

**RONALD OWEN:**  
**Full Bio: 559 Words**

Ronald Owen is an award-winning gifted composer, lyricist, producer, and orchestrator who uses his talent to shape culture for good. With a passion for music and the arts, Ronald is a collaborative leader who strives for excellence in the concert hall, in the studio, and on the stage.

Notable works include original motion picture soundtracks for *Beyond the Gates of Splendor* (2002), *End of the Spear* (2005); multi-genre musical stage work *Requiem for a Young Man* (2012); and award-winning song and music video "Let Them Live" (2017).

As an imaginative composer and creative lyricist, Ronald has written numerous vocal works for soloists, ensembles and choral groups. He has also composed several musical stage works and scores for both feature films and documentaries and has conducted and produced recording sessions in Los Angeles, Seattle, Cleveland, Orlando, Nashville, New York, Budapest and Prague.

Born in West Hollywood, CA, and raised in the Los Angeles area, Ronald spent much of his youth outdoors, close to nature. Since an early age, his music and poetry have been inspired by these formative years spent surfing and hiking along the coast of Southern California.

In his teenage years Ronald was active in writing for and forming contemporary youth music groups. Based from his home church, the groups toured Southern California with the inspirational message of the Gospel. As a young adult serving as Minister of Music in Washington State, he continued writing and working with contemporary groups that toured throughout the Northwestern United States. In the summer of 1985, Ronald led a group of musicians behind the Iron Curtain with evangelist Sammy Tippit. The music they created and performed brought healing and hope to the thousands of persecuted Christians in communist-dominated countries. Vivid memories of leading worship in the bomb-damaged rubble of an East German cathedral, packed with enthusiastic youth, have shaped and fortified Ronald's personal faith through the years.

In the early 2000s, Ronald was asked by the producers and Steve Saint, son of the missionary Nate Saint, who was killed in Ecuador, to write the music that would accompany the documentary. During a pre-production trip, recordings of Ronald's demo music were taken to Ecuador where the music was played for Kimo, one of the leaders of the Waodani. As he listened, Kimo exclaimed, "I have heard that before, long ago. That is what I heard, just like that when your father died." (After Nate Saint and the other four missionaries were killed.)

Ronald's formal education began at Pepperdine University Malibu where he received his Bachelor of Arts in Music Composition. He then went on to complete graduate studies at California State University Northridge where he earned a Master of Arts in Music Composition under the instruction of Dr. Daniel Kessner, Dr. Frank Campo and Dr. Aurelio de la Vega—all renowned composers in their own right.

Ronald also studied choral conducting with John Alexander, Assistant Conductor of The Los Angeles Master Chorale, as well as orchestral conducting with Hansel Rayner, Musical Director of The Burbank Symphony Orchestra and Jahja Ling, Associate Conductor of the Cleveland Orchestra.

When he is not composing, Ronald enjoys spending time with his wife and family and enjoying the outdoors, especially surfing. He has taken more than two dozen surfing trips to Hawaii and has ridden waves up and down the East and West Coasts, in Costa Rica, and elsewhere.

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