



"Music is a beautiful art – if not the greatest of all arts. It's the kind of beauty that lives in time and space, and in each performance over and over again... Some people have got to preserve the beauty of the past. It's important to preserve the past, because you can't have a present and a future if you have no past."

Bernard Herrmann, September 20, 1970



The creators of classic movies surely hoped that their films would endure forever throughout the annals of Hollywood history – the greatest stars, the story lines that possessed and guided the human emotion, the visual splendor that transported moviegoers into magical times and places. But they could not have fully imagined the staying power of one of film's most essential factors: the music.

With the advent of sound, Hollywood employed the finest songwriters and composers direct from Broadway and the European concert halls – the likes of Herbert Stothart, Max Steiner, Alfred Newman, Franz Waxman, Erich Wolfgang Korngold and many others. Movie music soon became a natural part of our culture. But during the final days of the Hollywood studio system, countless film music recordings and manuscripts were destroyed by a shortsighted movie industry, and those materials that did survive began falling prey to deterioration.

From this destruction came our efforts toward preservation, so that in years to come our children's children may enjoy this timeless music. Besides saving manuscripts and recordings, it's about saving the artform's history, writings, photographs and spoken word. And it's about breathing life into the legacy through live performance.

Whether the music was created yesterday or 100 years ago doesn't matter. A dazzling musical kaleidoscope of objectified beauties, a synthesized clash of dissonant tones overlying a dark and futuristic panorama, a sweeping symphonic crescendo as Scarlett swears to heaven with an uplifted fistful of Tara's soil... Film music is, and always will be, a visceral part of the motion picture experience, but one that also stands on its own as a unique contribution to our cultural heritage.

Hollywood, we're watching you. Please save and celebrate your music. And call us. We're here to help.

The Film Music Society
SALUTES

JOHN SCOTT AND THE
*H*OLLYWOOD *S*YMPHONY *O*RCHESTRA

FOR HELPING TO KEEP MOVIE MUSIC ALIVE.



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