

= Voices of the Lifestream =

Voices of the Lifestream is an unofficial tribute album released by OverClocked ReMix in honor of Nobuo Uematsu 's score for the popular video game , Final Fantasy VII . The album was released on September 14 , 2007 , to coincide with the 10th anniversary of Final Fantasy VII . Since its release , the collection has received praise from numerous video game sites and professional composers .

= Development =

Production of Voices of the Lifestream began in January 2006 as a personal endeavor by OverClocked ReMix Judge and ReMixer Andrew " zircon " Aversa to recreate the soundtrack of Final Fantasy VII . In a director ' s note , Aversa credits his nostalgic experiences with the game as his motivation towards the project . A private forum was created to house development on the project and many community members were contacted to aid in developing a track list . Development of the project lasted over 20 months encompassing over 40 remixers credited with creating 45 tracks . The compilation was released on September 14 , 2007 , in correlation with Final Fantasy VII 's 10th anniversary . Few physical copies of the compilation were made . The tracks were instead made available through digital distribution in lossless WAV and MP3 formats . Voices of the Lifestream is OC ReMix 's ninth project to be released .

= Music video competition =

On October 4 , 2007 , OverClocked ReMix announced a competition , in conjunction with Piano Squall and eStarland , regarding the creation of a music video set to a track from Voices of the Lifestream . There were three different categories to enter including Final Fantasy VII , anime , and original . The winners were awarded a signed limited edition of Voices of the Lifestream among other prizes , as well as having their video presented at anime and gaming conventions that OC ReMix attends . The contest ended on December 14 , 2007 . The winners were announced on the OverClocked ReMix forums two months later :

Final Fantasy VII Category

Winner : " Compiled Memories " by sayde (David Lee)

Runner @-@ up : " Black @-@ Winged Angel " by slkdragon (Chris Cook)

Honorable Mention : " Wheels of Lifestream " by Big Paul (Paulo Augusto)

Anime Category

Winner : " Final Moments of Clarity " by Mindefects (Sa?a Tarbuk)

Runner @-@ up : " Sweetest Embrace " by Phantasmagoriat (Chris Studer)

Original Category

Winner : " Stone Eyes " by Zethzen (Ian Cofino)

Runner @-@ up : " Lunatic Hero " by backseatstuff (Matt Furbush)

= Reception =

Public reception has been generally positive , with Voices of the Lifestream being the most downloaded project created by OverClocked ReMix to date according to a BitTorrent tracker on OC ReMix ' s website .

Editors of video game music websites , and video game websites in general , have been typically positive in their reviews . Kotaku has referred to the project as being " a massive labor of love " truly amazing . Game Tabs has called the compilation a " masterpiece " , expressing surprise at the quality of the compilation , but criticizing the vocals in some of the tracks . SquareSound gave the project a 90 % , praising the musicianship exhibited by the OC ReMix community and recommending immediate download . SquareSound also criticized some of the tracks , feeling that they got " lost " attempting to reinterpret the source material . In an advance review , Jayson

Napolitano of Music4Games called Voices of the Lifestream ? one of the most impressive and encompassing listening experiences in the world of video game music . ?

News of the album is not limited to the U.S. Finnish video game magazine Pelit gave the album a score of 5 out of 5 stars , lauding its diverse content but also pointing out a few unnecessary tracks which should have been excluded from the album while it was still in development . Voices of the Lifestream was nonetheless described as ? the most interesting event on the Internet music scene in a long time . ?

Two professional video game composers have also given their approval of the compilation . Tommy Tallarico , video game composer and co @-@ creator of Video Games Live , praised the album , stating ? OC ReMix has done it again ! I 'm always impressed with the amazing talent that comes from the OCR community . ? Michael Gluck , better known as Piano Squall , has also voiced approval of the compilation , stating ? ? this is without a doubt the most fantastic project to ever hit the videogame music scene . "

= = Track listing = =

The project is spread out over four discs although few physical copies of the album are available . Most of the content was distributed via download links and torrents . The names of the discs coincide with the titles of releases made for the Compilation of Final Fantasy VII : Crisis Core ; Dirge of Cerberus ; Advent Children ; and Last Order .

All music composed by Nobuo Uematsu .