

# Danny Elfman

## Composer

For over 30 years, four-time Oscar® nominee DANNY ELFMAN has established himself as one of the most versatile and accomplished film composers in the industry. He has collaborated with directors such as Tim Burton, Gus Van Sant, Sam Raimi, Peter Jackson, Ang Lee, Rob Minkoff, Guillermo del Toro, Brian De Palma, James Ponsoldt and David O' Russell. Beginning with his first score on Tim Burton's *Pee-wee's Big Adventure*, Elfman has scored over 100 films, including: *Milk* (Oscar® nominated), *Good Will Hunting* (Oscar® nominated), *Big Fish* (Oscar® nominated), *Men in Black* (Oscar® nominated), *Edward Scissorhands*, *Batman*, *To Die For*, *The Nightmare Before Christmas*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *Silver Linings Playbook*, *American Hustle*, *Avengers: Age of Ultron*, *Spiderman*, *A Simple Plan*, *Midnight Run*, *Sommersby*, *Dolores Claiborne*, and the Errol Morris documentaries *The Unknown Known*, and *Standard Operating Procedure*. Most recently he has provided the music for, Warner Bros. *Justice League*, and Gus Van Sant's *Don't Worry He Won't Get Far On Foot*. He is currently working on the upcoming Tim Burton film *Dumbo* for Disney, and *The Grinch* for Universal.

A native of Los Angeles, Elfman grew up loving film music. He travelled the world as a young man, absorbing its musical diversity. He helped found the band Oingo Boingo, and came to the attention of a young Tim Burton, who asked him to write the score for *Pee-wee's Big Adventure*. 34 years later, the two have forged one of the most fruitful composer-director collaborations in film history. In addition to his film work, Elfman wrote the iconic theme music for the television series *The Simpsons* and *Desperate Housewives*.

Elfman has expanded his writing to composing orchestral concert works which include: *Serenada Schizophrana*, a symphony commissioned by the American Composer's Orchestra, which premiered at Carnegie Hall in 2005, *Rabbit and Rogue*, for the American Ballet Theater choreographed by Twyla Tharp, performed at The Metropolitan Opera house in 2008, and *IRIS for Cirque du Soleil* directed by French choreographer Philippe Decouflé. In 2011, Danny Elfman's *Music from the Films of Tim Burton* live orchestral concert, premiered at Royal Albert Hall, and has since toured around the world and won two Emmys®.

In 2017 Elfman premiered his first violin concerto in Prague, which was performed by the Czech National Orchestra. This year, his first Piano Quartet commissioned by the Berlin Philharmonic Piano Quartet will premiere in the fall at the Berlin Philharmonie. "I need to push myself into new territory with fresh challenges as much as I can and whenever I can. I am told I have a recognizable style but my greatest pleasure is when I can surprise the audience with my music."

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