

**CV of CLARK SORLEY**  
**1973 - 2001**

**SUMMARY**

Musician & Composer

Began career in 1973 as pianist and songwriter progressing into studio sessions and work in theatre and broadcasting.

Studio Owner

Formed the business of Sirocco Studio around a musician's collective in 1978 and built it up into being one of the most widely used music and recording facilities in the country, offering recording studios, rehearsal rooms, equipment hire and general production and information services. Clients included major and independent record labels, music publishers, broadcasters, independent producers, bands & artists and advertising agencies. The business was sold on to a company employee in 1989 and still operates.

Broadcasting

Joined the music production staff of Radio Clyde under Andy Park in 1979 as recording engineer making music programmes of a wide ranging nature: covering pop, rock, jazz, classical, folk, country, traditional, MOR, brass bands and pipe bands. Continued until 1981 when left the staff to produce free lance and has since worked on a variety of radio, television and film projects.

Producer & Arranger

Started free-lance producing in 1978. Made album masters, singles, video soundtracks, TV and radio sig. tunes, jingles & commercials. Began to travel the country working in increasingly varied musical environments. Still producing records to date now numbering around 300 albums. Formed Qudisc in 1998 as a vehicle for own productions. Formed Rainmaker Sonic in 2000 with two funding partners.

Consultant

Began researching in 1984 and wrote a series of short papers on the workings of the music and recording industry which were consistently picked up by the industry press. Since then has been involved in a number of consultancy projects mostly related to music Throughout the latter years as owner manager of Sirocco Studio, activities in consulting were increased to include the provision of advice and vocational training to those with intent on entering the music industry.

## CHRONOLOGY

- 1973-78** Involved in the formation of several pop bands performing dance music and original material around Scotland and the North of England. Played electric bass, piano/keyboards and sung. Activities during this period subsidised by working as a musician in Glasgow clubs.
- 1978** Rented premises in Glencairn Square, Kilmarnock and began offering for hire cheap recording facilities and rehearsal service. Installed 8-track equipment. Recorded several singles and demo tapes for the then expanding independent music sector in the wake of the 'New Wave'. Bands worked with included **Aztec Camera, Kissing the Pink, Xcess Discharge, Positive Noise, Cafe Jacques.**
- 1979** Formed the **KIK Label** and produced six single releases including **The Outpatients, The Penetrations.** Released and distributed two cassette magazines entitled **Freefall.** Joined the music production department at **Radio Clyde** as recording engineer. Recorded for broadcast: **Scottish National Orchestra, Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Cantilena, Gordon Giltrap, Wildcat Theatre Co.**
- 1980** Recorded for album: **Bobby Wishart, Carol Kidd, Peggy O'Keefe, Danny Street, Art Sutter** on Clyde's **Library Music Label.** Recorded for broadcast: **Lulu, Sydney Divine, Starshot Talent Series, Mike Westbrook Quintet, Bobby Wellings, Jazz Pub Crawl Series** including **Stan Tracey, Don Weller.** Recorded cassette master for Edinburgh jazz outfit, **Head.** Recorded a series of programmes for Clyde's drama department with **Hamish Wilson** using music by **Tom Wilson** and **David Pringle.** Recorded plain-song at **Pluscarden Abbey** for producer **Ziggy Jackson.**
- 1981** Expanded recording facilities at Sirocco with the installation of 16-track equipment. Made recordings for various media of **The Bluebells, Rose Royce, The Laughing Apple (Alan McGee - latterly Creation), The Alexander Brothers, Peter Morrison, The Jammy Compilation.** Made radio commercials for **Lees Macaroons** and **Barrat Homes.** Left Radio Clyde staff and began producing programmes free lance. Recorded for broadcast: **The Pretenders, Tommy Whittle, Darutti Column, Funkapolitan, The S.N.O. Proms, The International Festival of Youth Orchestras, The Edinburgh Folk Festival, The S.C.O., Cantilena.** Established working relationships with accordianist **John Carmichael** and with **Eddi Reader** (Latterly singer with **Fairground Attraction**).
- 1982** Recorded for broadcast and produced programmes with: **Slade, Run-Rig, Shakatak, The Drifters, 10CC, The Waitresses, Orange Juice, Huang Chung, The Fall, Spandau Ballet, The Average White Band, Morrissey-Mullen, The Kelvingrove Folk Festival, The S.N.O. Proms, Pete Shelley, Bad Manners, The Stiff Tour, Depeche Mode, Mari Wilson, Alice Cooper, The Climax Blues Band, Simple Minds, Scottish Music Consort, Dick Gauchan.** Made radio commercials for **Vogue Furniture, Scottish Gas, The House of Clydesdale, Rowats.** Established long term working relationship with DJ **Tiger Tim Stevens.** Made a series of singles and albums for record and publishing company, **McCoochly Street Industries** with **Harry Barry.** Released a compilation album on the **KIK Label.** Covered the **Papal Visit** in Bellahouston Park, Glasgow for **Radio Clyde.**
- 1983** Worked with **Orchestral Manoeuvres in the Dark** on their forthcoming album. Joined the **Lotus Eaters** from Liverpool as bass player and played on first single which reached No.16 in the national chart.

Recorded albums for **Beggars Mantle, Andy Stewart, Hamish Imlach, Jim Nicol, Shona Campbell, The Alexander Brothers, Alistair McDonald**. Recorded music for **BBC's A Kick up the Eighties** written by **David McNiven** with **Tracy Ullman** and **Robbie Coltrane**. Established longer term working relationships with **Ronnie Christie, Elaine C. Smith, Alan Tall, Terry Neason, Dave Anderson**, and **the Wildcat Theatre Co**. Began conducting courses in recording techniques financed through **Strathclyde Regional Council**. Made radio commercials for **Evening Times, Glasgow Herald, Malcolm Campbell, Barrats**. Produced, co-wrote and arranged jingle package for **West Sound Radio**.

**1984** Produced music recording and wrote incidental pieces for **Channel 4's Bless My Soul** by **Sean Hardy** and **David Anderson**. Produced a trilogy of compilation albums for the **Overtone Label**. Recorded albums for **Kenneth McKellar, Snakes of Shake**. Recorded and edited a cassette album of a live recording titled **Writers for Miners** with **James Kelman**. Produced cassette master for the handicapped children of **Mary Russell School**. Supplied and supervised the sound for the **Musician's Union Mayday Concert**. Became involved in contributing research information to the **Scottish Development Agency**. Began long term working relationships with soul band **Pure Glass**, and singers, **James Oliver** and **Mary Kiani**. Joined the **Roughcast Theatre Company** as keyboard player for pantomime season at **The Third Eye Centre**. Single for **Del Amitri** recorded at Sirocco.

**1985** Became involved with Easterhouse cult band **Scheme**. Produced and recorded their album financed by **Glasgow District Council**. Played keyboards on same. Mixed their live album. Performed with them to capacity crowd at **Glasgow Pavillion**. Contributed to **Channel 4** programme on the band. Began producing a series of traditional music albums for **Lismor Records** and **Klub Records**. Produced album for **Dick Gauchan** financed by **S.T.U.C.** Also recorded albums with **Art Sutter, Peter Morrison, Alexander Brothers, Alistair McDonald, Robert Urquhart, Bill McCue**. Performed music for **B.B.C.** drama **In Traction** with **Alan Tall**. Produced backing tracks for **The Jacuzzi Sisters**.

**1986** Expanded recording facilities at Sirocco with the installation of 24-track equipment as well as general upgrade of the internal fabric of the studio. Produced and arranged a series of record masters for **Asher Halle**. Recorded a live production of **Knifer** by **Stephen Moffat** (Latterly writer of ITV's **Pressgang** series). Produced an album master of same with music written by **Kennedy Aitcheson**. This year until 2000, recorded Burns Suppers live at the **Hospitality Inn, Glasgow** for subsequent release on record and broadcast on **West Sound Radio**. Produced arranged and co-wrote updated jingle package for **West Sound Radio**. Re-mixed single for **Pure Glass** for release on **Legend** label. Drew up proposals for the formation of **The Scottish Association of Recording Arts** and conducted research into the viability of such an initiative. This was well received and resulted in the national body, **The Association of Professional Recording Studios** reassessing its position in Scotland. Continued to circulate papers on the future direction of the music and recording industry. Continued to run recording courses at Sirocco.

**1987** Conducted substantial refurbishment of studio premises involving purchase of existing building and land and complete re-fitting of interior to provide a custom production complex offering bigger studios and rehearsal rooms together with office and recreation space. Studio continued to turnover a large amount of record projects with increased staff. Became musical director for **Terry Neason** promoted by **Maureen Beattie & Judy Sweeney**. Performed live at the **Tron Theatre** and the **Pavillion Theatre**, Glasgow and the **Donmar Warehouse**, London launching Terry's career as a solo artist. Performed live on **Radio 2** from Manchester. Performed on **S.T.V.s Terry Neason Show** acting as musical associate to the programme with **David Pringle**. Produced and recorded the music input for the series at Sirocco. Began a series of live performances as bass player with newly formed mainstream jazz band based at

Sirocco. Recorded the pipes and drums of the **Royal Highland Fusiliers** in Berlin and **The 78th Fraser Highlanders** in Northern Ireland for subsequent release on **Lismor Records**. Recorded **Big Audio Dynamite** for broadcast. **B.B.C.** documentary on the career of **Tommy Smith** filmed at Sirocco.

- 1988** Produced album master and single for **Terry Neason** and sold licences to **Lismor, S.T.V** and **Fairline Video** for usage. Produced and arranged "**One More Chance**" with **James Oliver** which achieved final eight in **BBC's Song for Europe**. Song released on **Klub Records**. Formed two new bands based at Sirocco, **Brooks** and **Kik House** as a vehicle for own compositions and productions. Recorded albums for **Andy Stewart, Martin Taylor, Ian Bruce, The Gaelforce Orchestra, Abel Ganz**. Asked by **Glasgow Action** to conclude a series of reports into the potential for development of the music industry in Scotland. Conducted widespread research. Proposal for a **Music Production Facilities House** resulted. Celebrated 10 years in business at Sirocco with a massive party of around 300 people from the entertainment industry in Scotland held in the studio itself. Much fun was had by all !!
- 1989** Success in **BBC's Song for Europe** again, this time with two songs co-written with **James Oliver** and performed by **Linda Carroll** and **James**. Appeared on **Wogan** and on **Song for Europe** itself. Produced masters for **Lismor, Alistair McDonald, Big George and the Bizness**. Became involved in more consultancy work commissioned by **Tennent Caledonian Breweries** as part of their music sponsorship plan. Further research conducted around the U.K. and America. Invited to speak at **Liverpool University** on the findings of the various research papers. Continued to gig and record with **Brooks** and **Kik House**. Entered negotiations to sell studio business to the group **Trash Can Sinatras** newly contracted to **Go-Discs (Polygram)**. Member had been studio employee. Relationship with studio maintained on a consultancy basis. Deal structured to be bought out over the coming years. Played piano on **The Trash Can Sinatras'** first album. Played piano on album for **Ian Bruce**. Moved to Edinburgh to "rest" and concentrate on developing a music portfolio of songs and instrumental compositions. Began academic study of the works of psychologist **C.G. Jung**.
- 1990** Recorded **Gaelforce** albums for **Lismor**. Album master and video for **Brooks** completed and distribution deal sought (unsuccessful). Continued to do live performances around Scotland. Finance sought for **Facilities House** project (unsuccessful). Approached by **Skyline Productions** to consider managing new film production company financed by **Polygram** (declined interest). Recorded masters for **Sammy Dennison, Paula McGhee** and **Joe Campbell**.
- 1991** Began working with band **Justice** and assisted in their achieving deal with **Chrysalis Publishing**. Asked to join the band (declined). Continued to do live performances with **Brooks** before disbanding. Invited by **Professor Simon Frith** at **Strathclyde University** to speak in Glasgow on a panel discussing the future of the music industry in Scotland (declined). Recorded live the music **Requiem for Lockerbie** for composer **Karen Wimhurst**. Formed the folk-rock band **Dalriada** and produced and arranged recordings of traditional songs released on CD and cassette on the **Iona Label**. Promoted the album around the media and record shops in Scotland and performed to sell out audience at the **Magnum Theatre, Irvine**. Generally co-ordinated all aspects of the project which was well received by the public, press and radio. Produced and arranged a series of traditional songs with actress and singer **Julia Gordon Smith**. Entered discussions with **Radio Clyde** and **Lismor Recordings** on the formation of a new record label and publishing company.
- 1992** Continued working relationship with **Justice** as producer/arranger in fulfilling their publishing agreement. Produced albums for **Avalon, The Gaelforce Orchestra, West Lothian Schools Brass**

**Band** (then European champions) and **The National Youth Orchestra of Scotland**. Gave talk on recording techniques to **The Glasgow Harpsichord Society**. Produced radio programme for **West Sound** on Beirut hostage **Tom Sutherland's** relationship with the poetry of Robert Burns for entry to the **Prix Italia** international radio awards. Wrote and produced radio commercials for **First Stop**. Conducted a survey for **Radio West Sound** on the output of the two major independent radio stations in Scotland with a view to pitching for the Central Scotland radio franchise. Discussions on proposed record label with Clyde and Lismor abandoned after six months of negotiations. Recorded album masters for **The Glasgow Gaelic Choir** and **The Linn Choir**.

- 1993** Produced album masters for **Kate Black, Alistair McDonald, The Gaelforce Orchestra, Shotts & Dykehead Pipe Band, Newtongrange Brass Band, The Linn Choir** and **The National Youth Orchestra of Scotland**. Collaborated with singer-songwriters **Fjaere Neilson** and **Brian Fitzpatrick** as producer and musical arranger. Recorded backing tracks for **Edinburgh Kings Theatre** pantomime with **Les Dennis** and for **Ayr Gaiety Theatre** summer season with **Alan Stewart**. Wrote and produced music for **The Edinburgh Art School's** entry to the **Fuji** film competition. Made live recordings of **Dominic Kirwan** and **Daniel O'Donnell** for radio broadcast. Began recreational study at **Edinburgh University** reading Philosophy & Politics.
- 1994** Produced album masters for **Alistair McDonald (2), The Linn Choir (2), Ian Bruce, Isabel Buchanan, The Kevock Choir, The 78th Fraser Highlanders Pipe Band, The Kirkliston Drambuie Pipe Band, Thoumire & McKenzie, Riverside Ceilidh Band, Hooliganz Ceilidh Band, MacTaggart Scott Loanhead Brass Band, Douglas Kynoch**. Remixed recordings of **The Humph Family** for album release. Began composing and arranging material for performing artists **Robbie Dale, Maggi Ballantyne, Melanie O'Reilly**. Recorded backing tracks for **Ayr Gaiety Theatre's** summer season with **Alan Stewart**. Produced and arranged songs for **Peter Morrison's** forthcoming album. Composed music for T.V. commercials for **C.R. Smith** and **What Everyone Wants** commissioned by **The Morgan Partnership**. Began songwriting partnership with **Joe Cowan** to assist in his contract with **Chrysalis Music**.
- 1995** Moved to East Lothian to set up small studio facility. Produced albums there for **The Tartan Amoebas, Alastair McDonald (2), Peter Morrison, The Kevock Choir, The Dunblane Handbell Ringers, The Linn Choir, Colin Forgrieve**. Produced music for a series of radio commercials for various clients. Wrote and produced music for **Three Minute Call** by **Toby Curnan** and for **Redlight Productions' Scottish Reporters** documentary. Recorded **The Big Elastic Band** live at the Renfrew Ferry.
- 1996** Produced albums for **White Heather Tubes, Alistair McDonald, The Linn Choir, Crooked Jack**. Recorded music for **Sidney Devine's** line dancing video. Recorded for broadcast **B.B.C.'s Songs of Praise** from the Glasgow Concert Hall. Provided facilities for **Bruce Davis, Macoomba** and **Wintonhill Animations**. Mastered compilation album for **Greentrax Recordings'** 10 years celebration. Wrote music and produced pieces for **David Livingstone Centre** album. Continued to compose material for **Dalriada** for future release.
- 1997** Moved back to Edinburgh. Application made to the **National Lottery** in support of funds for launching **Dalriada** as an educational project. Substantial research conducted along with pilot workshops. Initial application rejected but re-submission encouraged. Not followed up. Produced albums for **Kevock Choir, Linn Choir, Alistair McDonald**. Began production of **Dalriada** album for forthcoming release.

- 1998** Produced albums for **Newtongrange Silver Band (2)**. Made live recordings of **Kevock Choir** and **Linn Choir** annual concerts. Offered post at **Perth College** lecturing in music production (declined). Set up own production course. Completed **Dalriada's** album and formed **Qudisc** label for release. Album received widespread acclaim. Licensed to **Paradise Records** in US.
- 1999** Most of the year taken up with a new project titled **Rainmaker** in collaboration with graphic designer **Ian Roy**. Produced studio album for rock band **Harvest**. Recorded **Kevock Choir** annual concert for subsequent album release. New studio premises leased in Kilmarnock. Started another production course. Produced a co-wrote tracks with pop act **Industria**.
- 2000** Produced tracks for singer/songwriter **Paul Bryan**. Recorded album masters for **Newbattle School, Newtongrange Brass Band, Kevock Choir, Cadenza Choir**. Established new production company in Kilmarnock **Rainmaker-Sonic** backed by Ayrshire businessmen. Produced a series of new works moving back toward contemporary pop. Song written for US R&B artist **Rosie Gaines** picked up by **Pure Silk Records**. **Rainmaker** music project released by **Lyrical Scotland** on CD-ROMS alongside the photography of **Allan Wright**.
- 2001** Remix of 1970s hit **Back & Forth** picked up by **Warners**. Vocalist on the track **Alice Campbell** signed to production company. Publishing for rewritten parts of song signed to **Bucks Music**. Started work with vocalist **Carmen Musleh** also signed to company. Established business relationship with **Rosie Gaines'** manager **Scott Gibson**. **Dalriada's** album re-released on **Strathan Records**. Promotional work done on local radio. Interviewed on **Radio Scotland** to help promote **Lyrical's** CD-ROMS. Wrote and produced song with vocalist **Samantha Lea** for **Baker St. Records**. Began concentrating on developing portfolio of pop songs for future exploitation.