[Film Score Blogs] Blog #58 [Monday, July 10, 2017]

Spit Fire Audio is advertising their "Bernard Herrmann Composer Toolkit" on a sale price of \$399 until early July. Here are a few links:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H0tYPNd_hnw

http://www.spitfireaudio.com/shop/a-z/bernard-herrmanncomposer-toolkit/

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jr5SOEytres

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c-G_lNSGNzM

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CfXxlZVTT30

I watched & listened to the five videos available up to this date [late June when I started this blog] and offered comments on at least two of them. Subsequently a few more videos were released. The Andy Blaney - 'Benny' presentation (the first link of the five listed above) is probably the best of the lot. It was not especially Herrmannesque ("Benny") but nevertheless it was a good presentation of the Herrmann Toolkit.

Initially I am encouraged that these software makers (hopefully capitalizing on the esteemed Bernard Herrmann name) are willing to offer an innovative approach to Midi construction to help composers create the "sound" of Bernard Herrmann. Certainly, I think, a young & aspiring composer might find good value in such a toolkit. I personally am not a Midi composer but know at least four or five Midi reconstruction artists, and most of those individuals have created midis of my projects (both my own and the classic film music composers). \$399 [currently now \$499 at this writing on July 10, 2017] seems to be a reasonably low price--considering that top-notch sample libraries such as the Vienna Symphony ones and Berlin series can cost well over ten grand! :).

I am now in a wait-&-see stance until the July 6th release and afterward, waiting to hear from independent reviewers for the pros & cons of the product instead of just hearing the one-sided enthusiastic promotional videos from the company. Spitfire, as I suspected, is involved with the Bernard Herrmann Estate according to one of the videos, so they got help in discerning the Herrmann "sound." My own wondering is --is the Toolkit specialized enough to *really* simulate the Herrmann approach.? I mean, I've researched & studied the Herrmann approach for 35 years, so I think I have a good ideal of how to approach the subject. For instance, Herrmann loved to *savor* the sound of certain choirs of instruments such as 3 or 4 clarinets with one or two bass clarinets. Does this Toolkit enable the user to utilize such an ensemble, and then switch, say, to 3 bassoons and a contra-bassoon repetition of the pattern of music? Or are the patches available generalized ones? Can the user have specific & complete control based on what he wants to simulate a proven Herrmann approach to music.

As another example, can the Toolkit user manipulate the horns (as Herrmann loved to do) with a specific open but stopped (+) effect followed by a *sords* standard muted effect? The same applies to articulations such as a variety of mutes that Herrmann loved such as cup mutes for the trumpets and trombones, and even mega mutes, and brass glissandi etc. What about the *sords* strings that Herrmann usually employed? I did not notice instrument listings of a specific or technical level on the Spitfire sites. So how many flutes--just two or up to 3 or preferably up to 4 for seventh chords? How many violin I, II, violas, VC/CB players. Herrmann used 8 contrabasses for some of his scores (such as "A Knife in the Darkness" episode <u>Cimarron Strip</u>, plus 4 bass clarinets, CB clarinet, 4 Fags, etc. Can the Toolkit provide that kind of proven Herrmannesque choice?

For \$399 initially (before the official release), I rather doubt it, but that should be ok for the starter composer in the Midi area of creation, especially if there are general patches such as the brass that sound very good. You make do with the limitations, and get what you pay for. If you want to pay several thousands of \$\$\$\$ of really high end samples, then that's a different matter. Meanwhile, I'll stick with pencil or pen & manuscript paper (as Herrmann did)! :)

Incidentally, one of Spitfire Audio's newest YouTube presentations ["An Interview Mrs Norma Herrmann, wife of Bernard Herrmann & Good Friend Howard Blake OBE"] published July 5 is available at this writing in the link immediately below:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TyitEZrCGjQ

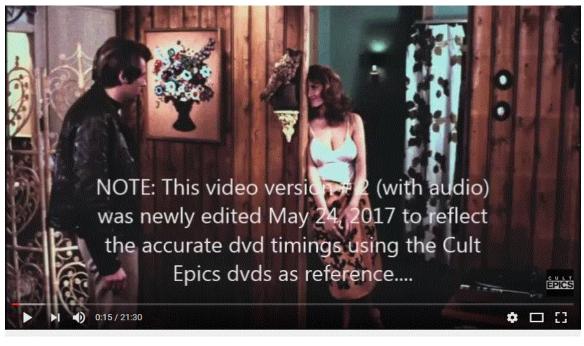
Apparently this is a slightly re-edited version since I and other commentators who earlier replied to that video had their comments subsequently deleted. I had given a complimentary comment about how nice it was to hear more stories about the Man Behind the Composer (such as that he enjoyed taking a bus to get around)....BUT I also stated that I was confused about comments made in the interview by Howard Blake regarding Herrmann and bass flutes. Go from 18:50 thru 20:36. Blake stated that he knew Henry Mancini used bass flutes for his scores but Herrmann wondered what the hell a bass flute was. The time frame was around 1967-8 when *Twisted Nerve* was in preparation. I found this puzzling because Herrmann definitely used bass flutes in the February 1962 recording of the <u>Twilight Zone</u> score, "Little Girl Lost" and also for the 1962 film, *Cape Fear*. Apparently the huge separation of time from the event (50 years earlier) and the current <u>memory</u> of it shows discrepancies. This is understandable.

Blake also commented earlier in the video from 9:30 thru 11 minutes that Herrmann was a genius in the combination of instruments. This is definitely a distinctive characteristic of Herrmann's in terms of consistency in his approach. Blake stated that Benny showed him the score for *Twisted Nerve*. Blake commented that the score had 9 bass clarinets, 3 contra Fags--all of which would create a "very dark" sound. Well, I researched *Twisted Nerve* at UCSB several times, and I did not recall seeing nine bass clarinets nor three contra bassoons. Actually Herrmann used, besides those four bass flutes (to good effect), 4 clarinets and 4 bass clarinets. When he wanted to use two C.B. clarinets, then that left two bass clarinets instead of four. I worked on most of the cues and there are no bassoons, no contra bassoons in the score.....

On May 31, Cult Epics released my OBSESSIONS educational video #2 (with audio):

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8jGdeZzwzjI

https://s14.postimg.org/5ml0mop01/Obsessions_Cult_Epics_FSR_video_2_image_You_Tube.gif



OBSESSIONS (1969) Bernard Herrmann Film Score Rundown video | Cult Epics

CULT	CultEpicsvideo		
EPICS	Subscribe	2.4K	228 views
Add to	📣 Share	••• More	1 🖬 3 🐠 0

Published on May 31, 2017 Educational video by Bill Wrobel of Film Score Rundowns on the music of Bernard Herrmann as used in the film OBSESSIONS as co-written by Martin Scorsese, now available on Blu-ray/DVD www.cultepics.com HITCHCOCK, SCORSESE & SEX! MADE IN HOLLAND.

Note: audio recordings and video image as used in this video do not reflect the quality of the remastered audio and video as on the final bluray/dvd release of OBSESSIONS release May 9, 2017.

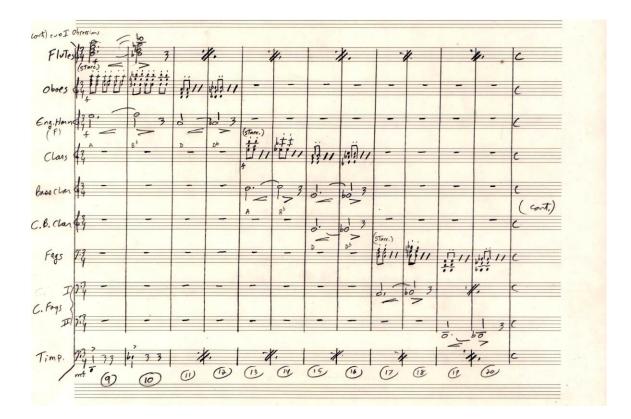
Category Film & Animation License Standard YouTube License

Around that date I was inspired to write a Herrmannesque cue I for the film. I expect it to have a Midi treatment soon so periodically check my Film Score Rundowns YouTube site to check if it is available:

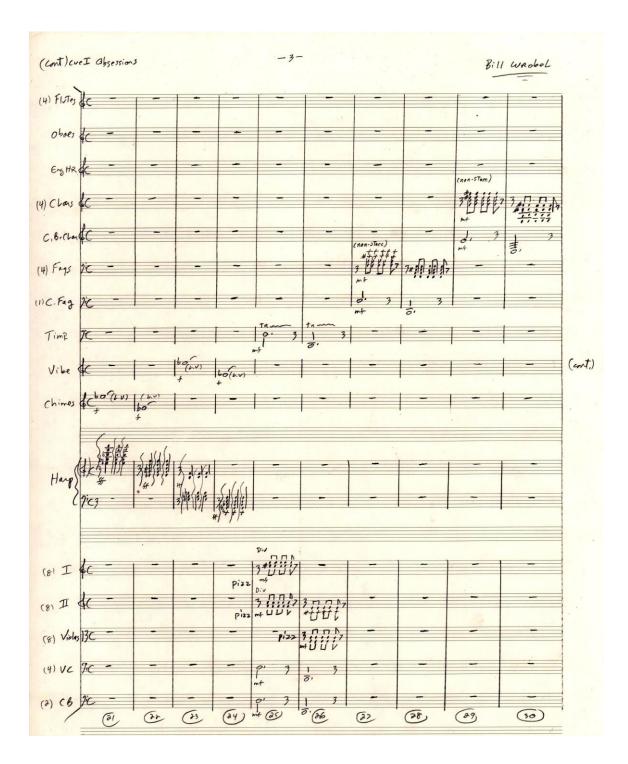
https://www.youtube.com/user/FilmScoreRundowns



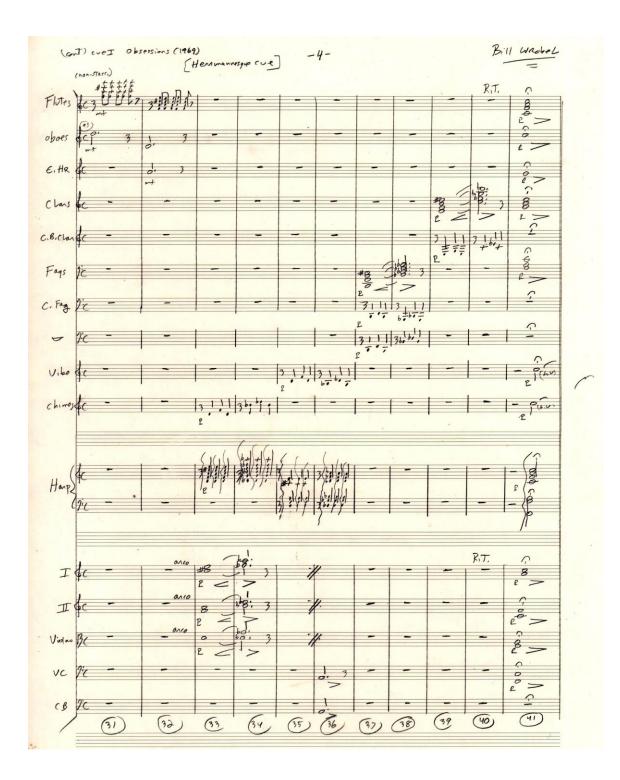
https://s14.postimg.org/8hd7c1yw1/OBSESSIONS_cue_I_Bars_1-8.jpg



https://s16.postimg.org/bgkzk70mt/OBSESSIONS_cue_I_Bars_9-20.jpg



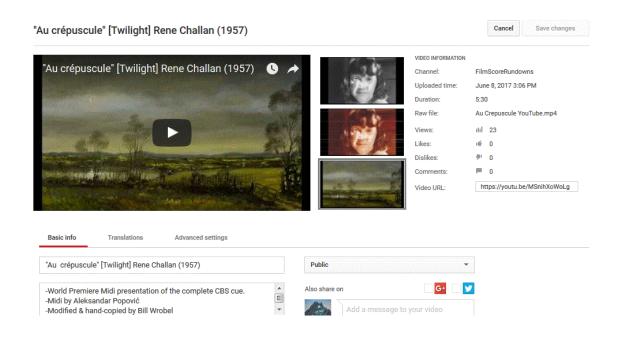
https://s2.postimg.org/m0r89jnjd/OBSESSIONS_cue_I_Bars_21-30.jpg



https://s29.postimg.org/iamtn6afr/OBSESSIONS_cue_I_Bars_31-41.jpg

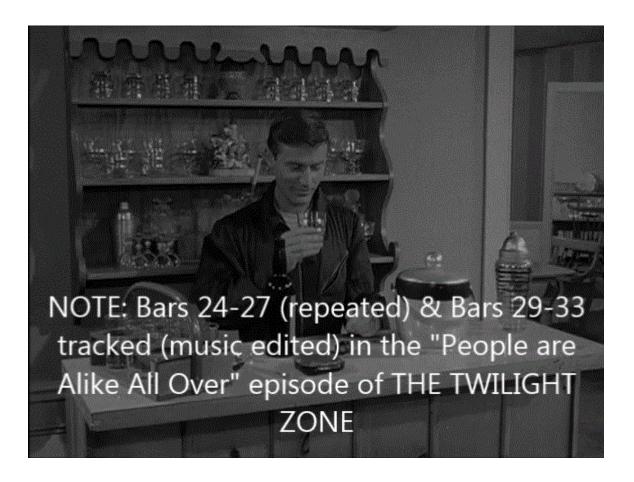
https://youtu.be/MSnihXoWoLg [Au crépuscule]

The link immediately above is for the World Premiere Midi presentation of "Au crépuscule" [Twilight] by Rene Challan (1957).



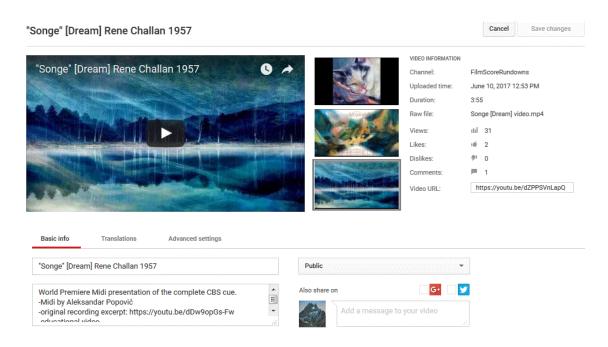
https://s23.postimg.org/5dqywfo97/Au_crepuscule_image_You_T ube_2017-6-25.gif

It is wonderful impressionistic French music that was used twice in the first season of <u>The Twilight Zone</u>. I'm proudest working on this music than anything else in the last months at least. Here is a YouTube link for one of the TZ videos I created: https://youtu.be/fFl1ChVeF2I ["People Are Alike All Over"]



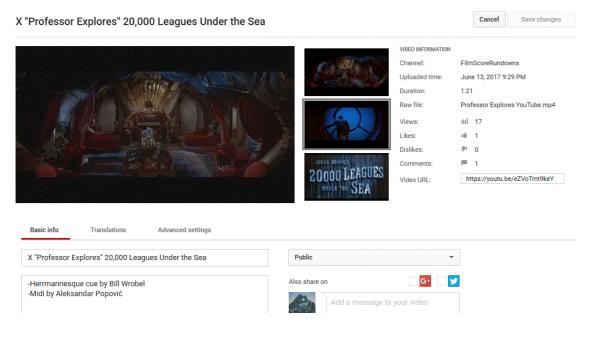
Another cue by Rene Challan wrote for CBS is "Songe" that Aleksandar also Midi constructed three weeks ago :

https://youtu.be/dZPPSVnLapQ [Songe]



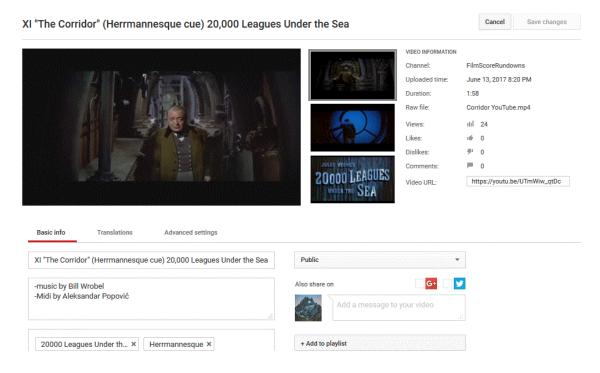
Here below is the link is my Herrmannesque cue X "Professor Explores" meant for Disney's 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea :

https://youtu.be/eZVoTmt9keY [Professor Explores]



Next is cue XI "The Corridor" :

https://youtu.be/UTmWiw_qtDc [The Corridor]



Next below is cue XII "Under Sea Burial" :

https://youtu.be/R0LjZsFmBXs [Under Sea Burial]

I "UnderSea Burial" (Herrmannesque cue) 20,000 Leag	jues		Cancel Save changes
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XII "UnderSea Burial" (Herrmannesque cue) 20,000 Leagues	Public	•	
-Herrmannesque cue by Bill Wrobel for 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea -Midi by Aleksandar Popović :	Also share on Add a message to	your video	4
Herrmannesque × 20000 Leagues Under th ×	+ Add to playlist		

Here below is "The Giant Crab" Midi presentation. Music by Bernard Herrmann for *Mysterious Island* :

https://youtu.be/BxWShDNVw_s [Giant Crab]

"Giant Crab" (Mysterious Island) World Premiere Midi p	presentation		Cancel Save changes
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-"The Giant Crab" (Mysterious Island) Music by Bernard Herrmann -Midi by Aleksandar Popović	Also share on Add a message to	G• [] o your video	e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e
Giant Crab × Mysterious Island × Bernard Herrmann ×	+ Add to playlist		

And here below is an entry that got a lot of hits (relatively speaking for my YouTube site): the World Premiere Midi treatment of the UNUSED "Opening Titles" (first five bars only) of Rozsa's *Golden Voyage of Sinbad* :

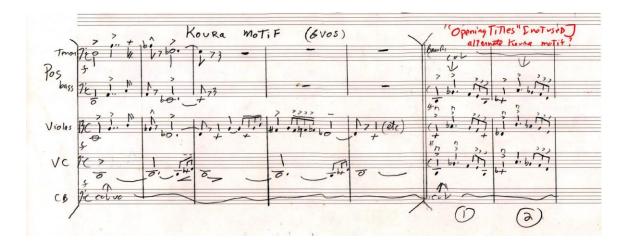
https://youtu.be/auy-TMIIcao [Opening Titles GVOS]

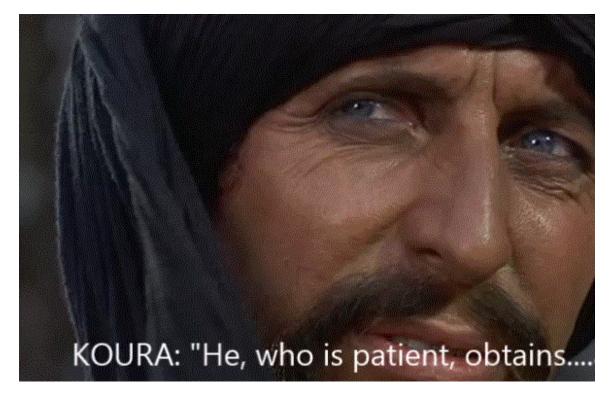
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"Opening Titles" [unused] GOLDEN VOYAGE OF SINBAD (Rozsa)	Public	-	
-First 5 bars only of 1M1 "Opening Titles" by Miklos Rozsa [not used] -Midi by Aleksandar Popović	Also share on Add a message to	your video	
Miklos Rozsa × Golden Voyage of Sinbad ×	+ Add to playlist		

I discussed this never-before-heard music on the Rozsa forum:

http://miklosrozsa.yuku.com/topic/1841/GVOS-Opening-Titles-IMI-not-used

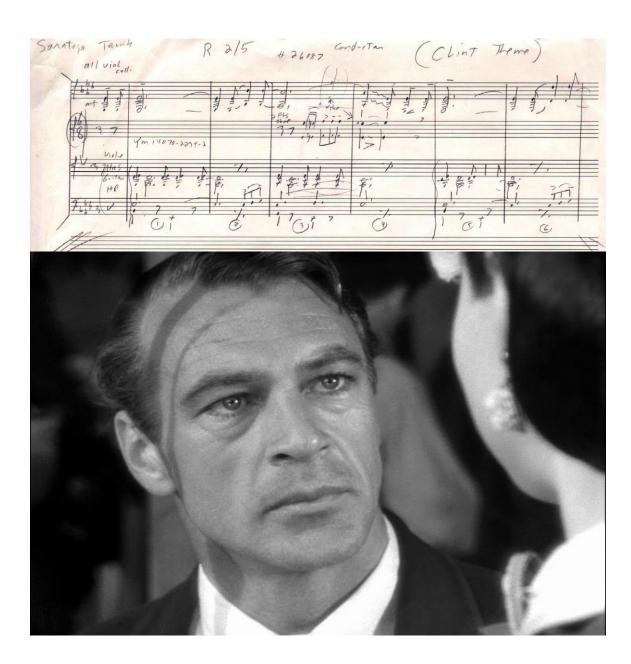
Hopefully in the not-too-distant future, Tadlow (or ????) will newly record this music. I, like the evil Koura character in the movie, will be patient....





Here below is the delightful "Clint" Theme from SARATOGA TRUNK:

https://youtu.be/ogh__zibG9I ["Clint Theme]



I've been spending some time on the movie in the last few days, although I hardly worked on Max's music. I do not remember what happened when I pulled the score but I believe a lot of it was missing or perhaps I was just specifically looking for the Clint Introduction scene towards the end of the 5th medley of Reel 2. The full score version of it was missing. Perhaps a lot of the full score was missing (again, don't remember). So in this medley we have:

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(a) Clint 00:40
(b) Bickering 00 :21 (Clio being snappish towards protective Angelique)
(c) Clio
(d) Clint (Clint theme returning when he returns to the scene offering a ride)
(e) attraction
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(a) Cupidon (when "Shorty" trips Clint up for an escape) :11(b) Carriage :18

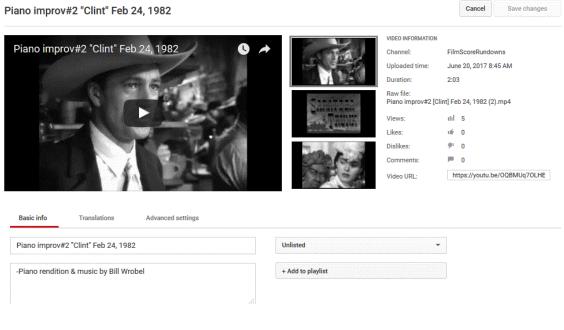
- (c) Andante Religioso :20
- (d)Clint :08

() Roeli (my Steinerlio 7 - 7 c) Love Theme II iIo Main D) Clint II III Main D) The Art II e) The Boat " ;51 F) chancool (P.D) 118 Henresy (P.D) 118 ;54 g) The House 2:23 b) Dulaine : 30 i) Hysterics [:12 J) Dilaine K) BLOOD STAIN : 10 L) Pulaine 1:07 :04 (2) CLio Reel 2 3) chimney Sweet P.D. , 77 ,07 h) Gniersortin



By the way, I composed a sort of "Clint" Theme back in 1982 on my Casio keyboard:

https://youtu.be/OQBMUq7OLHE [Clint-ish theme by Bill Wrobel]



My index card notes of the cue sheets information on Steiner's *Charge of the Light Brigade*.

Then below that is *First Lady* (1937) that I personally never watched (or heard). I wonder if it is available on You Tube? I'll check now (at 2:44 pm)....No, it doesn't appear to be. Pity. YouTube can be a terrific FREE resource of information & entertainment.

Below that image is "Green Light" (1936) cue sheet info I compiled on an index card. Unfortunately, YouTube does not have that either, it appears...Nor "God's Country & the Woman" (1936)....

After that is *Mildred Pierce* images. By the way, I never worked on the written score for that picture....

Change of Light Brighte Oct 23, 436 11 chasy with [cresheet inso] 2:41 ReelIA 21 who shall Excel then 11:08 3) Wature Masi 1:46 :16 4) 11 () Prins 111 Ree 1B 6) PRing 2:30 7) Scratkhan 1:00 Rel 29 : 43 8) Calcutta 9) Romand 1:23 10) Ballavon Masie 3:33 Reel 73 2:20 11) To Lancers 44 12) Piplomany 25 13 11 y) Estrayout 157 15) AD-Litwhsty :06 10) Distinhuro 1:16 17 Summa mon 5:27 18) Pensia 4:50 (str)

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Faith Too much Talk	3:58 4:22	World	1,35
0 0 2+4	1:32	11 7+8 Threatened Strike Tall Timber	:48 2:09
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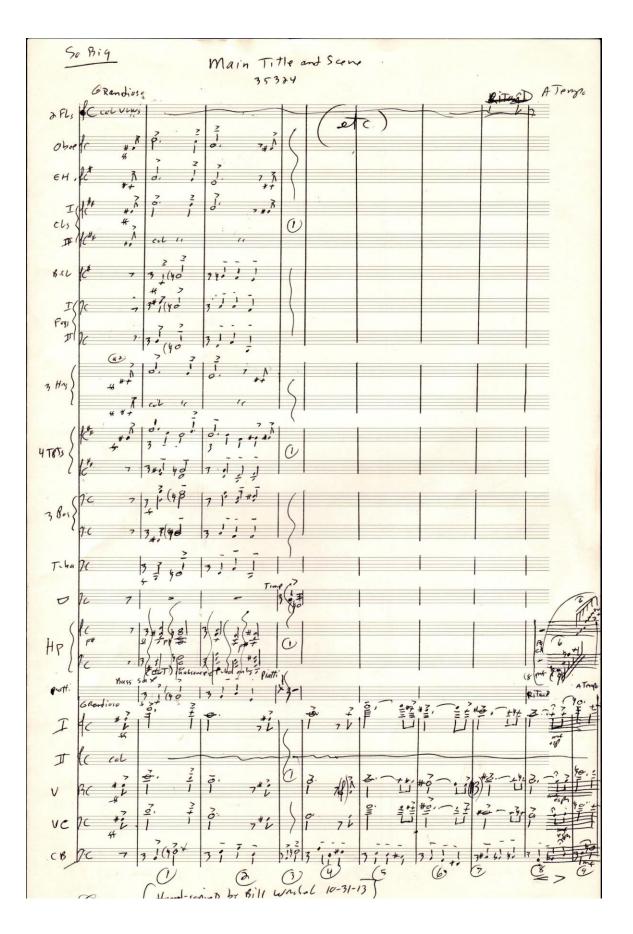


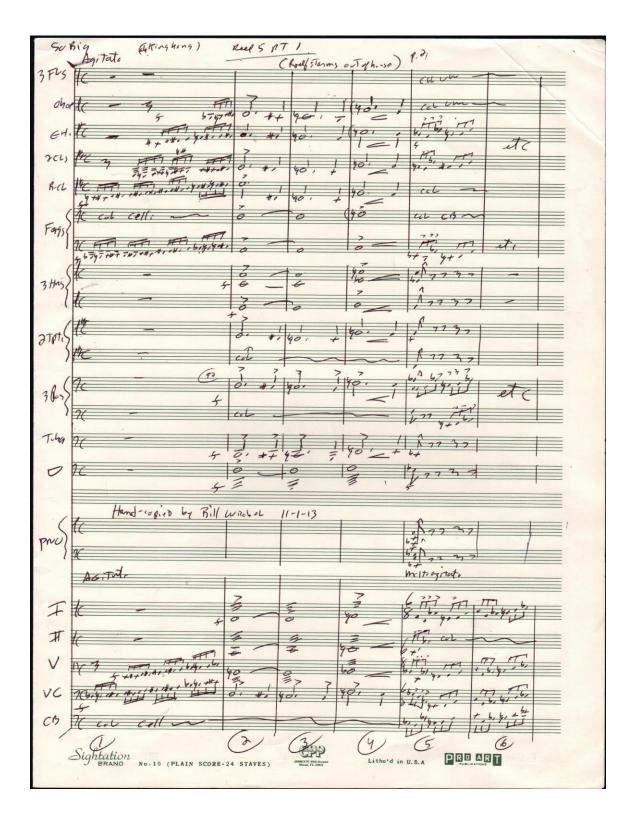
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Sierce milpred P Reel 17 :08 a) signature 613 6) credits () milDRed 2:54 2) You must Have been a beartiger Baby mercer war 1:56 1:03 3) Fear Geelt 1:31 4) (F90 1.18 b) milbred 13/ c) Exit 0) Hall groth-.52 6) DRING TO MOONLY WITH Thire Fying P PD 115 1,03 6) bert 7) bert 137 b) May [Researched by Bill wached] 1:03

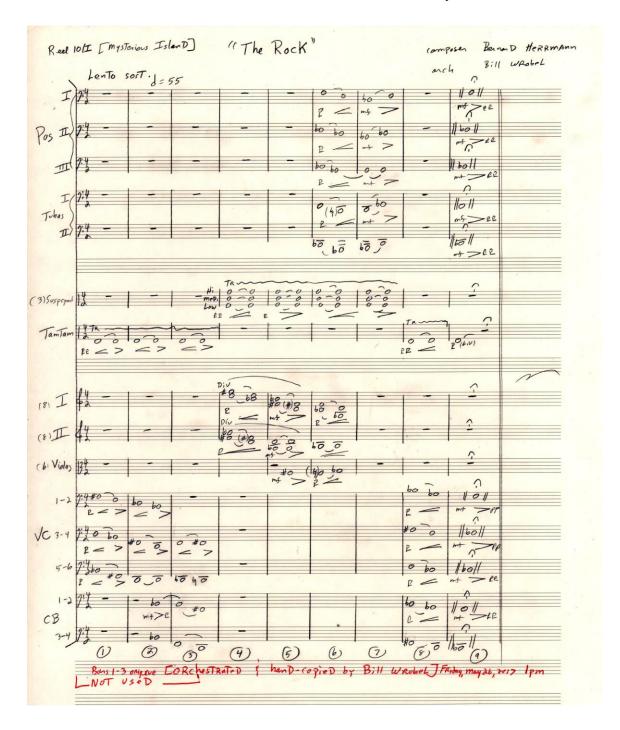
Reel 1+2 50 Big munic Budget \$66,900	
1 a) The Symphony	1:04
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b) Expressivo	:40
C) DIRK D) GRADIESE	:28
D) G Ragioso E) Selena's Lullaby	:30
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2) (1 3) The mansion	:20
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W 50 B19	1:22
c) Cabb Ages	1:59
5 a) Farm House	:24
b) So Big	:32
c) Walding DRESS	:32
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6) Selanda's Lullary 7 a) (1 b) Cabbages c) School House	109
1 a) Cabbaads	:10
c) school House	:33
D) So Big	:17
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5) Exercise 8) ((:08
8) ((F) flogundhang	15
4), thesymphony	22

Below is my hand-copy of the Main Title start (some instruments missing). Below that is a *King Kong* reference in that picture!





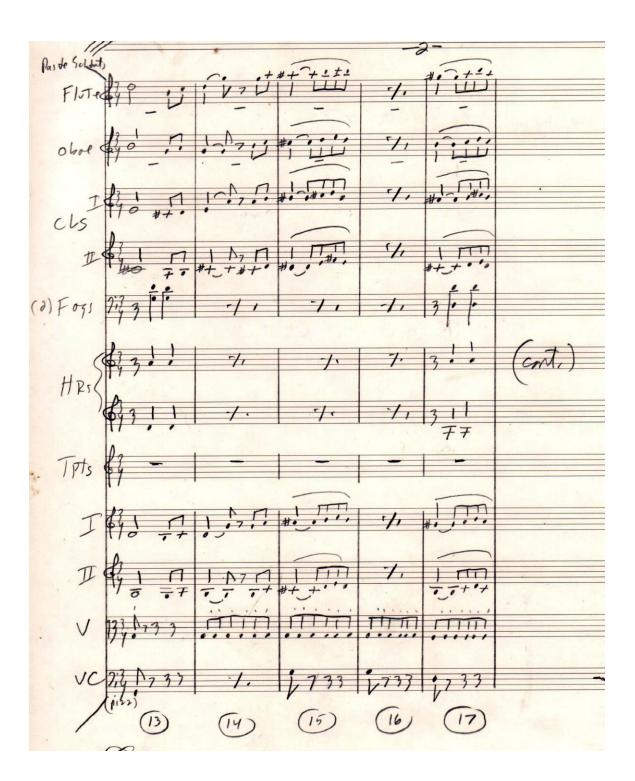
The day after I updated my previous blog (May 26), I reorchestrated Herrmann's "The Rock" cue from *Mysterious Island* :

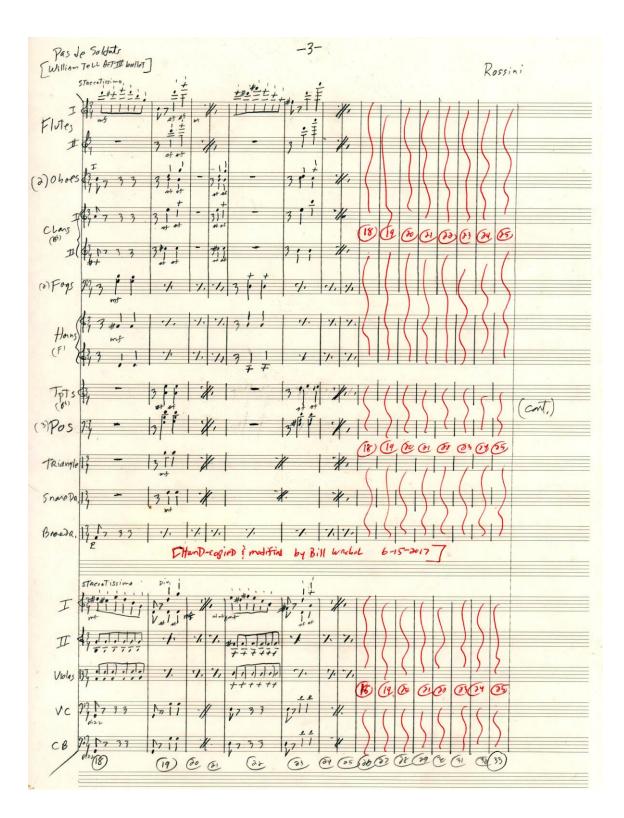


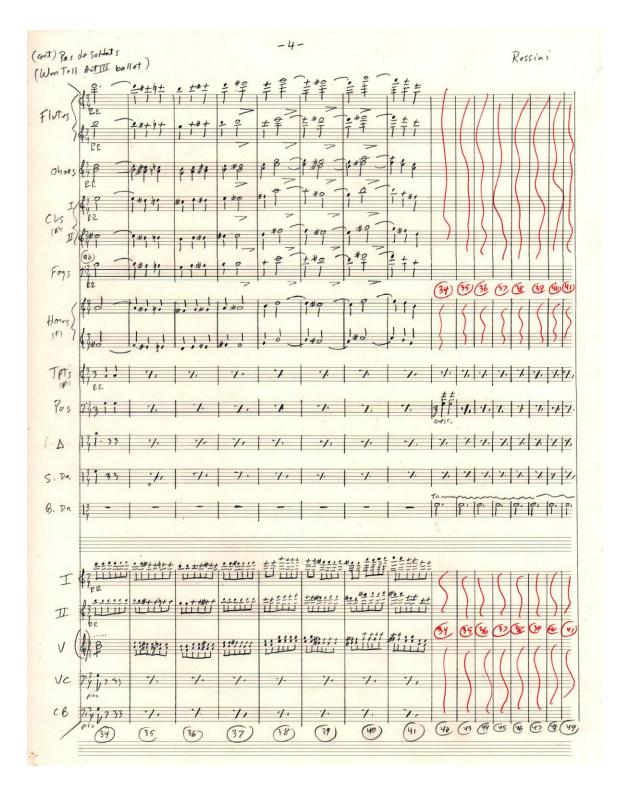
Maybe it'll get a Midi treatment some day.

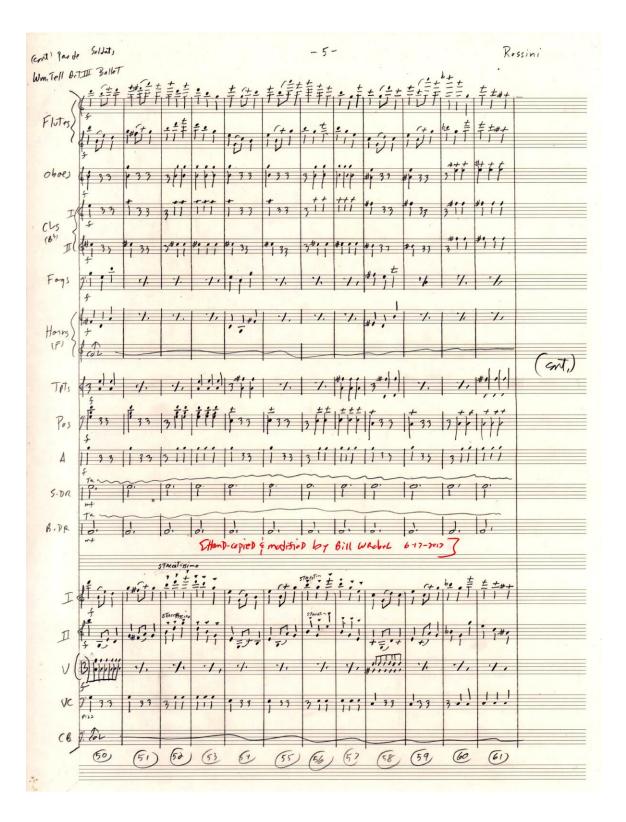
Over a week ago I worked on a beautiful section of Rossini's *Pas de Soldats* ballet section from Action II of <u>William Tell</u>. I transposed the horns to "F" modern horns, trumpets to Bb, clarinets all in Bb and made a few other modifications.



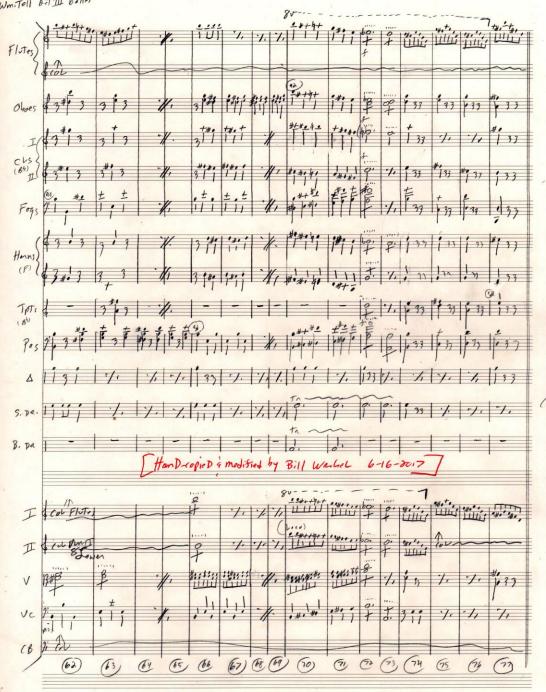








(cont.) Pas de Saldonts Wm. Tell ATIT ballat



My wife wanted me to start a new Twitter site because she eventually wants to tweet about politics and other matters. So I created one:

https://twitter.com/ZeffanieandBill

So far I am the only one who has tweeted--all on film music, of course. But when she finally tweets, she'll end her tweet as Zeffanie or simply "Z."



https://s30.postimg.org/ub25v710x/Bernard_Herrmann_autographr f_postcard.gif Found the above image on a specialized Google image search yesterday.....

Someone else besides me re-scored a few *The Birds* scenes:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YVlg6Wo68s0

Juls did a fine job. My approach, however, was to actually simulate the Herrmann approach. But I liked the non-Herrmann approach! Here's another one:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E7C9cYpWNGE



The Birds - Melanie and Mitch Dialogue Before Attack (RESCORE)



16 views

Rene Challan concerto available on YouTube:



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SAJejNbCjF0

Samson François plays Challan Concerto Pastoral Op. 20



1. Allegro (00:00) 2. Lent (08:45) 3. Très vif (15:57)

His harpist daughter, Annie (now 76 or 77 years old) has some works on YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UiGpfuoFRac

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9b8Wt6KfNPA

I emailed here via the site below last Sunday evening about the "Songe" and "Au crepuscule" videos we made, but so far no response. I wish I can find more of Rene Challan's works available, especially the symphony.

http://maindanslapatte.net/?lang=en



Annie Challan plays Ravel Introduction and Allegro

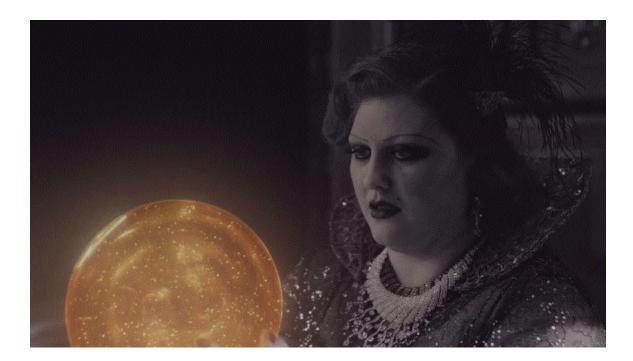
	nusicisgoodforyou Subscribe	588 views
Add to	A Share ••• More	16 9 1

Published on Apr 3, 2015 Annie Challan, harp Georges Tessier, violin Pierre Simon, violin

Watching <u>Twin Peaks</u> : <u>The Return</u> on Showtime, episode # 8 "Gotta Light?" What a totally weird installment of the series so far! My initial opinion is that director David Lynch was inspired by Kubrick in portions of this episode.....



Ethereal music in this section below......



By the way, I watched episode 9 of Twin Peaks : The Return last evening (July 9) in the background while I was on the computer...very uninteresting & boring--the weakest of the first nine so far.

Here below is the link for my cue XIX "UnderSea Landscape" meant for Disney's 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea :

https://youtu.be/AvoyyC5ariI

"UnderSea Landscape" [20,000 Leagues Unde... .EAGUES Your account isn't eligible for custom thumbnails. Learn more

Basic info Translations Advanced settings "UnderSea Landscape" [20,000 Leagues Under the Sea] by Bill Wrobel Public Also share on Cue XIX for Disney's 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea (Herrmannesque)

-Midi by Aleksandar Popović -music by Mike Nelson (Sea Hunt)...I mean, by Bill Wrobel

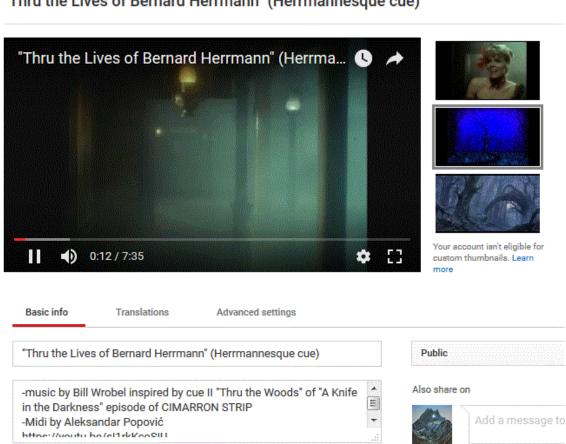


Add a message t

"UnderSea Landscape" [20,000 Leagues Under the Sea] by Bill Wrobel

Here below is the link for my dark Herrmannesque cue "Thru the Lives of Bernard Herrmann" :

https://youtu.be/0yejAbLNqck



"Thru the Lives of Bernard Herrmann" (Herrmannesque cue)

There is, by the way, a documentary being made about Herrmann titled "The Lives of Bernard Herrmann" :

http://www.bernardherrmannmovie.com/

http://cromeyellow.com/the-lives-of-bernard-herrmann-interview/

https://twitter.com/herrmannmovie

He never got the money he hoped from the IndieGoGo campaign (only just over \$1,700 from the goal of \$35,000) so I don't expect miracles from his well-intentioned documentary given the limited budget. I contributed \$100 (all I could afford back then). Too bad the Herrmann Estate and other entities did not contribute big time to the IndieGoGo project since the documentary could be a helpful promotion of a great film composer. If the documentary with its limited resources uses actual acoustic recordings of Herrmann's music, it might prove costly (unless the rights are given without the typical profit-motive! :). I would freely offer the Herrmannesque Midi renditions that Alek & I collaborated on but I doubt most people are yet into Midi treatments (however excellent they can sound) and the makers might fear critical reviews if Midi treatments are utilized. They cannot however be Works-for-Hire contracts since I am thumbs down on such things. But I suggest that it might be a good idea to use world premiere Midi works for "something different" and something new to help make the documentary more interesting & distinctive. I am glad Alec Baldwin was interviewed. Obviously he is a great fan of Herrmann's music. But I hope the documentary is not going to be overwhelmingly a focus on the Man Behind the Music (the personality of Herrmann). I personally would rather have *some* of that but a lot about the music itself. Brandon could hopefully interview people like John Morgan (who reconstructed and recorded many of Herrmann's works) who can give a lot of interesting insight into the music.

Here linked below is my "Obsessions" Herrmannesque Midi music:

https://youtu.be/rM3p7rWjufQ

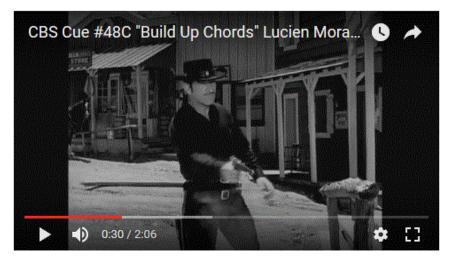
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	que cue by Bill Wrobe andar Popović	9	A	So share on Add a messag

"Obsessions" Herrmannesque cue [World Premiere] NEW video version

Here below is the YouTube link for CBS cue #48C "Build Up Chords" by Lucien Moraweck--a cue used fairly often enough in various Golden Age tv series such as <u>Have Gun Will Travel</u> and <u>Rawhide</u>. It has a Herrmannesque feel to it.

https://youtu.be/-GorlSxBbus

CBS Cue #48C "Build Up Chords" Lucien Moraweck









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CBS Cue #48C "Build Up Chords" Lucien Moraweck

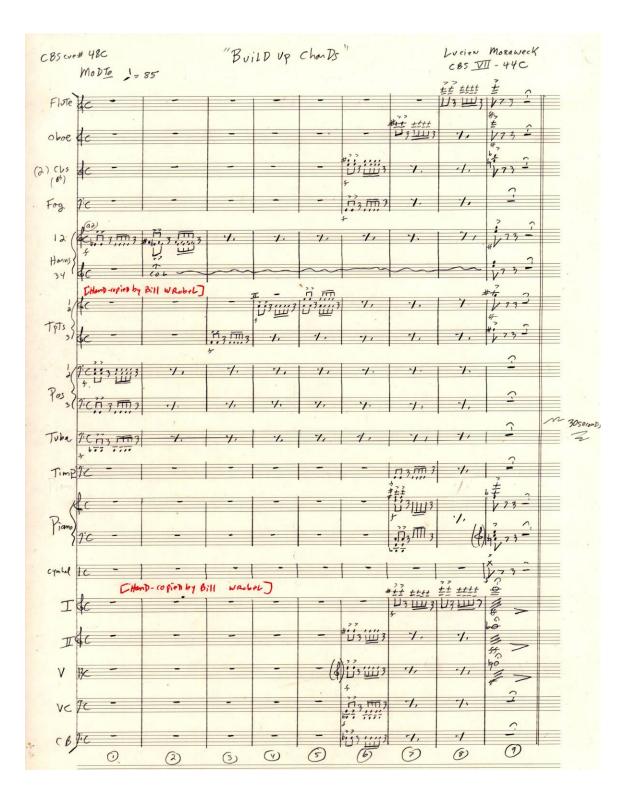
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-Audio clip from HGWT episode, "A Sense of Justice" (Nov 12, 1958)

Also share on

https://s2.postimg.org/w4ue4o089/Build_Up_Chords_Lucien_Moraweck.jpg



Below is the YouTube link for my "See How Peaceful It Is Here" cue for 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea:

https://youtu.be/mYv4xyCQukg

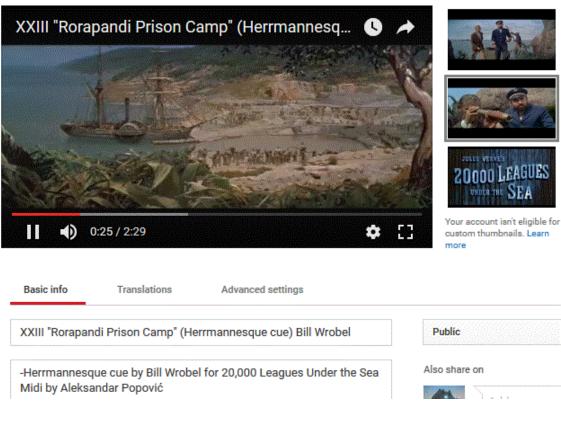
XXII "See How Peaceful It Is Here" (Herrmannesque cue)

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XXII "See How Peaceful It Is Here" (Herrmannesque	cue) Public
Herrmannesque cue for Disney's 20,000 Leagues Un -music by Bill Wrobel -Midi by Aleksandar Popović	der the Sea Also share on Add a messa

Here below is the YouTube link for my "Rorapandi Prison Camp" cue meant for that Disney movie scene.

https://youtu.be/dNgUpN0VA5s

XXIII "Rorapandi Prison Camp" (Herrmannesque cue) Bill Wrobel



Here is the new Miklos Rozsa forum link under "TapaTalk" :

http://miklosrozsa.yuku.com/the-rozsa-forum-f1/

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Miklós Rózsa						Q 🏭 🌲 📾 📾 BHI W
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The Sources Thread by William D McCrum				21	3.3K	by William D McCrum a 08 Jul 2017 10:48
Tapatalk by John Fitzpatrick				21	259	by Hank V 12 08 Jul 2017 08:21
Farewells [was "Goodbye Jean"] by thegoldenage3060				40	3.9K	by William D McCrum sa 86 Jul 2017 02:11
Upcoming Concerts by Hank V				345	24.2K	by Hank V s 84 Jul 2017 13:11
GVOS "Opening Titles" IMI (not used by Bill Wrobel	1			20	688	by William D McCrum s 03 Jul 2017 11:28

http://www.filmscoremonthly.com/board/posts.cfm?threadID=120522&forumID=1&arch ive=0

I noticed in a June 30 heads-up notice post by Ray Faiola on the Film Score (Monthly) Forum that later this summer there will be a BIG release of Max Steiner music (see link above). Sounds exciting. Let's see what that release will be. Will it be a one-title release or multiple titles (a set)? Was something newly discovered? Personally I would like Steiner music from the early to mid-Fifties (maybe including late Forties) up to his retirement. *The Hanging Tree* would be nice, also *Parrish*, and *Ice Palace* and *Cash McCall*. All of *The FBI Story* would be terrific. I love *Darby's Rangers*. I would LOVE to have all of *The Lion & the Horse* (although a lot of that music was recycled from other Steiner pics), and the same for *The Boy from Oklahoma* (1954). A lot of the music in the latter was taken from *Cheyenne* (1947). Another top pick for me personally would be *The Decision of Christopher Blake* (1948).

http://www.chelsearialtostudios.com/projects.htm

I believe *King Richard & the Crusaders* had stereo tracks that survived (or stereo-enhanced or very high fidelity), but there was a bootleg copy of the tracks many years ago. Even today I noticed this on Amazon:

https://www.amazon.com/King-Richard-Crusaders-Complete-Original/dp/B000N2S5E8

This appears on YouTube at this writing:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f3HpLMaPAhc

So I extremely doubt we will have this as the special release later in the summer....nor *Helen of Troy* since that too was an illegal disc(s) released. I even today (July 10) saw it on Amazon:

https://www.amazon.com/Helen-Troy-Complete-Original-Score/dp/B002KYNKPQ

But you can also find that on YouTube....

Here is the great Richard Boone (aka "Paladin") during that period of HGWT playing President Abe Lincoln!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cc4bpQu0rlc

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