

## = Music of Final Fantasy X =

The music of the video game Final Fantasy X was composed by regular series composer Nobuo Uematsu , along with Masashi Hamauzu and Junya Nakano . It was the first title in the main Final Fantasy series in which Uematsu was not the sole composer . The Final Fantasy X Original Soundtrack was released on four Compact Discs in 2001 by DigiCube , and was re @-@ released in 2004 by Square Enix . Prior to the album 's North American release , a reduced version entitled Final Fantasy X Original Soundtrack was released on a single disk by Tokyopop in 2002 . An EP entitled feel / Go dream : Yuna & Tidus containing additional singles not present in the game was released by DigiCube in 2001 . Piano Collections Final Fantasy X , a collection of piano arrangements of the original soundtracks by Masashi Hamauzu and performed by Aki Kuroda , was released by DigiCube in 2002 and re @-@ released by Square EA in 2004 . A collection of vocal arrangements of pieces from the game arranged by Katsumi Suyama along with radio drama tracks was released as Final Fantasy X Vocal Collection in 2002 by DigiCube .

The theme song for the game is titled " Suteki da ne " , which was performed by Japanese folk singer Ritsuki Nakano , known as " RIKKI " . The song was released as a single by DigiCube in 2001 and was re @-@ released by Square Enix in 2004 . The game 's music was well received overall ; reviewers praised the additions to the soundtrack by the two new composers for the series . They especially praised Hamauzu , both for his work in the original soundtrack and in arranging the themes for Piano Collections Final Fantasy X. Several tracks , especially " Suteki da ne " and " To Zanarkand " , remain popular today , and have been performed numerous times in orchestral concert series , as well as been published in arranged and compilation albums by Square as well as outside groups .

## = = Creation and influence = =

Final Fantasy X marks the first time Nobuo Uematsu has had any assistance in composing the score for a Final Fantasy game . His fellow composers for Final Fantasy X were Masashi Hamauzu and Junya Nakano . Uematsu contributed 51 tracks , Hamauzu contributed 20 tracks and Nakano contributed 18 tracks to the game . The two new composers were chosen for the soundtrack based on their ability to create music that was different than Uematsu 's while still working together . Uematsu states that his music has been inspired by the music of popstar idols such as Elton John and Paul McCartney , and that his favorite part about the soundtrack is the good reviews from listeners . Nakano set out to create music with a " vibrant and dynamic feel " that tied together his years of experience with game music , while Hamauzu tried to use the soundtrack to bring video game music to " greater heights " .

" To Zanarkand " was originally written by Uematsu before the development of Final Fantasy X , for the recital of a flutist friend named Seo . Uematsu eventually decided the track was too gloomy and kept it for a later use . When development of Final Fantasy X started , he decided to use the track for the game .

## = = Albums = =

### = = = Final Fantasy X Original Soundtrack = = =

Final Fantasy X Original Soundtrack ( ?????????????? ?????????????? , Fainaru Fantaj? Ten Orijinaru Saundotorakku ) is a soundtrack album of music from Final Fantasy X composed , arranged and produced by Nobuo Uematsu , Masashi Hamauzu and Junya Nakano . Vocals are performed by RIKKI for " Suteki da ne " , Bill Muir for " Otherworld " , and choruses for " Hymn of the Fayth " . It spans four discs and 91 tracks , covering a duration of 4 : 32 : 26 . It was first released in Japan on August 1 , 2001 by DigiCube with catalog number SSCX @-@ 10054 , and was re @-@ released on May 10 , 2004 by Square Enix with catalog number SQEX @-@ 10013 .

In 2002 , Tokyopop released a version of Final Fantasy X Original Soundtrack in North America entitled Final Fantasy X Official Soundtrack , which contained 17 tracks from the original album on a single disk . This release had the catalog number TPCD @-@ 0211 @-@ 2 . Additionally , in 2001 , prior to the game 's release , Square released a promotional disk titled Final Fantasy X Promo CD , which contained edited versions of " Other World " , " Zanarkand " , and " Battle 1 " . The disk covers a length of 7 : 08 , and was only released in Japan .

Final Fantasy X Original Soundtrack reached # 4 on the Oricon charts , and sold 140 @,@ 000 copies as of January 2010 . The album was moderately well received ; while some reviewers felt it to be an " absolutely amazing " soundtrack , others only found it to be a " satisfying " work that was " not quite all I was hoping for " . Some reviewers felt that of the three composers , Uematsu 's pieces were the weakest , citing them as having a tendency to be " buried " under the compositions of the others . The same reviewers , however , noted that some of the best pieces on the soundtrack , such as " To Zanarkand " , were the work of Uematsu . Hamauzu 's contributions were seen as some of his best work , and reviewers felt that both he and Nakano brought a " myriad of new flavors " to the soundtrack which were very well received . Final Fantasy X Official Soundtrack , although not re @-@ released after the Original Soundtrack was brought to North America , was seen as a good sampler of the music from the full soundtrack .

Track listing

= = = feel / Go dream : Yuna & Tidus = = =

feel / Go dream : Yuna & Tidus is an EP containing tracks composed by Nobuo Uematsu and inspired by pieces from the game . " feel " was based on the " Hymn of the Fayth " , while " Go dream " was based on " Tidus ' Theme " . Music arrangements were done by Masashi Hamauzu , Tsuyoshi Sekito , and Masayoshi Soken ( under the pseudonym " Masayoshi Kikuchi " ) . Vocals are performed by Mayuko Aoki for the track " feel " and Masakazu Morita for the track " Go dream " . A remix of " feel " was included as a bonus track in the Vocal Collection of Final Fantasy X. It was released in Japan by DigiCube on October 11 , 2001 , bearing the catalog number SSCX @-@ 10058 . The EP reached # 13 on the Oricon charts .

= = = Piano Collections Final Fantasy X = = =

Piano Collections Final Fantasy X is a collection of music from the original soundtrack arranged for the piano by Masashi Hamauzu , and performed by Aki Kuroda . Hamauzu intended the process of arranging the pieces to " consider the groundwork of individual compositions in order to transform these pieces into piano arrangements " rather than simply playing the themes on a piano as they originally sounded . It spans 15 tracks and covers a duration of 56 : 43 . It was first released in Japan on February 20 , 2002 by DigiCube with catalog number SSCX @-@ 10064 , and was re @-@ released on July 22 , 2004 by Square Enix with catalog number SQEX @-@ 10028 .

Piano Collections Final Fantasy X reached # 89 on the Oricon charts and was very well received , with reviewers finding it to be a " great " album , and stating that it was superior to most video game soundtracks , both piano or otherwise . They especially praised Hamauzu , terming him a " very skilled arranger and performer " .

= = = Final Fantasy X Vocal Collection = = =

Final Fantasy X Vocal Collection is a collection of vocal arrangements of pieces from the game arranged by Katsumi Suyama along with radio drama tracks , performed by the game 's characters ' voice actors in Japanese . It spans 14 tracks and covers a duration of 42 : 21 . It was released in Japan on December 18 , 2002 by DigiCube with catalog number SSCX @-@ 10073 . The album was poorly received by critics . They found the album , while it had " pretty good " vocals , to have overall poor sound quality and a clichéd musical style . While " not a horrible album " , they found that the collection was overpriced and under @-@ produced . It reached # 69 on the Oricon charts .

= = Suteki da ne = =

" Suteki da ne " is the theme song of Final Fantasy X. It was written by Nobuo Uematsu and Kazushige Nojima and was sung by Japanese folk singer Ritsuki Nakano , known as " Rikki " , whom the music team contacted while searching for a singer whose music reflected an Okinawan atmosphere . " Suteki da ne " is sung in its original Japanese form in both the Japanese and English versions of Final Fantasy X. The song 's title translates to " Isn 't It Wonderful ? " in English , and its lyrics were written by scenario writer Kazushige Nojima , while Uematsu composed the instrumentals and Shir? Hamaguchi arranged the instrumentals . Like the ballad from Final Fantasy VIII , " Suteki da ne " has an in @-@ game version used in cutscenes together with an orchestrated version used as part of the ending theme .

The song was released as a single by DigiCube on July 18 , 2001 , and re @-@ released by Square Enix on July 22 , 2004 . The disk also contains an instrumental version , an unrelated song entitled " Gotsuki @-@ sama ~ UTIKISAMA ~ " ( " The Moon " ) , and a vocal version of Aerith 's theme song from Final Fantasy VII titled " Pure Heart " . The single covers a duration of 20 : 35 . The original release has a catalog number of SSCX @-@ 10053 , and the re @-@ release has a catalog number of SQEX @-@ 10029 . The original release of " Suteki da ne " reached # 10 on the Oricon charts .

There is also an " autumn version " of the song , also performed by Ritsuki Nakano , released by Universal on October 3 , 2001 on the " KANARIA " minialbum together with six unrelated tracks . The release has a catalog number of UMCK @-@ 1056 . This version of the song , as well as all versions on the single , is also found on the Final Fantasy Single Collection bootleg CD , released by EverAnime with catalog number GM @-@ 496 , by Archer Records with catalog number SA @-@ 007 and by Miya Records with catalog number MICA @-@ 0068 . An official English translation of the song was created for the Distant Worlds : Music from Final Fantasy concert series and was first performed in Chicago by vocalist Susan Calloway on December 12 , 2009 .

= = Otherworld = =

" Otherworld " , the opening theme of Final Fantasy X , was composed by Nobuo Uematsu with lyrics by Alexander O. Smith . It was sung by Bill Muir , the frontman of xtillidiex ( pronounced " Till I die " ) , a death metal band active in Tokyo at the time . The song was already fully formed when Smith was tasked with writing lyrics for it based on a guide track . Smith 's lyrics were loosely based on " The Song of Wandering Aengus " , a poem by W. B. Yeats . Smith mistook a guitar solo section of the song as another part that he had to fill with lyrics , and so he wrote in a spoken words part in " one of those Limp Bizkit @-@ style breakdowns " . Uematsu liked the result and included it in the final song .

= = Legacy = =

The Black Mages , a band led by Nobuo Uematsu that arranges music from Final Fantasy video games into a rock music style , have arranged three pieces from Final Fantasy X. These are " Fight With Seymour " from their self @-@ titled album , published in 2003 , and " Otherworld " and " The Skies Above " , both of which can be found on the album The Skies Above , published in 2004 . Uematsu continues to perform certain pieces in his Dear Friends : Music from Final Fantasy concert series . The music of Final Fantasy X has also appeared in various official concerts and live albums , such as 20020220 Music from Final Fantasy , a live recording of an orchestra performing music from the series including several pieces from the game . Additionally , " Swing de Chocobo " was performed by the Royal Stockholm Philharmonic Orchestra for the Distant Worlds - Music from Final Fantasy concert tour , while " Zanarkand " was performed by the New Japan Philharmonic Orchestra in the Tour de Japon : Music from Final Fantasy concert series . An arrangement of " A Fleeting Dream " was performed on July 9 , 2011 at the Symphonic Odysseys concert , which

commemorated the music of Uematsu . Independent but officially licensed releases of Final Fantasy X music have been composed by such groups as Project Majestic Mix , which focuses on arranging video game music . Selections also appear on Japanese remix albums , called dojin music , and on English remixing websites .