

**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.

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, at the Taukay Edizioni Musicali International Composition Prize in 2012 and the Musica Domani International Composition Prize (USA). His works have been performed across 17 countries and are represented on 12 record labels.

Greg 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 and the 45th Parallele, Valence, France to name a few.

Recent projects include the premiere of his *Environments I* for piano and orchestra for BBC Radio 3 with the Ulster Orchestra and Finghan Collins, piano, the premiere of his 4<sup>th</sup> String Quartet, *..borne back ceaselessly into the past*, commissioned for the RTE ConTempo Quartet and the premiere of a song cycle, *Belfast Confetti*, setting the poetry of Ciaran Carson. He is currently preparing a set of 5 *Bagatelles* for solo guitar commissioned by the guitarist Matthew McAllister.

Greg is the founder and Artistic Director of Hard Rain SoloistEnsemble, N. Ireland's only professional ensemble performing modern and contemporary repertoire, and as such regularly champions and commissions the music of local contemporary composers alongside major international figures.

Greg is represented by the Contemporary Music Centre, Ireland and is a member of the Association of Irish Composers.