

= Andrea Corr =

Andrea Jane Corr MBE ( born 17 May 1974 ) is an Irish musician , songwriter , and actress . Corr debuted in 1990 as the lead singer of the Celtic folk rock and pop rock group The Corrs along with her three elder siblings Caroline , Sharon , and Jim . Aside from singing lead vocals Corr plays the tin whistle , the ukulele , and the piano .

With the others , Corr has released six studio albums , two compilation albums , one remix album and two live albums . Andrea has also pursuing a solo career , releasing her debut album , Ten Feet High , in 2007 . The album moved away from the sound of the Corrs and features a dance @-@ pop sound . Her next album , released on 30 May 2011 , was entirely made up of covers of songs that were important to her when younger .

Andrea is involved in charitable activities . She has played charity concerts to raise money for the Pavarotti & Friends Liberian Children 's Village , Freeman Hospital in Newcastle upon Tyne , England , the victims of the Omagh bombing in Northern Ireland and The Prince 's Trust in 2004 . She is an ambassador for the Nelson Mandela 's " 46664 " campaign , raising awareness towards AIDS in Africa . During the Edinburgh Live 8 on 2 July 2005 The Corrs performed " When the Stars Go Blue " alongside Bono to promote the Make Poverty History campaign . Along with her siblings , she was appointed an honorary M.B.E. in 2005 by Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain for her contribution to music and charity .

= = Early years = =

Andrea Corr was born to Gerry Corr , a manager of the payroll department of the Irish Electricity Supply Board ( the E.S.B. ) , and his wife , Jean , a housewife . She is the youngest of the four Corr children . The family was raised in Dundalk , Ireland . Gerry and Jean had their own band , Sound Affair , which played songs by ABBA and The Eagles in local pubs in Dundalk where they would often bring along their children .

With the encouragement of her parents , Andrea took up the tin whistle and was taught the piano by her father . Throughout their teenage years , she and her siblings would often practice in Jim 's bedroom at a house he had rented . Andrea sang lead vocals , Sharon played the violin and both Caroline and Jim played keyboards . Andrea took part in school plays at her school , Dundalk 's Dun Lughaidh convent .

= = Career = =

= = = The Corrs = = =

In 1990 she and her siblings formed a quartet called The Corrs . Their career launched in 1991 when they auditioned for the film The Commitments in which Andrea gained a speaking role as Sharon Rabbitte . John Hughes noticed the quartet when they auditioned for the movie , and agreed to become their manager . The Corrs signed with Atlantic Records in 1995 and travelled to North America to record their debut album Forgiven , Not Forgotten . The album featured six instrumental selections among its Celtic @-@ influenced tracks . When released , it was successful in Ireland , Australia , Japan , and Spain . The album reached platinum status in the United Kingdom and Australia , and quadruple platinum in Ireland , which made it one of the most popular debuts by an Irish group .

Following on from the success of their debut album , they released Talk on Corners and In Blue in 1997 and 2000 respectively . Originally Talk on Corners met with lukewarm success , until a remix version was released , when it topped the charts in many countries , and reached platinum status in the United Kingdom and Australia . In Blue moved towards mainstream pop , placing heavy emphasis on electronic synthesisers . It was successful , and was No. 1 in its first sales week in the UK , Ireland , Australia , Germany , Switzerland , and Austria and debuted at No. 2 in France and

Norway . It climbed to the top position during its second week in Sweden and Spain .

During the production of In Blue , their mother , Jean , died while waiting for a lung transplant in the Freeman Hospital in Newcastle , Britain . She was laid to rest at St. Patrick 's cemetery in Dundalk . Bono , Larry Mullen , Brian Kennedy and Paul Brady were among the attendees . " No More Cry " , written by Andrea and Caroline Corr for the album , was dedicated to their father hoping to help with his grief .

In 2003 , Andrea recorded " Time Enough For Tears " , a song written by Bono and Gavin Friday for the film In America . This track was featured on The Corrs ' 2004 album Borrowed Heaven . Borrowed Heaven was dedicated to their late mother , Jean , and their father , Gerry . The band also dedicated their 2005 tribute album Home to their deceased mother . The band covered many traditional Irish songs taken from their mother 's songbook to commemorate their 15 years as a band .

In an interview with Chris Evans in June 2015 , Andrea confirmed that The Corrs were working on a new album and would play the BBC Radio 2 ' Live in Hyde Park ' festival . Their sixth studio album , White Light , was released on 27 November 2015 , and was accompanied by a world tour .

= = = Solo career = = =

While her siblings were on hiatus to raise their families , Andrea launched a solo career . She released her first album , Ten Feet High , on 25 June 2007 . It was produced by Nellee Hooper , who has worked with Gwen Stefani and Madonna ; Bono was an executive producer . Her first single , " Shame on You " was an up @-@ tempo pop song about men and women going to war and leaving behind partners they may never see again . It received positive reviews from music critics ; IndieLondon described the song as a " slick package " that was " polished , well produced and with a message that 's difficult to ignore " . Losing Today 's David Adair gave the song a strong review , writing that Corr 's vocals were " crisp and uplifting " . Liverpool 's Daily Post gave the song a three @-@ star rating , commenting that it was " deceptively upbeat " , which masked its " heavier message about conscription and war " .

On 10 April 2009 Andrea announced on Claudia Winkleman 's BBC Radio 2 show that she would be releasing a second album of old songs and covers . She spoke of her disappointment and how ' gutted ' she had been when her 2007 album Ten Feet High had failed to gain commercial success . She also spoke at length of her experiences while acting in the play Dancing at Lughnasa and how it has given her hope for upcoming projects , including a second solo album of ' old songs ' :

I loved the play ; I saw its original production when I was a teenager so I really worked hard on it and tried to dispel any prejudices that might be there . I 'm sensitive about the idea of a singer @-@ turned @-@ actress , it could give across the impression that a celebrity gets bored and goes " hey , what 'll I do " and that 's really not where I 'm coming from , I 'm very passionate about this and I have been for a lot of years .

It 's a totally different experience , this is the real thing . Fortunately everybody ( in the play ) is incredibly talented ( and ) really lovely people too and it has been an incredible learning experience for me . It 's not my responsibility to draw ( the audience ) in , I just have to play the character . The way I would perform songs was always about the lyrics and always about trying to speak to everybody and make them watch and believe what I 'm saying and I suppose I 'm essentially doing that here but I 'm not looking at the audience I 'm obviously looking at the other actors . I 'm really happy to do this . I feel rejuvenated by it , I feel excited again . You 're very much alive , you 're very much in the moment , so I feel I 'm really living . After I released my solo record I felt really disappointed , I believed in the record I made but if you don 't have the back @-@ up of your record company investing and marketing it . It 's a really tough job and because I wrote the whole thing I really believed in this record , as did Nellee Hooper , I was jaded and disappointed . Last year I decided I 'm not doing music until I 'm excited again , then this came along and also I did end up making another record which I 'll release at some point . It 's just being mastered , it 's a lovely album ; I didn 't write this one , this is old songs and I have to sort out my situation- I don 't want the same problem as before .

I think everybody 's enjoyed doing their own thing . Sharon and Caroline are young mothers , they have young children . Our mother and father were really were great parents and they hope to be as good a mother as mine , but Sharon 's making her own record and will hopefully release it at some point . But we ( the band ) never finished , we 'll keep it open.'

In late January 2011 , her new album was announced for " early summer " , and a downloadable MP3 of her cover of John Lennon 's Number 9 Dream was made available to subscribers . Lifelines was released on 30 May . In the summer of 2012 , she re @-@ recorded the track " Pale Blue Eyes " ( which had first appeared on her album " Lifelines " ) with German electronic musician Christopher von Deylen , better known under his alias Schiller . It was released in Germany on 5 October on the Schiller album Sonne .

= = = Acting = = =

Andrea Corr entered the film industry in 1991 with Alan Parker 's film , The Commitments where she had a speaking part as Sharon Rabbitte . In 1996 , Parker was directing the film version of the rock opera Evita which starred Madonna . He was so keen on having Andrea in the film that he cast her as Juan Peron 's mistress . Corr provided the singing voice for Kayley in Warner Brothers ' first fully animated film , 1998 's The Quest for Camelot .

Corr resumed her acting career in 2003 where she was cast as Anne in The Boys from County Clare . The film was not a commercial success , but she won the Film Discovery Jury Award for Best Actress in the US Comedy Arts Festival and was nominated for Best Actress in the IFTA Awards . During the Corrs ' hiatus she was featured in the 2005 film The Bridge and the 2006 film Broken Thread . Corr appeared as Christina in the play Dancing at Lughnasa staged at The Old Vic theatre in London from February until May 2009 .

She played the title role in Jane Eyre by Alan Stanford at the Gate Theatre in Dublin which opened on 9 November 2010 .

= = Charitable activities = =

Andrea Corr and her siblings have played charity concerts to raise money for the Pavarotti & Friends Liberian Children 's Village , Freeman Hospital in Newcastle , the victims of the Omagh bombing in Northern Ireland , and The Prince 's Trust in 2004 . They are also ambassadors for the Nelson Mandela 's " 46664 " campaign , where they performed live to raise awareness towards AIDS in Africa . During the Edinburgh Live 8 on 2 July 2005 The Corrs performed " When the Stars Go Blue " alongside Bono to promote the Make Poverty History campaign . In recognition for their charity performances , The Corrs were made Honorary Members of the Order of the British Empire in 2005 by Queen Elizabeth II .

Corr also partook in a tribute single to the late member of The Dubliners , Ronnie Drew . Called " The Ballad of Ronnie Drew . " The song was released on 19 February 2008 and was performed by a number of famous Irish musicians . This included members of U2 , Sinéad O 'Connor Christy Dignam of Aslan , Robert Hunter of the Grateful Dead , who wrote the song , Kíla , Christy Moore , Moya Brennan , Shane MacGowan , Bob Geldof , Damien Dempsey , Gavin Friday , Iona Green , Jerry Fish , Paul Brady , Paddy Casey , Mick Pyro , Mundy , Chris de Burgh , Ronan Keating , Jack L , Eleanor Shanley , Mary Black , Declan O 'Rourke , Mary Coughlan , Joe Elliott of Def Leppard The Dubliners themselves and The Chieftains . The single was written to originally include Ronnie himself but was changed to be a tribute to him as his health was declining . Proceeds from sale of the single went to The Irish Cancer Society at the request of Drew himself . The song was performed live on The Late Late Show aired by RTE Entertainment on 22 February with Ronnie Drew in attendance as an audience member , and entered the Irish Single Charts at No. 2 .

On 10 October 2010 , Corr , amongst others , contributed to the Kirsty MacColl tribute concert held at Shepherd 's Bush Empire to commemorate MacColl 's birthday and raise money for charity . She also wrote and sang the song ' Oh Brother ' on the album ' Music of Ireland ? Welcome Home.'

On 30 November 2012 , Corr lent her support to Kate Winslet 's Golden Hat Foundation together

with Tim Janis , Sarah McLachlan , Loreena McKennitt , Hayley Westenra , performing on " The American Christmas Carol " concert in Carnegie Hall .

= = Personal life = =

Corr is married to Brett Desmond , son of billionaire Dermot Desmond . They married in St Joseph 's Church in Milltown Malbay , County Clare , Ireland on 21 August 2009 .

Sharon Corr and Caroline Corr sang " No Frontiers " at the wedding , and Damien Dempsey , Sharon Shannon and Seamus Begley also performed on stage in the church , as did Corr herself . In November 2011 , Corr 's first pregnancy was announced . Corr gave birth to daughter Jean on 28 April 2012 , and son Brett Jr. on 4 January 2014 .

= = Discography = =

= = = Studio albums = = =

= = = Singles = = =

= = Filmography = =

= = Stage roles = =