

= Adrian Crowley =

Adrian Crowley is a singer @-@ songwriter from Galway , based in Dublin and was born in Sliema , Malta .

Beginning his career at the age of 25 , Crowley has released six albums , with his debut A Strange Kind arriving in 1999 . He followed this with When You Are Here You Are Family ( 2002 ) , A Northern Country ( 2004 ) , Long Distance Swimmer ( 2007 ) , Season of the Sparks ( 2009 ) and " I See Three Birds Flying " ( 2012 ) In a 2005 Rolling Stone interview , Ryan Adams cited Crowley when asked " Who 's the best songwriter that no one 's heard of " . The Irish Times placed this artist at number eight in a list of " The 50 Best Irish Acts Right Now " published in April 2009 .

Crowley has won the Choice Music Prize for Irish Album of the Year on one occasion for Season of the Sparks and been nominated on two another occasion for Long Distance Swimmer and " I See Tree Birds Flying " .

= = Early life = =

Crowley is from a multicultural background , ( his father is Irish and mother is Maltese ) He was born in Sliema in Malta but reared in Galway . Crowley 's parents met in Africa and the family spent time in Sierra Leone , Cameroon and Malta . After his birth his family departed Malta for Cameroon . Crowley has been based in Dublin since the 1990s but has also spent time living in France .

= = Career = =

Crowley was a late developer as a musician , having originally spent time on other pursuits , such as studying architecture , painting and photography . Alongside this he wrote songs but did not perform his first show until the age of 25 , some days after finding material he had written in the early 1990s in his attic . He departed from a career in photography around 2004 to enter the music profession on a full @-@ time basis .

Crowley released his debut album A Strange Kind independently in 1999 . The song " Capricorn " was played regularly on No Disco that year . When You Are Here You Are Family followed in 2002 , being recorded at the Electrical Audio studios of one of his heroes , Steve Albini , in Chicago . This successful spell in the United States inspired him to begin communicating with American record labels .

He joined the label Ba Da Bing who were keen to produce his next two albums . A Northern Country was due for release in on 2 July 2004 , though was delayed before appearing on a smaller label with little publicity . Crowley later referred to A Northern Country as " the least ceremonious album of them all " .

Long Distance Swimmer was released as soon as it was recorded as , according to Crowley , he became " fed up waiting " . It was recorded with engineer Stephen Shannon . The record received positive reviews and was nominated for the Choice Music Prize . The NME said it was " a lo @-@ furnished , snug , auburn @-@ tinged folk album which calls to mind Bill Callahan , Johnny Cash , and Edwyn Collins " . The Irish Independent 's John Meagher named it his favourite album of 2007 and sixteenth best Irish album of the decade , while his colleague Eamon Sweeney suggested Crowley 's record was one of the few Irish albums preventing that year from being " an absolute stinker " . It was around this time that Crowley began working with The Fence Collective and members of Halfset . He featured on the edition of 12 March 2008 of the sixth series of Other Voices . Also that month , he performed a residency at Whelan 's .

Season of the Sparks was released on 24 April 2009 and featured an expanded palette of instruments including marxophone , shruti box , upright harmonium , viola de gamba , baroque viola . It was generally well received by critics in both and Ireland and the UK , and , so pleased was the reviewer with the French magazine Les Inrockuptibles that he wrote a letter of thanks to Crowley . He was also one of the first acts to be announced for Electric Picnic 2010 .

= = Other work = =

Crowley collaborated with Estel on " Electric Eels " , a track from the 2003 album A Guide in Time of Great Danger . He performed at the Elliott Smith Memorial Tribute Show in Dublin on 19 January 2004 . He has performed with James Yorkston on several occasions . The pair have recorded an eight track mini @-@ album as a tribute to Daniel Johnston . Crowley also curates the Homelights Festival in Dublin . He is also interested in film and has composed a number of scores . He is responsible for scoring the Irish feature film , ' Where The Sea Used To Be ' directed by Paul Farren . His song , ' The Wishing Seat ' prominently features in the award winning feature film , ' Love Eternal ' ( 2014 ) directed by Brendan Muldowney and stars Pollyanna Mackintosh and Robert de Hoog .

= = Style = =

Crowley 's style has been compared to that of Bill Callahan , Nick Drake and Tim Buckley , while Irish Independent reviewer Eamon Sweeney has said the singer is " a master of understatement " . The vocals of Noah and the Whale 's Charlie Fink are said to be reminiscent of Crowley 's . As well as singing Crowley plays the electric guitar and the Rhodes piano ; he never plays the acoustic guitar . He experiences music while he sleeps :

= = Discography = =

Adrian Crowley has released seven albums .  
A Strange Kind ( 1999 )  
When You Are Here You Are Family ( 2002 )  
A Northern Country ( 2004 )  
Long Distance Swimmer ( 2007 )  
Season of the Sparks ( 2009 )  
I See Three Birds Flying ( 2012 )  
Some Blue Morning ( 2014 )

= = Band members = =

The following have performed with Crowley .  
Mary Barneclutt -Cello  
Katie Kim - vocals  
Jeff Martin ? Guitar  
Steven Shannon ? Bass guitar  
Cillian Mc Donnell ? Drums  
Kevin Murphy ? Cello  
Marja Tuhkanen Gaynor ? Viola , violin , viola de gamba , viol  
Adem Ilhan ? Harmonium , vocals , percussion  
Kate Ellis ? Cello  
Thomas Haugh ? Drums , zither  
Andrew Bushe ? Drums  
Sarah Fox ? Bass guitar , double bass , vocals  
Emma Smith ? Violin , vocals  
Vince Sipprell ? Viola  
Cameron Miller ? Bass guitar , double bass , vocals  
Sarah Jones ? Drums  
Christopher Mayo ? Bass guitar  
James Yorkston ? Concertina , guitar , vocals  
Alex Neilson ? Drums

Otto Hauser ? Drums  
Jesse Sparhawk ? Bass guitar  
Viking Moses  
Dave Hingerty - drums  
Bill Blackmore - flugelhorn , trumpet

= = Awards = =

The Irish Times placed Crowley at number eight in a list of " The 50 Best Irish Acts Right Now " published in April 2009 , noting his " majestic songs , rich voice and subtle blend of atmospherics and master @-@ level wordplay " .

In a 2005 Rolling Stone interview , Ryan Adams cited Crowley when asked " Who 's the best songwriter that no one 's heard of " .

= = = Choice Music Prize = = =

Long Distance Swimmer was nominated for the Choice Music Prize for Irish Album of the Year 2007 but lost to Super Extra Bonus Party 's Super Extra Bonus Party LP .

Season of the Sparks won the Choice Music Prize for Irish Album of the Year 2009 . Crowley received a prize of ? 10 @,@ 000 cheque . He described himself as " totally flabbergasted " , adding " I didn 't really think it was the sort of record that was going to win awards " . Crowley promised to use the money to fund his music . He was one of eight nominees who performed at the awards ceremony . He is a friend of fellow nominee Valerie Francis .