

John Kenny

- 1957 Born, Birmingham UK. Takes up trombone age 14
- 1975 - 78 *Studies at the Royal Academy of Music, London
- 1976 *Founds The Taverners Trombones
- 1978 - 81 *Freelance, based in London (orchestral and commercial)
- 1978 *With Joseph Pasaevich, Founds The New Orchestra of London; debut concert at London's Wembley Conference Centre, Michael Schonwant conductor, and Jill Gomez as soloist.
- 1979 *Granted an Arts Council Bursary to study extended techniques with James Fulkerson
*Becomes a member of The Bubble Theatre of London, and gains admission to Equity actor's union.
*Participates on the Gulbenkian Course for choreographers and composers
- 1980 *Tours with London Contemporary Dance Theatre tours Africa with Gladys Knight and Jack Jones, also performing in jazz clubs in Botswana and South Africa
*Co-founder of the London Kaleidoscope Ensemble, with conductor David Robertson
*Founder-director of the Brancepeth Festival, County Durham
- 1982 *Solo debut at London's Purcel Room
*Leaves London to Live in Scotland - becomes a gardener
*Taverners Trombones record double album "Through A Looking Glass"
*Premier of "3 Worlds" with the London Contemporary Dance Theatre
*Jazz ensembles with trumpeter Guy Barker and saxophonist Mike Mower
*Premier of "Children of Eve" at Brancepeth Festival
- 1983 *Study with Stuart Dempster at Centre Acanthe, Aix en Provence
*Attends the Gulbenkian Dance Course for the 2nd time
*Joins 7:84 Theatre Company to perform "Women In Power" at the Edinburgh International Festival
*Prize-winner at the Gaudeamus International Competition
*French debut, at Trocadero, Paris. Jazz with Trio TOK
*Premier of "Points In Time" with choreographer Janice Galloway, Glasgow
*Becomes a member of the Scottish Early Music Consort

- 1984
- *Taverners Trombones featured at the Festival de La Rochelle, France; premier of "Sonata for Unaccompanied Trombone"
 - *Featured soloist at Angouleme Jazz Festival, with Etienne Rolin Orchestra
 - *Tour of UK and Belgium with marimbist Nachiko Maekane
 - *First collaboration with playwright Paul Stebbings, "Cabaret Faust" tours over 100 venues in the UK and Scandinavia
- 1985
- *Music-theatre collaboration with Ensemble Alternance of Paris
 - *Featured at the ISCM/Gaudeamus World Music Days, Amsterdam
 - *Soloist with Ensemble Alternance in the German premier of Marius Constant's concerto, "Gli Elementi" at the Akademie der Künste, Berlin
 - *2nd collaboration with Paul Stebbings is commissioned by the Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival - TNT Music Theatre Co is formed to tour "Tempest Now"
- 1986
- *Tours the UK and Germany in "Her Majesty's Pleasure" with the Natural Theatre Company
 - *Premier of "Catharsis", with Bruce Arthur, percussionist, for the BTS in Newcastle and Birmingham
- 1987
- *Taverners Trombones featured in the 750th anniversary celebrations of the City of Berlin
 - * "Driftwood", installation with sculptor Andy Stenhouse, Edinburgh and New York
 - *Performs with Steve Lacey in Paris
 - *Featured soloist at Glasgow's Musica Nova Festival
 - *"Night Songs" commissioned by choreographer Neville Campbell and Phoenix Dance Member of Dick Lea's "Chamber Jazz" and Tom Bancroft's "Orange Ear Ensemble"
- 1988
- *Tours the Netherlands with Nachiko Maekane
 - *"Wizard of Jazz" - 3rd collaboration with Paul Stebbings, premiered in Wales, then tours the UK, Sweden, and is featured at Hans Werner Henze's Munich Bienale for Music Theatre, taking the critic's award
 - *Performs with Tommy Smith, Chick Corea, Garry Burton
 - *Becomes a member of Ensemble Avance, Koln
 - *Founder director of the Scottish Electro Acoustic Music Association
 - *Collaboration with Stockhausen, Koln
 - *UK tour with Nachiko Maekane

- 1989
- *Solo sound-track for the film "Play Me Something", winner of the Berlin Film Festival gold medal
 - *Composer in residence to the Scottish Chamber Orchestra
 - *Featured soloist with Ensemble Modern at the Vienna Festival
 - premier of Violeta Dinescu's film score, "Tabu"
 - *UK premier of Xenakis' "Keren" for solo trombone, in the presence of the composer
 - *Founder member, with Michael Svoboda, of the Intergalactic Alphorn Quartet!
- 1990
- *Member of the Royal Lyceum Theatre Co, Edinburgh
 - *Collaboration with the Heinrich Strobel Stiftung, Freiburg
 - *Russian debut, with Paul Flush, piano, at the Moscow Composer's Union
 - *"Wizard of Jazz" resident at the Komodie Theatre, Nevski, Leningrad
 - *Soloist in Andras Hamary's opera "Seid Still", for Stuttgart Opera
 - *Bremen Musica Nova Festival
 - *Composes sound track for the film "Edinburgh Visions", which wins the silver medal of the New York Film Festival
 - *Collaboration at Arc en Senon, France, with jazz basist Kent Carter, choreographer Michala Marcus, and artist Xavier Juillet - 4 hour televised installation
 - *Becomes a lecturer at Akademie Schloss Solitude, Stuttgart
- 1991
- *Founder member, Scottish Improvising Composers Society
 - *Vienna, Lyon and Berlin Festivals
 - *Soloist with the Giovani Orchestra da Camera, Milan
 - *Duo recitals in Germany with John Whiting (live electronics)
 - *Athens Xenakis Festival
 - *TNT Music Theatre Co tour of the Scottish Highlands and Islands
 - *Edinburgh Festival Fringe with John Kitchen, organist
 - *Premier of Edward McGuire Trombone Concerto at the Festival d'Aix en Provence
 - *St Gallen Festival, Switzerland
 - *Helsinki Festival, with Ensemble Avance
 - *Donnaueschingen Tage Fur Neu Musik with Ensemble Modern
 - *Stuttgart Tage fur Neu Musik, Sud Deutche Rundfunk
 - *Collaboration with Rumanian Composer Gheorge Costinescu - "Jubillus"

- 1992
- *Athens Festival, with Ensemble Modern
 - *Project with UK based organisation "Music for the deaf"
 - *Installation with John Whiting at Edinburgh College of Art
 - *Lectures at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, Napier University, Royal Academy of Music
 - *Founder member, Chamber Group of Scotland
 - *Khumon Kamarimusiiki, Finland, with pianist Paul Flush
 - *Recitals in Greece with Joanna Haratsaris, piano
 - *Tour of Scottish Highlands and Islands with pianist Paul Flush and drummer Rick Bamford
 - *Tour of Japan, solo recitals and music theatre with TNT Co
 - *Solo, Taj Mahal, India
- 1993
- *Records Ernest Bloch's Trombone Symphony with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra
 - *Premier of Violeta Dinescu's Trombone Concerto, with the Paragon Ensemble, Glasgow
 - *Restoration and unveiling of the Carnyx, 2,000 year old Celtic war horn
 - *Collaboration with Indian composer/sarod player Vajahat Khan
 - *Premier of Edward McGuire's 2nd trombone Concerto, "Zephyr" with Chamber Group of Scotland, at Glasgow Mayfest
 - *Collaboration with Ghanaian dancer Rosina Bonsu win the "Paper Boat Award" of Glasgow Mayfest
 - *Dortmund Jazz Festival, with Thomas Witzman Ensemble
 - *Venice Bienale, Italy
 - *Becomes a professor at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, London
 - *Elected Associate of The Royal Academy of Music, London
 - *Salzburg Festival, recitals with Ensemble Modern
 - *Duo performances in Tokyo with poetess Kazuko Shiraishi
 - *Kenny/Flush/Bamford Trio featured in the opening festival of the NBC Concert Hall, Osaka
 - *Collaboration with Albrecht Roser Figurentheater, Stuttgart and Athens
 - *Soloist in Athens with Ensemble Diagonal and Georgos Fakanas Sextet

- 1994
- *Premier of *Endless Parabolla*", with choreographer Rosina Bonsu, New Moves Festival, Glasgow
 - *Featured soloist at the Kishinin Festival, Moldova
 - *Faculty Artist at the Minneapolis International Trombone Workshop
 - *Director of Brass for the Junge Deutsche Philharmonie, Frankfurt/Berlin
 - *Tutor, National Youth Orchestra of Scotland Jazz Course
 - *Founder member, Ludus Instrumentalis (early music ensemble) Edinburgh
 - *Founder member, improvisation group "Diagonal Flying"
 - *Premier of "The Gathering" and "Amaterasu", Aberdeen
- 1995
- *Recitals at the Salzburg Festival, with Ensemble Modern
 - *Release of CD *The Voice of The Carnyx*
 - *Premier with Hebrides Ensemble of *Bottom's Dream* by John Herne
 - *Premier broadcast on BBC R.3 of the re-discovered *Piece for Trombone and organ* by Gustav Holst (with John Kitchen organ)
 - *Recitals and workshops at Glasgow's Celtic Connections festival
 - *Founds the early music ensemble *His Ain Draucht Trumpets* - premier recital at St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, of music by Schutz & Thos Carver.
- 1996
- *World premier of *Raag Jog*, in collaboration with Wajahat Khan - the first ever integration of trombone into the style and structure of Indian classical music.
 - *Greek premier of Edward McGuire's tbn concerto, with Camerata in the ancient amphitheatre of Epidaurus
 - *Featured artist at the first Highlands Festival, including the world premier of new work by Nigel Osborne for trombone and string quartet
 - *Guest soloist and lecturer at the International Trombone Festival, Feldkirch in Austria.
 - *Director of Brass for Junge Deutsche Philharmonie, Berlin.
 - *English premier of Violeta Dinescu's tbn concerto, Birmingham Brass Explosion
 - *Premier at the Landestheatre Linz, Austria, of *Moby Dick*, fourth collaboration with playwright Paul Stebbings, followed by a 10 week European tour, and residency at the International Symposium for Music Theatre in Volos, Greece
- 1997
- *World Premier in Paris of the trombone concerto *Tremor* by Etienne Rolin, with Paul Mephano and Ensemble 2e2m.
 - *Guest soloist for CD recording and live performance with the free jazz ensemble CASA, Bordeaux.
 - *UK Premier, with Jerzy Maksymiuk & the BBC Scottish Symphony

Orchestra, of Edward McGuire's Trombone Concerto

1997, cont...

- *Premier performance and CD recording debut of the group **NOMAD**, in collaboration with Basam Abdul-Salam, Freiburg.
- *Composer in Residence, Mendelssohn on Mull Festival
- *World premier of Edward McGuire's *Epopée Celtique* at the Festival Interceltique de Lorient, Brittany
- *Inaugural tour of **The Gathering** (*Frances Lynch: soprano, John Kenny: trombone & carnyx, Bassam Abdul-Salam: percussion, John Whiting: electronics*) throughout the Highlands & Islands of Scotland.
- *Incorporation of the charitable company Carnyx & Co., set up to pursue musical/archaeological education, development and performance projects in the UK and internationally.
- *Premier on BBC Radio of John Kenny's *Songs from a Book of Herne*

1998

- *Release on BML of **Forest~River~Ocean**, a CD of compositions commissioned for the carnyx, including music by John Purser, Nigel Osborne & John Kenny. This project received an ABSA award for innovation.
- *Directs the Scottish early music ensemble **His Ain Draucht Trumpets** at the opening concert of the International Symposium for Early Brass at Kloster Michaelstein, Germany.
- *Directs the debut of the multi-media jazz ensemble **Scot Free** at the Queen's Hall, Edinburgh.
- *Performs a specially commissioned new work for carnyx, tape and actors before Her Majesty the Queen at opening ceremony of the new National Museum of Scotland.

1999

- *Director of the 3rd **Regiewerkstatt Puppentheatre** at Theatre Waidpeicher, in Erfurt, Germany.
- *Scottish premier of Edward McGuire *Epopée Celtique*, with the RSNO at the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall.
- *World Premier of **Beastly Brothers** for carnyx and trombone quartet by Etienne Rolin, during the Edinburgh International Festival.

2000

- * Romanian premier of Violeta Dinescu's trombone concerto with the Romanian National Orchestra, Bucharest.
- *Lectures and masterclasses at the Julliard School of Music, Peabody and Mannes College, New York.
- *Debut performance as a bass trombonist, in the world premier of Sonata for Unaccompanied Bass Trombone.
- *World premier of **Bamburgh Beach** for bass trombonist/speaker by David Taylor (New York and Birmingham)
- *Featured artist at the International Trombone Festival, Utrecht, Holland
- *Residency lecturer at the Royal Danish Conservatoire.
- *Premier of "The Secret House", multi-media music theatre production

involving film, electroacoustic, two dancers, two puppeteers, and three musicians, at Duff House, Banff.

*Release of *Locking Horns* CD on the BML label

*Release of *Ensemble Mystical* CD and national tour with Northumbrian piper Kathryn Tickell - voted folk album of the year.

*World premier of the concerto for didgeridoo and Wind Orchestra by Simon Van Der Valt, at the RSAMD Brass Explosion.

- 2001
- *Featured Artist, New York Trombone Festival.
 - *Revival tour of *The Wizard of Jazz* throughout Germany.
 - *Composer in residence to the Angers Festival, France (world premier of *Susano* for bass trombone, timpanist, and Javanese Gamelan).
- 2002
- *Director of Brass for the Youth Orchestra of Andalusia, Spain
 - *Commissioned by Amercian Drama Group Europe to compose and co-direct a music theatre version of Paul Auster's award winning novel "Moon Palace". Premiered in Munich January, followed by 13 week tour of Germany.
 - *Lectures in the Art and Sculpture department of Marywood University, USA, followed by performances at Scranton & Cleveland.
 - *Featured Artist in the Irish National Concert Hall series, Dublin.
 - *Commissioned to compose and perform a song cycle, "The Old Woman of Biere" for soprano, carnyx & percussion at the New Haven International Festival of Arts & Ideas, USA. Lectures at the Peabody Institute.
 - *Featured performer and lecturer at the Musee Des Celtes, Libramont, Belgium
 - *Commissioned by Tartan Chameleon, Scotland, to orchestrate the Shostakovitch piano sketches "Hypothetically Murdered" for a multi media production of this lost 1933 classic. Premiered in Edinburgh.
 - *Featured soloist, Donaueschingen Neue Musik Tage, Germany.
 - *Lecturing and performing for the Musee National Prehistoire, France.
- 2003
- *UK tour with Kathryn Tickell's Ensemble Mystical.
 - *Artist in Residence, Russe Festival of 20th Century Music, Bulgaria
 - *Artist in Residence, Pavarotti Music Centre, Mostar, Bosnia
 - *Soloist, Mostar Sinfonia, Bosnia
 - *Performs carnyx solo before 65,000 people in Stade De France, Paris
 - *Concerto for bass trombone & timpani, "Susano", choreographed as a ballet by Matthew Hawkins, presented by the Centre National de la Dance, Angers, France.
 - *Records Channel 4 TV documentary "Pagans" on site at Tara, Ireland.
 - *Commissioned by the Festival Interceltique de Lorient, France, to compose "Liadian" - a song cycle for soprano, carnyx, timpani & Bretton folk ensemble. Premiered on August 10 at Lorient Festival.
 - *Commissioned by The Royal Overseas League to compose a Trombone Quartet for the Bones Apart Quartet. Premiered at Saint Martin's in The Fields, London, September 22.

2004

- *Release of **A Field of Scarecrows**, music for trombone & piano on the BML Label, with George Nicholson, piano.
- *Carnyx & Co. gives UK premier of John Kenny's song cycle **Liadain** in Glasgow Cathedral, as part of the Celtic Connections Festival.
- ***Mouthpiece of The Gods** performed in the Western Highlands.
- *Workshop leader for Children's' Classic Concerts.
- *Jan 26 to Feb 1st, tours Ireland with the RTE Vanbrough String Quartet, featuring music by Nigel Osborne & Edward McGuire.
- *Directs workshops for Edinburgh Youth Choir with animated film.
- *Lectures & Performs at 1st Sheffield University Music Theatre Conference.
- *2nd concert tour of Bulgaria: recitals with pianist Mario Angelov, plus concertos by McGuire & Schnyder with the Sofia Philharmonic.
- *World Premier of "Calligraphy" for bass trombone & amplified tam-tam, by Chinese composer Kim Ip Ho, at St. Cecelia's Hall.
- ***Mouthpiece of The Gods** at Swaildale Festival.
- *Featured by BBC **Time Team**, recorded at Wemys Pictish Caves.
- *Tours Scotland with Grand Union Orchestra
- *Featured soloist at the 2005 International Trombone Festival, USA
- *Performance & lecture at Musee Des Celtes, Libramont, Belgium
- *Performs & lectures at the City of London Festival.
- *Artist in residence at the **Arctic Trombone Festival**, Norway.
- *Collaboration with artist Sean Harris & storyteller Michael Harvey to interpret ancient Welsh poetic cycle, **The Mabinogion**.
- *Recitals and lectures at the **Dartington International Summer School**.
- *Commissioned by Deveron Arts to compose **Doric** for multi instrumentalist, electronic sound score, and live sound transformation. World premier with Chris Wheeler (sound designer) on Halloween in the Stewart Halls, Huntly, Aberdeenshire.
- *Performs music of Peter Eotvos with **Ensemble Modern**.
- *Recitals in London with Bulgarian pianist Mario Angelov.
- *Launch of duo collaboration with Emily White at the **British Trombone Festival**, Cardiff.