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Violinists, to your violins! Re-discover eight cinematic masterpieces, as well as the soundtracks which contributed to their success, and immerse yourself in the story of their composition. For each piece, we have included a link to the Tomplay sheet music. Available in several levels of difficulty, these scores contain "Play Along" audio recordings of the orchestra to accompany you! 1. Pirates of the Caribbean - Hans Zimmer ► Play the theme from Pirates of the Caribbean on the violin Hans Zimmer's name is one of the first to come to mind when thinking about film music. With nearly one hundred and fifty productions to his name over more than thirty years, this German composer is a master in this field. Zimmer and his team composed the music for the first part of the Pirates of the Caribbean saga alongside Klaus Badelt. However, it was Alan Silvestri who had first been considered for this role. Badelt had very little time to write the music, just a few weeks, and Zimmer's team had to call on no less than eight composers and nine orchestrators to write the additional music for the film, ie nearly half of it. Use the Tomplay features to help you learn the music of the "Pirates of the Caribbean" theme in the best way: adjust the tempo of the metronome to fit your violin part over the professional orchestral backing track and work on tricky passages in a loop. 2. Game of Thrones - Ramin Djawadi ► Play the theme from Game of Thrones on the violin It is already nine years since the first episode of Game of Thrones was released, an American series adapted from the novels by George R. R. Martin (A Song of Ice and Fire). This fantasy medieval saga is famous for its realism and for its many sources of inspiration taken from real events, locations, and historical characters. It has been immensely successful worldwide. Throughout the eight seasons, several million viewers have followed the adventures of the Starks, the Lannisters, and other eminent creatures. Many derivative products have seen the light of day, including video games, board games, and role games based on the world of the hit series. The music was composed by Ramin Djawadi (who had also worked within Zimmer's team of composers on the music for Pirates of the Caribbean) who, given the success of the series and its signature tune, organized the Game of Thrones Live Concert Experience, a worldwide concert tour based on the music from the series. The broadcasting of the series is now finished. To make the pleasure last a little longer, we're inviting you to play our sheet music of the epic Game of Thrones theme on the violin with an orchestral accompaniment, using the Tomplay functions to help you: annotate your sheet music and print it with your annotations. 3. Titanic, "My Heart Will Go On" - James Horner ► Play the theme from Titanic "My Heart Will Go On" on the violin The film music composer James Horner (who has several successful Hollywood films to his name) needs no further introduction and was particularly well known for regularly using instruments of Celtic origin in his compositions. His career took off with the music for the James Cameron film Aliens, but his score for Titanic (by the same director) remains the most widely-sold film score in the world. It won him many awards, just like the music for Braveheart. Originally, Cameron didn't want a song to accompany the credits at the end of his film, but he hadn't reckoned on Horner, who secretly composed the melody and gave it to Will Jenning to write the lyrics. And so "My Heart Will Go On" was born. Céline Dion, who was felt to be the candidate capable of changing the director's mind, wasn't sure about it when she first heard the song and her husband, René Angeli, had to convince her to record a demo. The singer admits that she was unwell on the day of the recording: she drank some black coffee, which had the effect of accelerating her vibrato (not her original aim). After having got to know the story of the film, she went into the recording booth. Just one take was enough and the director was won over. Another legendary film score in the History of cinema. More than 15 million copies of "My Heart Will Go On" have been sold. It was the highest-selling record in 1998 and propelled Céline Dion into the pantheon of the most widely-heard voices in the world. Explore our sheet music of "My Heart Will Go On" for the violin with an orchestral accompaniment. 4. Money Heist, "Bella Ciao" ► Play the La Casa de Papel version of "Bella Ciao" on the violin ► Play the theme from La Casa de Papel on the violin The Spanish series La Casa de Papel appeared on our screens at the end of 2017. It plunges us into a scenario in which we witness a heist organized by the mysterious "Professor" in the Royal Mint of Spain in Madrid. To execute his plan, the latter recruits eight gangsters who have nothing left to lose. First shown in Spain, Netflix bought the rights to the series to distribute it on its platform. This was an effective decision, as La Casa de Papel has been internationally successful. An internationally-known piece of music is now closely linked with this series, which now has a cult following. "Bella Ciao", a famous Italian partisan song born in the 20th century in anti-fascist communities during the Second World War, has over time become the resistance hymn of militants and protesters all over the world. The story goes that, in Italy during the 1930s, a grandmother taught her granddaughter this song. She often sang it with the other "mondina" in the rice fields where the work was difficult and long. Later on, the young girl became a member of the resistance during the Second World War and, in 1944, the lyrics of the song became those that we know today: revolutionary words, symbolic of the struggle against oppression. Still covered today by modern artists, you can often hear the melody of "Bella Ciao" being hummed by younger generations. Explore our sheet music of "Bella Ciao" for the violin with an orchestral accompaniment synchronized with the score. 5. Schindler's List - John Williams ► Play the theme from Schindler's List on the violin Regarding the composer John Williams, Steven Spielberg said "Whenever I write a picture and John writes the score, it turns out we always see the same film. We have the same emotional image." For the release for the film Schindler's List in 1993, directed by his friend Steven Spielberg, John Williams wrote one of his most beautiful pieces. Having seen the film for the first time after his work, John Williams said this to Spielberg: "This is truly a great film! You need a better composer than me." Spielberg responded: "I know! But they're all dead!" It was therefore a real challenge, as it was necessary to balance emotion and simplicity, without creating an excess of either, in order to musically illustrate the film's tragic story where the action takes place during the Second World War. John Williams, therefore, composed a theme in a classical style, which he then gave to violinist Itzhak Perlman to play. This piece won him the Oscar for best film music. Explore our sheet music of the exquisite theme from Schindler's List for the violin with an orchestral accompaniment synchronized with the score: start the accompaniment, which will make your sheet music scroll, and modify the tempo to suit you thanks to the Tomplay technology. 6. Love Story - Francis Lai ► Play the Love Story theme on the violin Francis Lai was a kind, timid and discreet person and the widest-selling French film score composer in the world. In 1971, he received the Oscar for the best film music for the exquisite original score for the film Love Story. The film portrays a young couple in love, though they come from different social classes and are subject to the trials of life. On the back of the film's success, the melody of the film score remains quite timeless. However, Francis Lai had, first of all, refused to compose the music for it, owing to his fear of flying, as he had to travel to the United States to see the film. The production team then asked another composer to work on the film score, but they weren't totally satisfied and came back to Francis Lai, who said, on seeing the film, that he would have really regretted not doing it! The composer Francis Lai, the favorite composer of Claude Lelouch, died in 2018 at the age of 86. He leaves behind him some eternal melodies linked with great films. He loved Miles Davis and Charty Parker as much as Muse and Coldplay, Rachmaninoff, Debussy, and Ravel. Explore the violin sheet music of the Love Story theme in several levels, play accompanied by the high-quality recordings and take advantage of the many other features offered by Tomplay so you can learn this piece in the best possible way. 7. The Godfather - Nino Rota ► Play the Godfather theme on the violin The Godfather, a cult film of its time, recounts the adventures of a large Italian mafia family, whose members are brought to life by Marlon Brando and Al Pacino and led by the director Francis Ford Coppola, who saw the film win three Oscars. The music of The Godfather, composed by Nino Rota, is as famous as the film itself. Although in competition for the award, it was disqualified from the award, but it was the winner. Fortunella, by Eduardo de Filippo. However, the composer of this original film score was none other than... Nino Rota! It is true that the two pieces of music share the same melody, but with a slower rhythm and a comic temperament in the case of Fortunella. However, this practice was already quite widespread among composers of yesteryear. For example, Bach re-worked a large number of his existing compositions in order to refine them or create new ones. Although the film was released almost 50 years ago, the original film score of this legendary film is one of the most played film scores by amateur musicians. Explore our sheet music of the Godfather theme for the violin with an
orchestral accompaniment. 8. Barry Lyndon, Trio for Piano and Strings No. 2 in E-flat Major, D. 929 Opus 100 - II. Andante con moto - Franz Schubert ► Play the Andante con moto from the Piano Trio No. 2 on the violin Stanley Kubrick died two decades ago, at the age of 70. A famous film director, whose works included notably the masterpieces A Clockwork Orange, The Shining, Eyes Wide Shut, and Barry Lyndon. Barry Lyndon, which won four awards, tells the story of the rise of old, penniless young Irish lad through the English high society of the 18th century. Kubrick chose music from the same period for this film. As well as the sublime Sarabande by Handel, he admitted to having cheated a little by using Schubert's Trio for Piano and Strings No. 2, dating from 1827, finding a lack of passion or tragedy in the music of the 18th century! Dive into the world of Barry Lyndon by performing the violin sheet music from Schubert's Trio for Piano and Strings No. 2, accompanied by a professional recording of the rest of the trio (cello and piano) synchronized with it. Film scores are an integral part of the cinematic experience, enhancing emotions, intensifying actions, and immersing viewers in the narrative. While orchestras and various instruments contribute to these compositions, one instrument that stands out for its ability to evoke mood and setting of the film, creating an immersive experience for the viewers, countless film scores have utilized the violin to create cinematic splendor. Some notable examples include John Williams' score for "Schindler's List," where the solo violin captures the tragedy and resilience of the Holocaust, and Nino Rota's iconic score for "The Godfather," which employs the violin to evoke a sense of grandeur and melancholy. The works of composers such as Ennio Morricone ("Cinema Paradiso"), Howard Shore ("The Lord of the Rings" trilogy), and Alexandre Desplat ("The Shape of Water") also showcase the violin's ability to elevate the cinematic experience. In conclusion, the role of violin instruments in film scores cannot be overstated. Its historical significance, techniques, emotional impact, and ability to create atmosphere make it an indispensable component of cinematic storytelling. Whether as a solo instrument or part of an orchestral arrangement, the violin adds depth, intensity, and emotion to the visual narrative, captivating audiences and leaving a lasting impression. As film continues to evolve, the violin will undoubtedly continue to enchant viewers, ensuring its place in the pantheon of cinematic music. Reddit and its partners use cookies and similar technologies to provide you with a better experience. By accepting all cookies, you agree to our use of cookies to deliver and maintain our services and site, improve the quality of Reddit, personalize Reddit content and advertising, and measure the effectiveness of advertising. By rejecting non-essential cookies, Reddit may still use certain cookies to ensure the proper functionality of our platform. For more information, please see our Cookie Notice and our Privacy Policy. No account yet? Sign up for free.Forgot your password? Install our app by adding SoundSlice to your home screen. Learn more 27 August 2024, 12:14 | Updated: 27 August 2024, 12:15 From John Williams' Harry Potter to Ennio Morricone's The Good, the Bad and the Ugly, these are the 50 film soundtracks you voted for as the greatest of all time.Music can make or break a movie. And in a few special cases, it can jump out of the silver screen and take on a life of its own.In the Classic FM Movie Music Hall of Fame 2024, we asked you: what are the 50 greatest film scores of all time? And you chose soundtracks that didn't just serve to support the film's narrative - but that stayed with you long after the feature was over.Special mention to Hilary Guðnadóttir's Joker, Rachel Portman's Chocolat and Angela Morley's Watership Down who all made it into the final countdown but crept out of the top 50. To view the full top 100, click here. The 2007 romantic comedy starring Cameron Diaz, Kate Winslet, Jude Law and Jack Black has become a Christmas favourite. And to the story, which sees Diaz and Winslet's characters swap homes and fall in love with someone new, Hans Zimmer's score adds plenty of romance and magic - a perfect fit for the mood of finding one's true 'home'. Japanese composer Ryuichi Sakamoto gained international fame for Merry Christmas, Mr. Lawrence. Not only did he write the music he also starred in it alongside David Bowie and Tom Conti. The film tells the story of four men in a Japanese prisoner of war camp during the Second World War, based on Laurens van der Post's experiences during World War II as a prisoner of war. Ryuichi Sakamoto - Merry Christmas, Mr. Lawrence Elmer Bernstein happily lived off the royalties from his jaunty, triumphant, catchy and extremely hummable theme to The Great Escape. He would probably have been bemused at its appearance at England football matches, where it has been a fixture since the mid-1990s. Bernstein's music is the perfect accompaniment to the Second World War film, in which Steve McQueen, James Garner and Richard Attenborough mastermind a mass escape from a German prisoner of war camp.Read more: 10 of John Williams' all-time greatest film themes, ranked Elmer Bernstein - Main Title - (The Great Escape, 1963) The most famous guitar riff in cinema has featured in every official Bond film since Dr. No (1962), when it accompanied the opening title. It appeared again over the opening credits for From Russia with Love, and from then on became as integral to the James Bond universe as corny one-liners and gadgets. The guitar riff heard in the original recording of the theme was played by Vic Flick, who was paid a one-off fee of £6 for recording the tune. The Shawshank Redemption centres on one man convicted of murder but, despite the circumstances, the film focuses on themes of hope and redemption. This 1994 movie was written and directed by Frank Darabont and based on a Stephen King novella. Nominated for an Oscar in 2004, Thomas Newman's score reflects the emotional intensity of the film. A particular highlight of the movie was the beautiful "Sull'aria" from Mozart's opera The Marriage of Figaro, which was broadcast live to the prisoners. The Shawshank Redemption Opera Scene 40-year old zither player Anton Karas was discovered by director Carol Reed and The Third Man's cast members playing in a wine cellar in Vienna. Reed immediately decided that this was the music he wanted for the film and Karas was enticed to London, where he wrote and recorded the soundtrack over six weeks. What became The Third Man theme had already been in Karas' repertoire, but he hadn't played it in 15 years. The image of it being played on the zither's vibrating strings even provides the background for the film's title sequence. More than half a million copies of the tune were sold within weeks of the film's release. Anton Karas - Der Dritte Mann (The Third Man) Harry Lime Theme (HQ Audio) Shakespeare's timeless play is updated to the hip modern suburb of Verona Beach. Director Baz Luhrmann's collaboration with Craig Armstrong led to an enduring partnership, including the musical spectacular Moulin Rouge. An unconventional soundtrack to the very unconventional interpretation, the touching piano theme for the Balcony Scene has become the standout moment. Craig Armstrong - Balcony Scene (from Romeo + Juliet OST) Much-loved Christmas-time staple Love Actually marked Craig Armstrong's first time composing for a romantic comedy and he came up with the trademark, halo-glow piano piece, "Glasgow Theme". Not only is Armstrong a talented Scottish musician and composer who won a Grammy Award for his film score for Ray, but he used to be a face in the Scottish pop music scene as a member of Hipsway and Texas! Before embarking on this score, Zimmer was told to let his imagination run wild. What emerged was a densely constructed, imaginative, electronic sound world, incorporating a guitar sound reminiscent of the music of Ennio Morricone played by Johnny Marr; former guitarist of The Smiths. Edith Piaf's hit, "Non, je ne regrette rien," which appears in the film, is also integrated into Zimmer's score. The film's iconic brass instrument fanfare even resembles a slowed-down version of the song. Hans Zimmer - Time (Official Audio) It's fair to say that most people would probably think of "Unchained Melody" when they think of Ghost, but Maurice Jarre's spooky and supernatural score for the film is one of his best. His compelling musical storytelling of Sam and Molly's love is one of the reasons audiences keep coming back to this classic film. One of the most iconic pieces of film music, the two-note shark motif that made going in the sea terrifying almost becomes a character in its own right. Rarely has a piece of film music so perfectly captured a film's atmosphere. When Williams first played the two notes to Spielberg on a piano, the director initially laughed, thinking it was a joke. Williams described the theme, performed on the tuba, as "grinding away at you, just as a shark would do, instinctual, relentless, unstoppable." FSO - Jaws - "The Shark Theme" (John Williams) Alan Silvestri is one of the best action composers of all time, and it's his partnership with director Robert Zemeckis that brings out the best in him - think of the Back to the Future trilogy. For Zemeckis' Forrest Gump, Silvestri produced an Oscar-nominated score which chimes perfectly with the simplicity and naivete of the eponymous hero. There's hardly a moment here that won't leave you feeling inspired and uplifted. Forrest Gump Live - Hollywood in Vienna 2011 A woman, her daughter and her piano arrive in 19th-century New Zealand for an arranged marriage. But her future husband refuses to move the piano from the beach. In a bid to get her piano back, she agrees certain favours with an
illiterate neighbour. Michael Nyman's profile rocketed following the success of The Piano and his film score went on to become a classical best seller. The Heart Asks Pleasure First / The Promise (Edit) Producers of the 1941 film Dangerous Moonlight had their eyes on Rachmaninov to write their score. The lugubrious Russian wasn't that keen, so the job of penning the music went to Richard Addinsell. Despite all that, it's fair to say that even he passed on much of the work; too: it fell to the arranger and orchestrator Roy Douglas to knit together the melodies and turn them into a fully orchestrated, heave-on-your-sleeve concert piece, known as the Warsaw Concerto. Full of indulgent harmonies and grand Romantic gestures, the piece remains hugely popular today. Addinsell - Warsaw Concerto Laszlo Kovacs Hungarian Symphony Orchester, Miskolc The second, incredibly successful Pirates romp picks up where the first movie left off, at the wedding of Will Turner and Elizabeth Swan. Before either can say "I do", Captain Jack comes between them again in his quest to save his soul from Davy Jones and a watery grave. Hans Zimmer's score is just as over the top as Depp's portrayal of Jack Sparrow. It's music with its nostrils flared, its chest out and its tongue in its cheek. Organist plays Davy Jones' Theme from Pirates of the Caribbean on Vienna's main cathedral organ. This blockbuster animation won the hearts of children and adults alike, but John Powell's soundtrack is pure action movie class. Something of a minor Hollywood legend, Powell has provided the soundtracks to some incredible money-shifting blockbusters throughout the years (try The Bourne trilogy, for starters). But with How To Train Your Dragon, he earned his first Academy Award nomination. It's a soaring, adrenaline-pumping score - a bit like riding on the back of a dragon, how to train your dragon - flying theme This is a score that initially owed its success to the monumentally successful end title song, "Everything I Do, I Do It for You", co-written by Michael Kamen with Bryan Adams. As the song chugged up 16 weeks at No.1 in the UK, and won a Grammy award and an Oscar-nomination, interest grew in the rest of Kamen's rollicking, brassy soundtrack. The overture remains a favourite with school and military bands. Michael Kamen - Robin Hood Suite (Robin Hood - König der Diebe) | WDR Funkhausorchester Composed in 1982 and presaging the ambient music genre that would follow in the wake of house beats by almost a decade, Vangelis's music perfectly captures the mood of the dystopian, rain-lashed Los Angeles in which the film is set. Evocate and seductively melancholy. Alan Silvestri's Back To The Future is right there with Star Wars and Indiana Jones as one of those iconic Hollywood themes - brassy, bombastic and thrilling. Silvestri's score fits around Marty McFly's increasingly wacky adventures, but among all the chaos and the pop culture references that run through the movie, at its heart it still all makes sense. "Back to the Future" with composer Alan Silvestri conducting in Vienna! Jarre became involved in the 1962 epic after both William Walton and Malcolm Arnold had proved unavailable. Despite this, and the brief six weeks he was given to write the score, Jarre came through with music that perfectly captures director David Lean's vast desert setting and Peter O'Toole's Oscar-winning turn as Lawrence. One of cinema's most famous themes, Jarre's mix of orchestra and exotic percussion captures the romance of the desert. Lawrence of Arabia - Main Theme - Maurice Jarre This Ron Howard directed drama told the true story of the ill-fated 13th American mission to the moon. At a time when space flights had become routine to the American public, the impending tragedy and heroism of the astronauts and scientists suddenly grabbed headlines again. Horner's Copland-esque score for Apollo 13 is possibly his greatest - understated yet stirring, patriotic but with a reverence and dignity, which at times makes it feel more suited to a historical documentary. Apollo 13 OST FULL - James Horner Eric Coates' brilliant theme to the 1955 film, The Dam Busters, is now so popular in its own right that it's often played at military flypasts in the UK. It's not surprising, given its catchy tune. The Dam Busters- Eric Coates As Mel Gibson, playing Scottish nationalist William Wallace, cried "Freedom!", James Horner's stirring score helped transport us back to the 13th century. There were Horner's trademark traditional Celtic and Scottish influences, and not a few eyebrows were raised at the inclusion of some Irish themes, and a Kena flute from the Andes. Combined with the orchestra and a spine-tlinging boys' choir, they create a stirring and beautiful, romantic score. A Gift of a Thistle ("Brave Heart" OST) It could have ended up being an electronic score if director Michael Mann had had his way, but thankfully this glorious 1992 soundtrack from Trevor Jones ended up as an orchestral affair. The film's main character Hawkeye - played by Daniel Day-Lewis - had little to say, but the music spoke volumes. A majestic, thrilling but ultimately simple soundtrack. The Last Of The Mohicans (1992) Original Motion Picture Soundtrack - Full OST Max Steiner is one of the founders of film music as we know it today and his name is now attached to the annual 'Max Steiner Award' for film music which recognises his pioneering role in the early development of the craft. Steiner was drafted in to provide the music to Gone With The Wind and his sweeping score has really stood the test of time, still able to send shivers down spines and create goosebumps. Tara's Theme - Gone with the Wind This touching 1988 Italian film celebrates both childhood and cinema. In keeping with the film's study of a relationship between a child and a father figure, composer Morricone collaborated with his son Andrea for the film's score and their work won them a Bafta. While Morricone is best known for the experimental nature of his earlier work scoring westerns for Sergio Leone with natural sounds, electric guitars and harmonica, Cinema Paradiso is a more traditional orchestral score. However, it is a perfect accompaniment to the sentimental and romantic nature of the film itself. Ennio Morricone - Cinema Paradiso (In Concerto - Venezia 10.11.07) Hans Zimmer's remarkable African-influenced score for the Disney classic turned animated drawings of lions into living, emotionally alive creatures. Hired because of his work on The Power of One and A World Apart, both set in South Africa, Zimmer infused his score for The Lion King with many elements of traditional African music and choral arrangements from South African composer Lebo M. The Lion King soundtrack, with a little help from Elton John, went on to be phenomenally successful, winning Zimmer an Oscar for the music, and becoming a blockbuster stage show too. Hans Zimmer - Remember (From "The Lion King"/Audio Only) For a soundtrack that needed to be as sweeping as the action and location, director William Wyler turned to Jerome Moross who had orchestrated dozens of movies and had extensive experience composing for the concert hall, ballet and theatre. While Moross' Oscar-nominated score is somewhat reminiscent of the wild west ballets of Aaron Copland, The Big Country became his most important contribution to film music, clearly influencing many of the great western scores that followed. The Big Country (Theme From "The Big Country" Original Soundtrack) Undoubtedly one of the greatest Western themes ever, Bernstein drew upon Copland's Wild West ballsets to create a galloping, expansive romp that has remained a worldwide favourite. Along with the iconic main tune, the score also contains allusions to twentieth-century symphonic works, including a reference to the early development of the craft. Steiner was drafted in to provide the music to Gone With The Wind and his sweeping score has really stood the test of time, still able to send shivers down spines and create goosebumps. Tara's Theme - Gone with the Wind This touching 1988 Italian film celebrates both childhood and cinema. 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