

THE BRIEF

February 2., 2020.

Dear Contestant!

In a real-life situation, a job normally starts with the plan by the movie director/producer. They tell you their visions and feelings they want to expose within the movie and the score, and you have to translate those feelings to the language of music. Since we are only simulating this conversation between you and the director, it is your task not to lose track of the plan. At different stages, it can be really helpful to ask for feedback from a test audience (friends, family, etc.), whether your work-in-progress cue is aiming for the right sonic colors or just simply overwhelming the movie.

So let's get to it!

Brief

1. Notes from the Director

Since this is a short movie clip with no textual elements, it is important for the music and images to be even in the majority of the clip. However, there may be parts in which the image is more dominant than the music itself. At the outset, I want to reflect on the vast size of this endless zone of nature. Some of the accentual images can be safely underpinned by more dramatic musical motifs. Despite that the wonders of the peaceful rainforest, untouched in many places, evoke a harmonious atmosphere, it is crucial to perceive the drama, that ominous signs are popping up in more and more places and if we do not preserve this natural treasure, we humans will destroy what gives almost the basic conditions of our lives. The goal should be to achieve a feeling at the end of the movie, how much value humanity is destroying every day. The viewers should stand up from their chairs after the movie with tension, questions and some food for thought.

2. Basic instruction

- 2.1. Compose multiple, short cues or a single, longer one that fits the most to the movie's atmosphere.
- 2.2. Listen to your whole track and examine if it is a nice, coherent piece!
- 2.3. If your arrangement is connecting well to the movie, create your instrumentation with all the depth that you think is required to emphasize the movie's message.
- 2.4. (Optional) Mix and master your track to sound more convincing, try to reach for higher standards. Using reference songs can help a lot!

3. Export and send

- 3.1. Export your master audio file. (48KHz, 24 bit, WAV)
- 3.2. Export your movie with the synced audio. (If your DAW allows it, you can do these two steps at once.) (MP4 or MOV)
- 3.3. Upload it:
 - 3.3.1. to your YouTube channel. (More details below at the *Upload Help* section) **AND**
 - 3.3.2. to a cloud storage, then create a download link to the file. (More details below at the *Upload Help* section)
- 3.4. Send your submission (YouTube link AND the download link to the file) to us until March 15th, 2020., 10.00 a.m. GMT+1 at this link:
<https://scoretheworld.com/upload-your-work-here/>

Upload Help

For YouTube:

1. Open YouTube and click upload in the upper right corner!
2. Drag and drop your video file (with your synced audio)!
3. You should give some key information to your video:
 - 3.1. Title:
Score The World contest - [Your Name] - Submission
 - 3.2. Description:
This is [Your Name]'s submission to the Score The World film scoring contest.
This video was created purely for educational purposes, monetizing the content is strictly prohibited.
2020 Score The World film scoring contest - All rights reserved
 - 3.3. Audience: Made NOT for children (COPPA)
 - 3.4. More Options/Tags:
#scoretheworld #musiccontest #amazonwatch
 - 3.5. Category: **Education**
 - 3.6. Video Elements/Publish now: here you are free to upload it as “**Public**”, you can share it with anyone or upload as “**Unlisted**”

For cloud storage:

You can use any cloud storage services like Google Drive, Microsoft OneDrive, Dropbox, WeTransfer or Mega, that you are able to use. The name of your movie file must be **only your contest ID** that you receive from us. Upload the file and create a public download link without password protection.

Vision and planning

We encourage you to create an action plan and a clear vision before starting the actual work. A vision may contain the mood, tempo, and instrumentation of your cue and also may determine that you compose a piece for a string quartet or a synthesized atmosphere. During the planning stage, you may want to start with finding sync points in the movie. These points will help you to easily see through the task, and find where to change the mood, tempo, use silence, etc. After your plan is complete, we highly suggest to write it down and stick to these notes through the whole composition process.

Since the contest's movie is a short cut of the whole, longer movie, we also suggest not to overcomplicate the composition but use as many elements as you feel necessary to expose the message.

These key questions might come handy during the planning phase:

Where will be music during the film, where will be silent parts?

What kind of soundscape will you use? (solo instruments, symphonic mockup, electro/synth-based stuff, atmos only, etc)

What kind of mood will you aim for during your composition? You may have a complete mood board? (Since this is a small sheet it is not obligatory.)

What tempo fits the movie best? How will your storyboard look like?

Will you use temp songs or reference tracks and which ones?

Important rules

- You can only use your own composition. Please note that in case you use someone else's audio material, you will be disqualified (with no refunding).
- You can use lyrical/choral composition as well.
- Our movie has an original audio track which includes foley and noisescap. We give you free choice if you use it or not, since it is not mandatory. If you use it, you can edit the audio in any way. No prohibitions on this.
- You can use any kind of instrumentation, soundscape, texture, sampled or synthesized devices.
- You can not cut or change the tempo of the original movie.
- You can not use the movie for commercial purposes, all rights of the movie belong to Score The World contest and Robert Kiss.
- If you use collaborative material, please make a note.
- After uploading your work, we will not accept any changes and new versions.

USEFUL LINKS

First, here you can download the movie for the scoring task: [LINK](#)

Furthermore, here you can find a few links that contain useful technical information and know-how about film scoring.

Professional in-depth scoring, composition and instrumentation lessons from Mike Verta:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/MikeVerta>

Music production tips and tutorials:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/thinkspaceeducation/videos>

Amazing film score deconstructions, midi mockups by Ashton Gleckman:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9Z0p8W-lvB_2K_cAQdf7bg

Professional production and mixing tips from our other jury member, Joel Dollie:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkFQazrtOcf6f6q9IPSF0KQ/videos>

Tons of cool tips about music creation in different aspects by the Evenant team:
<https://www.evenant.com/music>

Royalty-free production samples and SFX (not necessary to use):
https://offers.adobe.com/en/na/audition/offers/audition_dlc.html
<https://www.soundshockaudio.com/free-foley-sample-packs/>

Here you can find a nice walkthrough about how a film score is made:
<https://www.spitfireaudio.com/editorial/features/scoring-a-film/part1/>
<https://www.spitfireaudio.com/editorial/features/scoring-a-film-part2/>

A professional walkthrough about foley and effect creation:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CggZlhTMo48>

Evaluation

All the entries will be reviewed in anonymous conditions: the jury will get the videos labeled only with your contest IDs and evaluate the compositions according to the following criteria system. To each criterion you will get a score from 1 to 10. 10 means that you perfectly fulfilled that criterion, 1 means that you missed a lot of points according to that aspect.

STAGE I.: Evaluation of 200+ contestants, qualification for the TOP 50:

<i>CRITERION 1.</i>	The fulfillment of The Brief
	(How exactly did you follow the brief? Did you follow all the rules?)
<i>CRITERION 2.</i>	The level of storytelling
	(How well the music was able to tell a story, compliment or contrast the message of the film?)
<i>CRITERION 3.</i>	Audio and mix quality
	(How comprehensive and perspicuous is your soundscape? Are the different layers articulated well? Is the quality of the sound up to date?)
<i>CRITERION 4.</i>	Instrumentation quality
	(How comprehensive is your instrumentation? We are focusing on the depth of the different layers, the quality of the melodic and harmonic structure, and if there were any clashes between the instruments.)

STAGE II.: Evaluation of the TOP 50 (the first 4 is the same as Stage I.):

<i>CRITERION 1.</i>	The fulfillment of The Brief
	(How exactly did you follow the brief? Did you follow all the rules?)
<i>CRITERION 2.</i>	The level of storytelling
	(How well the music was able to tell a story, compliment or contrast the message of the film?)
<i>CRITERION 3.</i>	Audio and mix quality
	(How comprehensive and perspicuous is your soundscape? Are the different layers articulated well? Is the quality of the sound up to date?)
<i>CRITERION 4.</i>	Instrumentation quality
	(How comprehensive is your instrumentation? We are focusing on the depth of the different layers, the quality of the melodic and harmonic structure, and if there were any clashes between the instruments.)
<i>CRITERION 5.</i>	Standalone quality
	(The best film scores are not just giving extra color and accents to the movie, but can be a standalone piece, that people could listen. How satisfying is to listen to your theme without the scene?)
<i>CRITERION 6.</i>	The level of coherence according to movie's dynamics
	(A good score underlines the movie scene, but do not overwhelm it. How well did your music follow and reflect the scene's atmosphere and emotions?)

Announcement and other important dates

The submission deadline is **15th March 2020, 10 a.m. GMT+1**. We cannot accept any submission after this date. There is no use to send different versions, we will only accept the first one we receive from you.

The evaluation period is between **16th March 2020 - 1st April 2020**.

The announcement of the winners is **2nd April 2020**.

All of the participants will receive their points and placements with short feedback on the next day: **3rd April 2020**.

The Top 50 will get the personalized, detailed feedback on **4th April 2020**.

Your experience is really important for us so we will send you an evaluation sheet about the contest and will ask you kindly to fulfill it to make us able to create even better music contests. We will send this on **5th April 2020** which is also the day of closing the contest.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us (mail@scoretheworld.com), and we will do our best to answer you as soon as possible!

Happy Scoring,

The STW Team