

Steve Smith guitarist / multi-instrumentalist / composer - biography



Steve Smith is one of today's pre-eminent contemporary guitar players. A multi-instrumentalist and composer, he is in international demand as a plucked instrument specialist.

In 1989 he performed in the Royal Opera House revival production of Sir Michael Tippett's *'The Knot Garden'* the previously unperformed electric guitar part. Steve Smith has since become a leading authority of Sir Michael's guitar works.

In 1996 he performed and recorded the premiere of American composer John Adams' clarinet concerto *'Gnarly Buttons'* with the London Sinfonietta and John Adams.

At the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, he was Simon Rattle's first choice on all plucked instruments. In 1998 he featured prominently in the Channel 4 Television series *'Leaving Home'*.

Steve has appeared many times at the BBC Proms Festival and many other international festivals.

As composer his works have been performed in the USA, France, Sweden, Finland and the UK. In 2006 he was commissioned by the National Gallery of Art, Washington DC, to score Anthony Asquith's 1928 silent film *'Underground'*.