voices from The West End, Broadway and Hollywood Movie of Les Miserables)

West End Live / UK Tour / Various Top Cruise Ship Lines

Jack And The Beanstalk — Music Supervisor/Musical Director

Tom Rolfe Productions (Starring Lloyd Daniels, X Factor & Ricky Groves, EastEnders)

2018 Billingham Forum Theatre

Randy Robin And His Adventures In Knobingham — Music Producer/Actor

Tom Rolfe Productions (Adult Pantomime written by Tom Rolfe & Liam Mellor, starring Liam Mellor as Randy Robin. With myself doubling up as an actor with a few cameo guest appearances!)

2018 Billingham Forum Theatre

Snow White — Musical Director

Extravaganza Productions (Starring Adele Silva & Deena Payne from Emmerdale & John Archer from Penn And Teller's 'Fool Us')

2017-18 Middlesbrough Theatre

The Knights Of Music — Music Supervisor / Director

Schofield Productions (Starring Phillip Schofield and Danielle Hope)

2017 UK Tour

Aladdin — Musical Director

Extravaganza Productions (Starring Ricky Groves, EastEnders & Andy Moss, Hollyoaks)

2016-17 Middlesbrough Theatre

New Jersey Nights — Musical Director

Spirit Productions

2016 UK Tour

Chicago Workshop With John Partridge — Musical Director

Platform 1 Productions

2016

The Knights Of Music — Music Supervisor / Director

Schofield Productions (Starring by Phillip Schofield)

2016 UK Tour

The Wizard Of OZ — Music Supervisor

2016 UK Tour - *Shone Productions* (Starring Richard Cadell, Sooty & Sweep)

“The award for the most enthusiastic musical director goes to James Harrison, who was jumping and bopping about his booth in full view of the audience. His energy and enthusiasm were infectious — sod Cinders and the Prince getting hitched, I was more elated to see Harrison finally get his moment on stage during the finale, complete with a snazzy costume, proving that dreams really do come true.”

— Adele Forrest

(Rotherham Advertiser)

“The Orchestration is always wonderful, the style is always perfect and the enthusiasm and professionalism is exactly what you’d expect from such a talented musician. We’ve used James on numerous occasions and now wouldn’t bother looking anywhere else for the tracks, arrangements and compositions we need. From initial contact to finished product I could not recommend him highly enough.”

— Ben Muir

(Producer, After Dark Entertainment)

Cinderella — Musical Director

Extravaganza Productions (Starring Cheryl Ferguson, EastEnders)
2015-16 Middlesbrough Theatre

The Wizard Of OZ — Music Supervisor / Director

Shone Productions (Starring Ashleigh & Pudsey, BGT Winners)
2015 UK Tour

Jack And The Beanstalk — Musical Director

Extravaganza Productions (Starring John Altman, EastEnders)
2014-15 Middlesbrough Theatre

misCAST: Cabaret — Musical Director / Composer

Less Is More Productions
2014 Hazel Pearson Theatre

Bazaar & Rummage — Musical Director / Composer

by Sue Townsend, *Less Is More Productions*
2014 Middlesbrough Theatre

Sleeping Beauty — Musical Director

Extravaganza Productions (Starring Kim Hartman & Vicki Michelle)
2013-14 Middlesbrough Theatre

Awards Ceremony Evening — Music Supervisor / Director

The Sage, Gateshead (Hosted by BBC's Carol Malia)
2013

Peter Pan — Deputy Musical Director

UK Productions (Starring Tom Lister, Emmerdale)
2012-13 Sunderland Empire

MUSIC PRODUCTION

JH Backing Tracks — Founder / Managing Director

Backing track production company, specialising in bespoke musical theatre tracks; used by professional and amateur theatre companies worldwide. www.jhbackingtracks.com

"James is without a doubt the most talented musician, composer, performer and creative mind I've had the pleasure to work with. He has taken the quality of our music and production to a whole new level. This is certainly the start of a beautifully creative relationship."

— Gary Starr Creative

"I want to say a heartfelt thank you for all your hard work on our shows. You did an incredible job and it was a genuine pleasure collaborating with you. Your professionalism, enthusiasm, energy and dedication is astonishing. Seriously brilliant work, I think you've outdone yourself! I'm very proud of the shows, and I will never forget the experience. Thank you!"

— Paul Hendy
(Producer/Director, Evolution Productions)

Bring Me Sunshine — *Track Arranger / Producer / Performer*

Evolution Productions (Starring Stephen Mulhern, Paul Zerdin, Dr. Ranj Singh, Dick 'n' Dom, Les Dennis, Joe Pasquale, Sam & Mark, Rita Simons, Samantha Womack, Shaun Williamson, Joe Tracini and many more)

Matchstick Monkey — *Composer / Arranger / Producer*

Working with Touker Suleyman (BBC Dragons' Den) as composer and music producer for Matchstick Monkey, a worldwide brand.

Sam The Ice Cream Man — *Composer / Arranger / Producer*

Composer for Sam "The Brackley Ice Cream Man" Theme Tune/Jingle

West End Musical Choir — *Track Arranger / Producer*

Various west end shows and performances at Disneyland

Associated Board Royal Schools Of Music — *Track Producer*

Various musical theatre video adverts

The Knights — *Arranger / Producer / Music Supervisor*

Sisco Entertainment Ltd (Warner Leisure Hotels, Various Top Cruise Lines)

The Barricade Boys (Direct From Broadway) — *Click Track Arranger / Producer*

Sisco Entertainment Ltd (West End, UK Tour, Norwegian & Holland America Cruise Line)

The Fallen Angels — *Music Arranger*

Sisco Entertainment Ltd (Various Cruise Lines)

GFD Promotions — *Track Arranger / Producer*

Various world touring shows

Tam Ryan Shows — *Track Arranger / Producer*

Custom arrangement/track production for comic actor, Tam Ryan

Reece Sibbald Productions — *Track Arranger / Producer*

Various pantomimes

Trio Entertainment LTD — *Track Arranger / Producer*

Various pantomimes

Adventure Wonderland Theme Park — *Composer / Arranger / Producer*

Pirate Themed Ride Music

EQUIPMENT

I'm proud to be an official Nord & Roland Piano 'Artist'.

Nord Stage 3

Roland RD-2000

Korg Kronos 2

Hammond Sk1

Macbook Pro & iMac

Logic Pro X

Mainstage 3

Large collection of industry standard samples / plug-ins / virtual instruments

Various audio interfaces / mixers

Industry standard microphone collection

EDUCATION

University of Sunderland

The Sage, Gateshead,

BMus (Hons.) Jazz, Popular & Commercial Music. 2i (2014)

Jim Davidson Live — *Composer / Producer*

UK Tour

The Grumbleweeds — *Music Arranger / Orchestrator / Producer*

UK Tour

Flamingo Land Resort — *Composer / Arranger / Producer*

African Themed Queue Music

After Dark Entertainment — *Arranger / Producer*

Various Murder Mystery events and UK corporate shows

Cattle & Cane — *Arranger / Producer / Musician*

Various work, from album recordings to live shows & TV commercials

www.cattleandcane.co.uk

The Jazz Man Documentary — *Composer / Producer / Musician*

'A Feature-length documentary that takes a look at the UK's most unique Jazz hideaway and it's eccentric owner.'

Oliver! — *Click Track Producer*

(1994 London Palladium Cast Recording)

2011 Theatre Royal Windsor

KD Theatre — *Track Arranger / Producer*

Various pantomimes and UK Tours

Freelance — *Backing Track Producer*

Backing track Producer/Arranger for various top online companies,

from single tracks to full show sets. www.parismusic.co.uk —

www.traxvault.com — www.musicbackingtracks.co.uk

LIVE PERFORMANCE

Cue Music (UK) — *Managing Director / Co-founder*

A unique approach to booking live entertainment. Every member of the Cue family is often featured on high-profile shows and tours with celebrities worldwide.

Our unique acts have performed all over the world, from high profile corporate events on private islands in Venice, to shows in Ibiza.

www.cuemusicuk.com

TEACHING

A-Level Music Technology teacher at Egglecliffe School, specialising in specific production modules.

Jazz Piano specialist teacher at the prestigious Mick Donnelly Academy of Music.

Various private instruments and music production tuition.

MUSICIAN

I have worked professionally since the age of 15 (2008) and in that time have produced tracks and arrangements for theatres all around the world, including The West End — from full show arrangements to commercial jingles. Using some of the best equipment in the business, I am proud to be an official Nord and Roland piano Artist.

As a pianist, I have been fortunate enough to have played all around the world, and at some of the UK's most prestigious venues & events: *Gateshead International Jazz Festival, St. David's Hall, Manchester Jazz Festival, Sheffield Lyceum, The Sage, The Mayflower Theatre, Edinburgh Playhouse and New Wimbledon Theatre*, just to name a few.

I'm very proud to have received an award for BEST MUSIC in the Great British Pantomime Awards 2020, for my music creations and performance in Cinderella (which also won BEST SHOW) for Evolution Productions.

As musical director and/or supervisor, I have worked with a wide range of stars on various shows, such as Phillip Schofield (*ITV*), John Altman (*EastEnders*), Samantha Barks (*Film and Theatre Star*) John Partridge (*EastEnders*), Ashleigh & Pudsey (*Britain's Got Talent Winners*), Sophie Evans (*West End and Broadway Star*), The Grumbleweeds, Kim Hartman & Vicki Michelle ('Allo 'Allo), Danielle Hope (*Over The Rainbow Winner & West End Star*), Marti Pellow (*Wet Wet Wet*), Lloyd Daniels (*The X Factor*) and Joanne Clifton (*Strictly Come Dancing*) to name just a few.

PERSONALITY

Please click [here](#) to watch my Musical Director/Entertainer showreel, featuring various clips that I feel capture my outgoing personality, and unique approach to musically directing and general performance.

I am often told I'm extremely easy, professional and great fun to work alongside. I'm very passionate about the fun/showmanship element a musician should include in their performance, which I feel has been lost (especially in the musical theatre world) over the years. Who wants to go and see a show where the musicians look like they don't want to be there?! Having an energetic and cheerful musical director/band, happy to get on board with the entertaining aspect, can really help to inspire the cast and audience alike, resulting in improved performance all around, producing a superior, and unique end product. My mission is to change up the traditional, perhaps slightly boring 'theatre musical director' style the industry has become used to... something I feel is starting to be recognised and appreciated. Click [here](#) to see how I think an Overture should be performed!

As a keen [actor](#) too, I'm equally happy to **perform** on stage with a band (as well as in an orchestra pit) and even happier when I get given lines in a script, ha! - I've most recently been utilised in a production appearing riding a [unicycle](#) whilst playing piano accordion... so hopefully this shows that **anything** is possible when collaborating together!

For various examples of all of the work described above, please visit www.jamesharrisonmusician.com

That's All Folks...

