

= Ewan McGregor =

Ewan Gordon McGregor , OBE ( / ʔju??n m???r???r / ; born 31 March 1971 ) is a Scottish actor . His first professional role was in 1993 , when he won a leading role in the Channel 4 series Lipstick on Your Collar . He is best known for his roles as heroin addict Mark Renton in the drama Trainspotting ( 1996 ) , the young Jedi Obi @-@ Wan Kenobi in the Star Wars prequel trilogy ( 1999 ? 2005 ) , poet Christian in the musical film Moulin Rouge ! ( 2001 ) , and Dr. Alfred Jones in the romantic comedy @-@ drama Salmon Fishing in the Yemen ( 2011 ) .

He received Golden Globe nominations for Best Actor ? Musical or Comedy for both Moulin Rouge ! and Salmon Fishing in the Yemen . McGregor has also starred in theatre productions of Guys and Dolls ( 2005 ? 07 ) and Othello ( 2007 ? 08 ) . He was ranked No. 36 on Empire magazine 's " The Top 100 Movie Stars of All Time " list in 1997 . In 2010 he won Best Actor for playing the title role in Roman Polanski 's film The Ghost Writer at the 23rd European Film Awards .

= = Early life = =

McGregor was born in Perth , Scotland and brought up in Crieff . His mother , Carol Diane ( née Lawson ) , is a retired teacher of Crieff High School and latterly deputy head teacher of Kingspark School in Dundee . His father , James Charles Stewart " Jim " McGregor , is a retired physical education teacher and careers master of Morrison 's Academy , Crieff . He has an older brother , Colin ( b . 1969 ) , who is a former Tornado GR4 pilot in the Royal Air Force . He is the nephew of actor Denis Lawson ( who also appeared in the Star Wars franchise , as Rebel Alliance pilot Wedge Antilles ) and actress Sheila Gish , and the step @-@ cousin of actress Lou Gish on his mother 's side of the family . McGregor attended the independent Morrison 's Academy in Crieff . After leaving school , at the age of 16 , he worked as a stagehand at Perth Repertory Theatre and studied a foundation course in drama at Kirkcaldy College of Technology , before moving to London to study drama at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama when he was 18 years old .

= = Career = =

= = = Film and television = = =

In 1993 , six months prior to his graduation from Guildhall , McGregor won a leading role in Dennis Potter 's six @-@ part Channel 4 series Lipstick on Your Collar . The same year , he starred in the BBC adaptation of Scarlet and Black with a young Rachel Weisz , and made his film debut in Bill Forsyth 's Being Human . In 1994 , McGregor performed in the thriller Shallow Grave , for which he won an Empire Award , and which marked his first collaboration with director Danny Boyle . His international breakthrough followed in 1996 with the role of heroin addict Mark Renton in Boyle 's Trainspotting , an adaptation of Irvine Welsh 's novel of the same name .

McGregor played the male romantic lead role in the 1998 British film Little Voice . In 1999 , McGregor starred in the blockbuster Star Wars : Episode I ? The Phantom Menace as the young Obi @-@ Wan Kenobi , a role originally made famous by Sir Alec Guinness in the original Star Wars trilogy . His uncle , Denis Lawson , had played Wedge Antilles in the original trilogy . In 2001 , he starred in Moulin Rouge ! as the young poet Christian , who falls in love with the terminally @-@ ill courtesan Satine , played by Nicole Kidman . McGregor reprised his role of Obi @-@ Wan Kenobi for the subsequent prequel Star Wars : Episode II ? Attack of the Clones in 2002 . In 2003 , he starred alongside Renée Zellweger in Down With Love . He also portrayed the younger Edward Bloom in the critically acclaimed film Big Fish alongside Albert Finney , Jessica Lange , Alison Lohman and Billy Crudup . During that year , he also received critical acclaim for his portrayal of an amoral drifter mixed up with murder in the drama Young Adam , which co @-@ starred Tilda Swinton .

In 2005 , McGregor appeared for the final time as Obi @-@ Wan Kenobi in Star Wars : Episode III

? Revenge of the Sith . He took very special care ? especially in Revenge of the Sith ? to ensure that his portrayal of Obi @-@ Wan 's mannerisms , speech timings and accents closely resembled Alec Guinness ' version . That same year , McGregor voiced two successful animated features ; he played the robot Rodney Copperbottom in Robots , which also featured the voices of Halle Berry and Robin Williams , and he voiced the lead character in Gary Chapman 's Valiant , alongside Jim Broadbent , John Cleese and Ricky Gervais . Also in 2005 , McGregor played two roles ? one a clone of the other ? opposite Scarlett Johansson in Michael Bay 's science fiction action thriller film The Island . He also headlined Marc Forster 's 2005 film Stay , a psychological thriller co @-@ starring Naomi Watts and Ryan Gosling .

In 2006 , he narrated the Fulldome production Astronaut , created for the National Space Centre . That same year , he also narrated the STV show JetSet , a six @-@ part series following the lives of trainee pilots and navigators at RAF Lossiemouth as they undergo a gruelling six @-@ month course learning to fly the Tornado GR4 , the RAF 's primary attack aircraft . In 2007 , McGregor starred opposite Colin Farrell in the Woody Allen film Cassandra 's Dream . In 2009 , he co @-@ starred with Jim Carrey in I Love You Phillip Morris and appeared in Amelia alongside Hilary Swank . Also in 2009 , he portrayed Camerlengo Patrick McKenna in Angels & Demons , the film adaptation of Dan Brown 's novel of the same name . McGregor is scheduled to co @-@ star with Daniel Craig in Dan Harris ' upcoming film adaptation of Glen Duncan 's novel I , Lucifer . At the 2011 Seattle International Film Festival , he was awarded with the SIFF Golden Space Needle Award for Outstanding Achievement in Acting .

In 2012 , he was named as a member of the Jury for the Main Competition at the 2012 Cannes Film Festival . At the San Sebastián International Film Festival , he was awarded the Donostia Lifetime Achievement Award and became the youngest recipient of the award .

In 2015 , he starred in the film Mortdecai , alongside Johnny Depp , Olivia Munn , and Paul Bettany .

On 21 April 2015 , it was announced that McGregor would play Lumiere in the live @-@ action version of Disney 's Beauty and the Beast , directed by Bill Condon . He joins a cast that includes Emma Watson ( Belle ) , Dan Stevens ( Beast / Prince ) , Luke Evans ( Gaston ) , Josh Gad ( Lefou ) , Ian McKellen ( Cogsworth ) , Emma Thompson ( Mrs. Potts ) , Kevin Kline ( Maurice ) and Audra McDonald ( Garderobe ) . Filming began in May 2015 at Shepperton Studios in London . The film is scheduled to be released in March 2017 .

In 2017 , he will reprise his role as Mark Renton in T2 : Trainspotting 2 .

== = Theatre == =

From November 1998 to March 1999 , McGregor starred as Malcolm Scrawdyke in a production of David Halliwell 's Little Malcolm and His Struggles Against the Eunuchs , directed by his uncle , Denis Lawson . The play was first staged at the Hampstead Theatre before transferring to the Comedy Theatre in London 's West End . In November 2001 , McGregor made a cameo appearance in The Play What I Wrote .

From June 2005 to April 2007 , McGregor starred alongside Jane Krakowski , Douglas Hodge and Jenna Russell in the original Donmar Warehouse production of Guys and Dolls at the Piccadilly Theatre in London . He played the leading role of Sky Masterson , made famous by Marlon Brando in the film of the same name . McGregor received the LastMinute.com award for Best Actor for his performance in 2005 , and he was nominated for a Laurence Olivier Award for Best Actor in a Musical in 2007 .

From December 2007 to February 2008 , McGregor starred as Iago in Othello at the Donmar Warehouse alongside Chiwetel Ejiofor as Othello and Kelly Reilly as Desdemona . He reprised the role on BBC Radio 3 in May 2008 .

== = Motorbike journeys == =

A motorcyclist since his youth , McGregor undertook a marathon international motorbike trip with his

best friend Charley Boorman and cameraman Claudio von Planta in 2004 . From mid April to the end of July , they travelled from London to New York via central Europe , Ukraine , Kazakhstan , Mongolia , Siberia , Canada and the United States on BMW R1150GS Adventure motorbikes , for a cumulative distance of 22 345 miles ( 35 960 km ) . The trip included visits to several UNICEF programs along the route , and formed the basis of a television series and a best selling book , both called Long Way Round .

The Long Way Round team reunited in 2007 for another motorcycle trip from John o ' Groats in Scotland to Cape Town in South Africa . The journey , entitled Long Way Down , lasted from 12 May until 5 August 2007 . McGregor 's brother Colin joined the motorcycle team during the early stages of the Long Way Down journey , and his father Jim also rode on sections of both Long Way Round and Long Way Down .

McGregor appeared in a two part BBC documentary in April 2012 entitled Ewan McGregor : Cold Chain Mission in which he travels by motorbike , boat , plane and foot to deliver vaccines to children in remote parts of India , Nepal and the Republic of Congo . The trip was part of his work as a UNICEF Ambassador .

In a June 2015 interview , McGregor indicated that a long discussed South American trip with Boorman was still in the planning stages , but he expected that an excursion through Baja California Peninsula would take place first .

= = Personal life = =

McGregor has been married since 1995 to Eve Mavrakis , a French production designer , whom he met on the set of Kavanagh QC . They have four daughters : Clara Mathilde McGregor ( b . 1996 ) , Esther Rose McGregor ( b . 2001 ) , Jamyan McGregor ( b . 2001 ) , and Anouk McGregor ( b . 2011 ) . In 2006 , McGregor and his wife adopted Jamyan from Mongolia , where he spent time during the Long Way Round journey in 2004 . McGregor has a heart and dagger tattoo of the names of his wife and daughters on his right arm . The family currently resides in Los Angeles , California after moving from London .

McGregor is involved in charity work , including with UNICEF and GO Campaign . During the Long Way Round journey in 2004 , McGregor and his travelling companions saw some of UNICEF 's work in Ukraine , Kazakhstan and Mongolia , and during the Long Way Down trip in 2007 , he and Charley Boorman did work for UNICEF in Africa . McGregor hosted the annual Hollywood gala for GO Campaign in 2009 and 2010 . He has also worked with the Children 's Hospice Association Scotland , as featured in Long Way Down . In 2012 , McGregor travelled with UNICEF immunisation workers to remote parts of India , Nepal and the Republic of Congo for a BBC2 documentary entitled Ewan McGregor : Cold Chain Mission .

In June 2015 , McGregor read Hans Christian Andersen 's " The Little Match Girl " for the children 's fairytales app GivingTales in aid of UNICEF , together with Roger Moore , Stephen Fry , Joan Collins , Joanna Lumley , Michael Caine , David Walliams , Charlotte Rampling and Paul McKenna .

In 2007 , on an episode of Parkinson , McGregor stated that he had given up alcohol after a period where he was arguably a functioning alcoholic , and that he had not had a drink in seven years . In 2008 , he had a cancerous mole removed from underneath his right eye .

= = Filmography = =

= = = Film = = =

= = = Television = = =

= = Theatre = =

= = Awards and nominations = =

McGregor was appointed Officer of the Order of the British Empire ( OBE ) in the 2013 New Year Honours for services to drama and charity .

= = Discography = =

" Choose Life " with PF Project , Trainspotting # 2 : Music from the Motion Picture , Vol . # 2 , 1997 .

" TV Eye " with Wylde Ratttz , Velvet Goldmine : Music from the Original Motion Picture , 1999 .

" Come What May " with Nicole Kidman , Moulin Rouge ! Music from Baz Luhrmann 's Film , 2001 .

" Elephant Love Medley " with Nicole Kidman , Moulin Rouge ! Music from Baz Luhrmann 's Film , 2001 .

" El Tango de Roxanne " with Jose Feliciano , Moulin Rouge ! Music from Baz Luhrmann 's Film , 2001 .

" Your Song " with Alessandro Safina , Moulin Rouge ! Music from Baz Luhrmann 's Film , 2001 .

" Here 's To Love " with Renée Zellweger , Down With Love : Music from and Included in the Motion Picture , 2003 .

" The Sweetest Gift " , Unexpected Dreams ? Songs From the Stars , 2006 .