

PHILIP KING

Director/Producer

Philip King has been closely involved with the arts in Ireland as a filmmaker and musician for over 20 years. In 1987, Philip set up Hummingbird Productions with Nuala O'Connor.

- 1991 - Wrote and produced the series '**Bringing It All Back Home**' which featured contributions from *The Everly Brothers, The Waterboys, Davy Spillane, Richard Thompson, Ricky Skaggs, Elvis Costello, John Cage, Emmy Lou Harris, Pete Seeger* and a specially written song from *Bono*. The project received a **National Primetime Emmy** and several other international awards.
- 1993 - Produced and directed the **Grammy-nominated 'Rocky World'**, a music documentary on French Canadian musician and producer *Daniel Lanois* which featured *U2, Peter Gabriel, Aaron Neville* and *Bob Dylan*.
- 1993 - Directed '**The Juliet Letters**', which featured *Elvis Costello* and *The Brodsky String Quartet*. It was shot in carefully-lit, minimalistic, autumnal settings with the musicians performing a cycle of songs unified by the theme of letter-writing.
- 1994 - Directed '**Christy**', a one hour documentary which catches the influential and popular performer *Christy Moore* at a reflective stage of his life. Shot on location in Ireland by **Declan Quinn** (Leaving Las Vegas, Moonsoon Wedding, Vanya on 42nd Street), it accompanies Christy on a journey back to his childhood and teenage years.
- 1994 - Directed '**A River of Sound**', a seven-part documentary on the changing course of Irish traditional music for RTE and BBC Northern Ireland. It was produced by Nuala O'Connor and presented by *Micheál O'Suilleabháin*. The series featured 130 musicians, including *Van Morrison, Dolores O'Riordan, Christy Moore, Paul Brady* and *Eileen Ivers*. This was followed by a series of sold-out concerts in the University of Limerick Concert Hall produced by King as part of the Limerick Music Expo '95.
- 1996 & 1997 - Produced two series' titled '**Sult**' - '**Spirit of the Music**'. These were presented by Donal Lunny and feature performances from Van Morrison, Mark Knopfler, Elvis Costello, etc. Both series' are distributed worldwide by NVC Arts London.
- 1997 & 1999 - Programmed the '**From the Heart**' Irish Festival at the Barbican Centre, London.
- 1997 - Co-produced the feature film, '**This is My Father**' starring Aidan Quinn, James Caan and John Cusack.
- 1997 - Produced the music for John Boorman's film, '**The General**'
- 1998 - Directed a major documentary on the uilleann piper, Liam O Flynn - '**The Piper's Call**' - which featured Mark Knopfler, Seamus Heaney, The Irish Chamber Orchestra, Arty McGlynn, Stephen Cooney, Matt Molloy and Sean Keane.
- 1998 - Produced an hour long documentary '**East meets West**' which reveals the creative collaboration behind the Global Gathering, a concert which brought together the Japanese taiko drumming ensemble Kodo and Donal Lunny's contemporary trad band Coolfin.
- 1998 - Produced and directed "**Because It's a Lonely World**" for Channel 4, a celebration of the collaboration between two musical giants, Elvis Costello and Burt Bacharach and their acclaimed album "*Painted from Memory*".
- 1998 - Directed "**The Joshua Tree**" a documentary on the making of U2's Joshua Tree which was part of the Classic album series on the ITV network in late 1999.
- 1999 - Directed "**Keeping Time**", a performance led, made for TV film, featuring the poetry of Nobel Laureate, Seamus Heaney and the piping of Liam O'Flynn. It marks Heaney's sixtieth birthday and celebrates the longstanding relationship between these two artists and their respective traditions.
- 1999 - Directed a major six part series entitled "**Sruth na Maoile**". This co-production between BBC Scotland and TG4 celebrates the shared root of Ireland and Scotland's rich musical traditions.
- 1999 - Wrote "**I'm Stretched on Your Grave**", recorded by Sinead O'Connor
- 2000 - Produced and directed "**Freedom Highway**", a 90 minute feature film which takes the viewer on a journey through the great political songs of time using a combination of contemporary and archive footage and featuring performances and interviews with political singers and activists alike. (Pete Seeger, Ani De Franco, Tom Waits, Soweto String Quartet, The Roots, Yung Cheng Lamo, Billy Bragg, June Tabor, U2)
- 2000 - Co-produced a major music feature film "**Beautiful Mistake**", with Welsh company Boda, for S4C. The film was shot over a ten day period in Cardiff Coal

Exchange and documents John Cale's (The Velvet Underground) visit to his Welsh homeland to play and produce music with Catatonia, Manic Street Preachers, Super Furry Animals, Gorky's Zygotic Mynci, Julie Murphy, Manchild, etc. The film was directed by Marc Evans (Resurrection Man, House of America, etc). A BAFTA Award Winning Film.

- 2001 - Produced an educational DVD based on the river Shannon which celebrates 50 years of the Irish Government sponsoring the arts. The DVD in itself is an artistic response to a river which is the backbone of the country and which spans the four provinces. It was sponsored by the Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Island and will be given free to every school in Ireland.
- 2002 - Produced and directed **"The Song of Hearts Desire"**, which documents a profound and dynamic exchange between a great tradition and a great singer. The sean-nós tradition (literally Gaelic for "old style") is the oldest living tradition in Irish music culture and this is Sinéad O'Connor's personal and musical homage to that tradition.
- 2002 – Produced **"Sinéad O'Connor Live at Vicar Street Dublin"**. Shot in Vicar Street at the end of Sinéad O'Connor's first Irish tour in six years, this concert film captures one of Sinéad O'Connor's most compelling performances.
- 2002 – Produced **"Other Voices – Songs from a Room"** Presented by Glen Hansard, from The Frames, Other Voices, Songs from a Room is a 13 part music series for RTE Television, which was filmed in The Church of St James, Dingle, County Kerry over six nights from the 14th to the 19th of December 2002. Featuring performances from artists such as Mundy, Damien Rice, Nina Hynes, Interference, Damien Dempsey, Emmet Tinley, Josh Ritter and Mark Geary among others the series is dedicated to celebrating new and innovative Irish Voices.
- 2003- Producer of number one album **"Other Voices – Songs from a Room"**
- 2003 - Music Supervisor for John Boorman's new film **"Country of my Skull"** on The Truth and Reconciliation Commission South Africa, starring Samuel L Jackson and Juliet Binoche.
- July 2003. Philip shot a 90 minute special with **Nigel Kennedy** and the Irish Chamber Orchestra and a one hour documentary about Nigel Kennedy shot on the Dingle Peninsula in the west of Ireland.
- 2003 – Produced the second series of **"Other Voices – Songs from a Room"** this year presented by Jerry Fish and featuring performances from artists such as David Kitt, Gemma Hayes, Paddy Casey, Luka Bloom, Christy Moore, BellX1, The Jimmy Cake, The Tycho Brahe and others.
- Sinéad O'Connor's DVD **"Goodnight and Thank you, you've been a lovely audience"** produced and directed by Philip King is on general release.
- 2003 – Produced and Directed **"The Raw Bar"** – presented by Dermot McLaughlin. A series about the influence and evolution of traditional Irish Music.
- 2004 – Produced and directed the documentary **"Planxty Reformed"** and produced the live concert **"Planxty Live At Vicar Street"**. Philip has since produced these into the number one selling **Planxty Live** DVD.
- 2004 – Produced the acclaimed documentary **"John McGahern. A Private World"** for RTE's Arts Lives series.
- 2004 – Produced **"The Frames Halloween Ball"** live broadcast from The Mansion House, Dublin for Two Sounds on RTE Two.
- 2004 – Produced the third series of **"Other Voices – Songs from a Room"**, this year presented by John Kelly and featuring performances from artists such as Steve Earle, Cowboy Junkies, The Divine Comedy, Declan O'Rourke, The Divine Comedy, Tom Baxter, Dónal Lunny, The Thrills, and others.
- 2005 – Curator of the "Music Migrations" programme for Cork 2005 European Capital of Culture featuring Taraf de Haïdouks, Radio Tarifa, Mariza, The World Premier of The Daughters of Albion, featuring Norma Waterson, June Tabor, Eliza Carty, Katherine Williams etc.
- 2005 – Produced **"The Thrills at The Mansion House"** live broadcast for Two Sounds on RTE Two.
- 2005 – Directed **"John Beag"** for TG4
- 2005 – Currently co-producing a series documenting the history of The Harp for BBC Wales.
- Philip has also directed the **Sé Mo Laoch** series and the **Caipiní** series for TG4 in 2001. He is currently directing a new series of **Sé Mo Laoch and Capiní**.

- Philip also sits on The Arts Council of Ireland.