

Author Biography

During the 90s Giles was lead singer of pop group Upside Down, achieving four top twenty hit records, performing on Top of the Pops and at such venues as the Royal Albert Hall, N.E.C. and Wembley Arena. As a singer songwriter he toured two years in Europe and has made music videos all over the world, from Prague, Miami, Mexico, and the Swiss Alps, to Bognor Regis! He has worked as a model, appearing in TV commercials and ads for the likes of Walls Ice Cream (he was the Magnum Man) Canon, and two brands of lager! He has been an advertising copywriter and lived for nearly three years in New York, writing copy for movie marketing company Empire Design but mainly working on his first novel.

Giles burst on to the historical fiction scene in 2009 with *Raven: Blood Eye*, the first book in a series of novels that followed the fortunes of a young warrior and his band of Viking brothers. It immediately struck a chord with Giles' peers – Bernard Cornwell called it 'astonishing and riveting' – and critics and readers alike and it went on to become one of the UK's top 5 bestselling hardback historical debuts of the year. Two further equally acclaimed and successful novels followed – *Sons of Thunder* and *Odin's Wolves* – and have firmly established Giles as one of the very best of a new generation of British historical novelists – a writer winning plaudits not only for his robust storytelling skills and sense of history, but also for the passion he feels for his subject and the quality of his writing. Manda Scott, the much admired and respected author of the *Boudicca* novels, has pronounced Giles' *Raven* saga 'one of the best Viking series of all time' and 'tale-telling at its rip-roaring best', while fellow bestselling young historical Turk, Ben Kane, calls him 'a great storyteller'. And if more evidence of that were needed, Giles' Viking novels have now sold nearly 100,000 copies in the UK alone, with international rights deals having been made in the USA, Spain, Russia, Czech Republic and Norway.

Meanwhile, Giles has turned to the 17th century for the inspiration for his new series. April 26th 2012 sees the launch of *The Bleeding Land*, an epic new trilogy set against the tumultuous backdrop of the bloody civil war that tore this country apart. Tony Riches, bestselling author of the *Empire* series, calls it 'Outstanding. A Tour de force.' And Manda Scott says it's 'a book that will appeal to passionate, compassionate readers, men and women alike, fans of CJ Sansom as much as fans of Lindsey Davis. Read it: you'll love every page.'