



Martin Isherwood

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Dr Martin Isherwood is Director of the School of Music and head of songwriting at Paul McCartney's Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts (LIPA). Martin has many years' professional experience as a songwriter, producer and music entrepreneur. He has achieved top 20 UK chart success and received a number of songwriting awards including winning BBC Song for Europe in 2003. He has been Head of Music at LIPA since 2001.

Martin has served on the Boards of many music organisations and music centred urban regeneration projects including Inner City Music (Band on the Wall) and Merseyside Music Development Board. Martin has featured in many TV and radio programmes, on panels at music industry conferences, and presented songwriting papers at Higher Education conferences. In 2014 he researched and authored a report into the teaching of songwriting in HE commissioned by the published UK Higher Education Academy. Martin was awarded a PhD in 2019 for his thesis: 'Supporting Songwriting Practice in Higher Education and the Small Scale Independent Popular Music Sector' based on his practice over many years. Martin is a judge for the UK Songwriting Contest, has been a judge of the International Songwriters Day Contest for the last four years and has served as a judge for a number of contests and reviewer of Eurovision songs. You can discover more about LIPA, the Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts, at lipa.ac.uk