

Thomas Marek

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Profile

With 8 years of composing experience and First Class Honours in Music Composition, I am an extremely versatile and talented composer. Although my speciality resides in writing orchestral music, my work for various projects over the years has helped me to incorporate many other styles and genres. I have excelled, with industry-level experience, in orchestration and copying on the Sibelius notation program and I am extremely proficient, using Logic Studio 8. I have perfect pitch and a great ear for music and for what works musically. I am very sensitive to the needs of every project I work on, and always strive to create music that will have the biggest impact on its audience. I never take a 'that will do' approach, and am hungry to prove myself as a very capable and gifted composer.

Film/TV Projects

'Joanna Vassa' (Clapham South Productions) – *Composer (Post-Production)*

- This short film is based around the life of the daughter of Gustavus Vassa; a pioneer in the abolition of the slave trade. It focuses on her financial and social struggle following her father's death and the music I have written for this mirrors this. She actually played the violin, so I've incorporated the violin as very much a solo instrument within the score; particularly the haunting and emotional title piece.

'Girlguiding UK' (The Creative Orchestra) - *Composer*

- 'I was one of a selected few, chosen to write a piece for an advert for the Girl Guides. The idea was we would all write our own music to the same advert; showcasing talent and diversity among young musicians. The footage had a bleak message, so I went for a big and epic sound that I felt would amplify the advert's message. My music received much acclaim from both organisers and fans.

'The Artifice' (Fortune Frames Ltd.) - *Composer*

- 'The Artifice' has almost evolved into an online world, with over 4 million likes on its Facebook page. I have been on board since very early on in the project and have written various pieces for the company, including writing music for the project's teaser trailer. The music for this piece in particular was for it to have a massive impact on the audience. It encompasses styles varying from Indian and Japanese music through to heavy rock with choirs; from aleatoric "disorientating" music to juxtaposing solo voice: the general feel for this trailer was to be "epic" on many levels.

'The Devil and David' (Second Hand Smoke Productions) - *Composer*

- A nine-minute short film about a man in a coma following a drink-drive car crash. He must beat the Devil in a game of poker in order to reclaim both the life of his girlfriend, as well as his own. I created an eerie, unsettling score, with many advanced orchestral techniques. I also used a pitched-down male voice for much of the Devil's theme to help create a sinister feel to the music.

'Pleasant Grove' (Dogbite Pictures) - *Composer*

- This is a very emotional and powerful short film, emphasised by a soft and subtle score, taking a minimal sound to create maximum impact. A lush string section accompanied by soft piano playing help draw the viewer into the feel of the film. As in *The Devil and David*, some synthesised sounds were used for sinister moments to contrast the majority of emotion within the film.

'A Dog Named Emily' (dir. Leila Nicotera) - *Composer*

- A charming, black and white, silent film about a womaniser who gets around getting girls' names wrong by "blaming it on his dog". The directors wanted a Tango/Latin feel to this comic, very musically orientated, short film.

'Sex, Drugs and Rock 'n' Roll' (North Pole Music) – *Additional copyist*

- I worked as an intern for four months with North Pole Music Group in London. On my last few days of working there, I was involved in the copying of the orchestral parts for the recording session of this, now major film about the life of Ian Dury and The Blockheads. I helped prepare all the music and acted as a librarian during the session itself.

Other Projects

- I was asked to create an epic orchestral introduction to begin a hip-hop album. Despite receiving excellent feedback from the commissioner, the piece which my featured this composition will not be used by the label. However, I took ideas from the original commission and continued with my own piece, which has since been synced to a promo video for *The Artifice* project.
- I have contacts with a small web-designing company based in Maidenhead, and have worked on a few side projects; one of which has appeared on the company's website. These include a series of animated comedy shorts which some of the employers are currently working on called 'Help In A Flash', as well as a small, flash-based world cup game which has appeared on the company's website. I have since been asked to score another short animation, which is currently in pre-production.
- I have composed a 20-minute suite for orchestra, which is being considered by a number of local, and youth orchestras around the country. The suite is called 'The Adventures of a Hero' and was composed with film in mind. It would go hand-in-hand with a nostalgic action/adventure film and is written for a full symphonic orchestra. Its orchestration has been described as 'creative... [and] very well executed and imaginative'.
- Numerous choirs and small orchestral ensembles, for which I have written several pieces for university projects, have since contacted me and asked for various pieces and arrangements for them to play. I very much enjoy re-arranging pieces and very much appreciate the challenge of having a free rein with creative arrangements.
- I also have a history of writing rock and popular songs and pieces. I am in the process of putting music to work of a lyricist. We have a few songs on the go and are looking to create an EP shortly. I also have co-written a progressive rock album called 'Through the Eye of Illusion', of which I played keyboard. The album has received praise and commendations from industry veterans such as Billy Sheehan and Derek Sherinian.

I have been described as 'an extremely talented composer and musician, [and] full of promise to have a successful career within the film music industry'. I'm incredibly enthusiastic and passionate about the music I write, and I'm so eager to prove just what I'm capable of.

References available on request.

If you'd like to hear and see some of my work you may do so via my website, containing full-length, high quality mp3s, as well as my showreel.

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