

= Saving Private Ryan (soundtrack) =

Saving Private Ryan : Music from the Original Motion Picture Soundtrack is the soundtrack album for the 1998 film Saving Private Ryan , directed by Steven Spielberg . The album was produced by composer John Williams and distributed by DreamWorks Records . Recorded in Symphony Hall , Boston , Massachusetts , the scores were performed by the Boston Symphony Orchestra , with two of the ten compositions featuring vocals from the Tanglewood Festival Chorus . The soundtrack runs for almost an hour , while the film itself lasts over two hours .

Throughout the compositions , brass , string , and horn instruments were used to evoke a variety of emotions and tones . The soundtrack received mixed reviews from critics , but was still nominated for several major awards , of which it won the Grammy Award for Best Instrumental Composition Written for a Motion Picture or for Television . Soundtrack opener " Hymn to the Fallen " received some radio play , in particular on the United States holidays Veterans Day and Memorial Day .

= = Background = =

Steven Spielberg and John Williams had worked together on fifteen films before Saving Private Ryan (1998) . The score was recorded at Symphony Hall in Boston , Massachusetts with the assistance of the Boston Symphony Orchestra . After having recorded the re @-@ edited version Close Encounters of the Third Kind (1977) and some Schindler 's List (1993) at Symphony Hall previously , this was the third time Spielberg and Williams worked on a soundtrack at this location . Spielberg chose Symphony Hall as the site for the recording because the hall gives " rich , warm sound off the walls and ceiling " and allows you to " hear the air , " which some soundstages do not allow you to do . Spielberg stated he chose to work with the Boston Symphony Orchestra because the film deals with a " company of soldiers " and the orchestra was an " experienced company of musicians . " Over the course of a three @-@ day period in February 1998 , the score for the film was recorded at a rate of around \$ 100 @,@ 000 an hour .

Spielberg and Williams both watched a rough cut of the film to determine what scenes would have music . The two decided to leave music out of the fighting sequences , in favor of playing it over long sequences of eight to nine minutes that lack action . The playing of music between fighting sequences gives a moment of reflection for what happened . Tom Hanks came to a portion of the recording session and read the Bixby letter ? which appears in the movie ? to the orchestra at the behest of Williams . This caused the musicians to shuffle their feet in appreciation .

Williams chose to use different families and types of instruments to convey and evoke certain tones within the score . String instruments were chosen to provide a warm sound , brass instruments were utilized for " solemn " sections of the pieces , and horn instruments were used to give off a pensive tone . Military drums were used largely in the piece entitled " Hymn to the Fallen . " The Tanglewood Festival Chorus provided a vocal chorus for " Hymn to the Fallen " that served as a memory to those who have fallen in combat . " Hymn to the Fallen " and its reprise are the only two tracks that feature any sort of vocals and bookend the album . Spielberg chose to place " Hymn to the Fallen " on the closing credits because it will " stand the test of time and honor forever the fallen of this war and possibly all wars " and felt it showed Williams ' " sensitivity and brilliance . " The album was released on July 21 , 1998 .

= = Reception = =

Author Emilio Audissino felt that the music offered no " perspective " like Williams ' scores normally do , but were instead rooted in emotion . Classic FM believed that despite the restrictions placed on Williams , he still managed to create a " moving theme . " Stephen Thomas Erlewine of AllMusic agreed , stating Williams added " sentiment wherever he could nonetheless . " Hillel Italie of the Associated Press found the soundtrack to be " bland " and " out of place . " Richard Harrington of The Washington Post found the soundtrack created by Williams to be " quietly heroic , full of survivalist determination and pragmatic melancholy . " In regard to all of Williams ' soundtracks for

Spielberg films , Harrington believed that this soundtrack was the most " subtle . " Calgary Herald writers felt Williams ' created a " reflective score " that " is sensitive without sensationalizing the subject . "

The Sun 's Ian Black compared the music for Flags of Our Fathers (2006) with that of Saving Private Ryan stating that it was " nowhere close " to the latter . Barbera Vancheri of the Pittsburgh Post @-@ Gazette wrote that " John Williams ' symphonic score soars in the background like church music . " Edmonton Journal writer Ted Shaw found the " meditative quality " of Williams ' score to be a surprise when compared to the intensity of the fighting sequences . He added that the music was an " elevating " component of the film . Thomas Doherty also noted that the music " lacks the bombast of the incoming shells , " stating that it was " quietly martial " with its use of trumpets and mild percussion .

In addition to the film itself , the soundtrack received several nominations for various awards . The score won the Best Instrumental Composition Written for a Motion Picture or for Television . In addition , the score was nominated for Academy Award for Best Original Dramatic Score , the Golden Globe Award for Best Original Score , and the BAFTA Award for Best Film Music , but failed to win the awards .

In 2003 , the Cleveland Institute of Music published a list of uplifting classical music pieces that featured " Hymn to the Fallen " and " Omaha Beach . " Within the United States , " Hymn to the Fallen " received minor radio airplay on Veterans Day and Memorial Day . Classic FM voted the soundtrack to its " Movie Music Hall of Fame " that consists of the top 100 movie soundtracks chosen by fan votes . The soundtrack placed sixteenth on the list , two places lower than the previous year . Portions of the score were used in the " No Casino Gettysburg " videos that were created in opposition of building a casino on the grounds of Gettysburg , Pennsylvania where the Battle of Gettysburg was fought .

= = Track listing = =

= = Credits = =

Source :

= = Release history = =