

**Name:** Aileen Sweeney

**Education:** The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

**2021:** Master of Music (Composition) awarded by The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland with scholarships from The Dewar Arts Award, The Cross Trust, The Countess of Munster Musical Trust and The North Lanarkshire Arts Fund.

**2017:** Bachelor of Music (Performance) with first class honours awarded by The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

**2013:** Certificate of Higher Education in Music Education awarded by The University of Glasgow.



**Short Bio:**

*Featured in BBC Music Magazines 'Rising Star' column, Aileen is a multi-award winning composer, arranger, accordionist and podcaster from Glasgow.*

*Her music is rooted in the traditional folk music she grew up with playing the accordion and is often influenced by her interests in fields in cosmology, nature and folklore alongside an admiration for many different genres of music. Aileen's music has been performed across the UK from pubs on The Isle of Skye, to primary schools in Glasgow to The Wigmore Hall and Queen Elizabeth Hall in London.*

*As well as composing, Aileen co-founded the folk-fusion band Eriska who have self-released two albums, co-hosts the award-winning podcast Ear to the Ground and teaches at The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland's Junior Academy.*

**'Exquisitely scored. Poignant, thoughtful and bracingly fresh' - The Scotsman**

**Recent Commissions:**

- BBC '10 Pieces' co-commissioned with the ABRSM for the Junior Proms at the Royal Albert Hall, London
- BBC Radio 3 for the BBC SSO, a 25 for 2025 commission
- The City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra
- McEwan Bequest Prize awarded by The University of Glasgow
- The Glasgow Barons
- The Colin Currie Quartet and Chamber Music Scotland
- Mikeleiz - Zucchi Duo
- The Night With...
- Amy Dickson (saxophone) and Presteigne Festival
- Cheltenham Music Festival
- Huddersfield Festival
- Red Note Ensemble
- Sound Festival
- The Children's Classic Concerts
- The Edinburgh Singers

**Recent performances by ensembles such as:**

- The Royal Scottish National Orchestra
- The Spokane Symphony (USA)
- The Asheville Symphony Orchestra (USA)
- The Iceland Symphony Orchestra
- The Hebrides Ensemble
- St. Andrews Voices
- Sequoia
- The Helensburgh Oratorio Choir + the musicians of Scottish Opera
- Kathryn Bryan/Edward Cohen
- Jamie MacDougall and Scott Mitchell

**Professional Development:**

- Royal Philharmonic Society Composer 2023/24
- Magnum Opus Composers Scheme, Britten Sinfonia 2021/22
- Music Masters Schools programme, London 2021/22
- Cheltenham Festival Composers Academy with The Carice Singers 2021
- The London Philharmonic Orchestra's Young Composers Scheme 2019/20
- Adopt a Composer scheme 2019/20
- Creative Exchange Residency, Chamber Music Scotland 2019
- The International Composers Seminar with The Hebrides Ensemble 2019
- Residency with Red Note Ensemble at Sound Festival 2018
- The Psappha Ensemble's "Composing for" scheme 2017/18

**Awards (Composition):**

- Winner: Scottish Awards for New Music 'Large Scale Work' 2023
- Winner: Scottish Awards for New Music 'Large Scale Work' 2021
- Winner: Scottish Awards for New Music 'RCS Making it Happen' 2021
- ISCM Scottish Section - Shortlist 2021, 2023
- Michael Cuddigan Trust Award 2021

**Awards (Performance):**

- Finalist: Edinburgh Concerto Competition 2016
- Dunbar - Gerber Chamber Music Prize 2016
- Tony and Tania Solo Recital Prize RCS 2014

### Community/Education work and teaching:

- Lecturer in Musicianship at The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland's Junior Academy.
- Workshop leader, creating composition workshops for a variety of organisations in both primary and secondary schools with [The Lammermuir Festival](#), [McOpera](#) and [Sound Festival](#) (Aberdeen)
- Performances and collaborations with [Children's Classic Concerts](#), who's aim is to introduce young people and families to orchestral music.
- *Many Voices: Ensemble*, an award-winning schools programme where composers are paired with classes of children between 8-10 years old to write music released on an album with [NMC recordings](#) and published by [Composers Edition](#).
- Written for [The London Philharmonic Orchestras Junior Artists Programme](#) aimed at musicians between 11-14.
- Teacher at various primary and secondary schools across Glasgow.