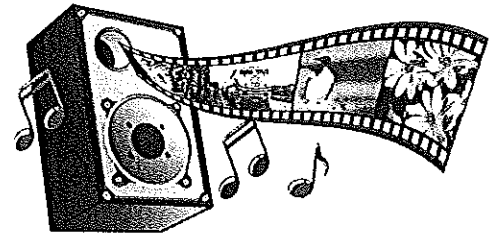


Their Music Makes the Scene

Short biographies of several well-known film composers



Danny Elfman

In the 1980s, Danny Elfman was in a pop band called Oingo Boingo. (Really.) But later in that decade, he worked with director Tim Burton on *Beetlejuice*, *Batman* and *Edward Scissorhands*, which launched his career as a film composer.

Other movies that Danny Elfman wrote music for include:

Scrooged
Good Will Hunting
Men In Black
Spiderman 1 and 2
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

He also wrote the music for the following TV shows:

The Simpsons
Tales from the Crypt
Desperate Housewives

Randy Newman

Nearly all of Randy Newman's family is involved in writing and producing music for movies. He has been nominated for many awards and won an Oscar for best song in a movie for "If I Didn't Have You" from *Monsters, Inc.*

Other movies with music by Randy Newman include:

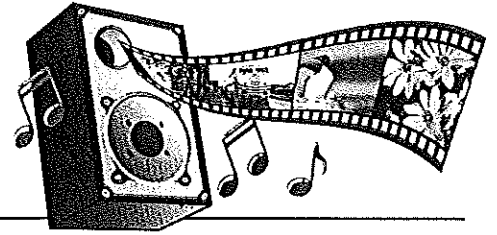
Parenthood
Toy Story 1 and 2
Maverick
Meet the Parents
A Bug's Life
Cars

Bill Conti

Bill Conti is recognized for his ability to bridge the gap between various music styles. The best example of this is the music for the *Rocky* movies, which combines classic film composing with elements of rock music. Conti won an Oscar for the music he wrote for the movie *The Right Stuff*. He also served as the music director for the Academy Awards show during the 1990s.

Other movies with music by Bill Conti include:

The Karate Kid (all 3 movies)
For Your Eyes Only
Masters of the Universe
Spy Hard



James Horner

James Horner studied music at the Royal College of Music in London before moving to Hollywood to begin his film-music career. His music covers a wide variety of styles ranging from bold orchestral scores (*Star Trek*) to sweet and sentimental music (*Land Before Time*) to Celtic music (*Braveheart*).

Like John Williams, James Horner has written music for many, many movies. Some of the biggest include:

Clear and Present Danger
An American Tail 1 and 2
Legends of the Fall
Apollo 13
A Beautiful Mind
How the Grinch Stole Christmas
Radio
Titanic

Lalo Schifrin

If you know the theme to *Mission: Impossible*, you know the music of Lalo Schifrin. His music is often “jazzy” and incorporates elements of pop and rock too. Many of the movies for which he has written music are action-packed thrillers, like the Clint Eastwood *Dirty Harry* series and Bruce Lee’s *Enter the Dragon*. Through his connection with Bruce Lee, Schifrin met Jackie Chan and did the music for the *Rush Hour* movies Chan made with Chris Tucker.

Schifrin composed the music to many earlier classic movies too, including:

Cool Hand Luke
Bullitt
Kelly’s Heroes
Amityville Horror 1 and 2

In addition to writing the theme for the *Mission: Impossible* TV show (and later, the *Mission: Impossible* movies), Schifrin also composed the jazzy theme for the TV show *Mannix*.