In the Shadow of Star Wars

Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Something True

Popular Music



- ✓ Saturday Night Fever
 - ✓ Other great musical sensation of 1977
 - ✓ Sold over 30 million albums
 - ✓ Bee Gees "Stayin' Alive" AFI #9 Greatest Song
 - ✓ Popularized disco
- ✓ Other films
 - ✓ Grease 1978, Best Song nomination
 - ✓ Fame 1980, Best Song Oscar
 - ✓ Flashdance 1983, Best Song Oscar



Synthesized Scores

- ✓ Portable synthesizer created by Moog
- ✓ Functions
 - ✓ Generate electronic sounds
 - ✓ Imitate acoustic instruments
 - ✓ Replace individual instruments
 - ✓ Replace entire orchestra
 - ✓ Use in rock ensembles
- ✓ Aid for composers and directors



Synthesized Scores



- ✓ Midnight Express (1978)
 - ✓ Created by Gorgio Moroder (pop composer)
 - ✓ Oscar for best score
- ✓ Chariots of Fire (1981)
 - ✓ Music by Greek composer Vangelis
 - √ Oscars: Best Picture, Best Score
- ✓ Halloween (1978)
 - ✓ First of extended series...
 - ✓ Music by the director, John Carpenter



Halloween, 1978

- ✓ First of an extended series (currently 10)
- ✓ John Carpenter: director and composer
- ✓ Completely synthesized score
 - Some sounds imitate recognizable instruments
 - ✓ Some new sounds—low and unnatural
 - ✓ Music is simple, repetitive, and effective
- ✓ Michael attacks: Viewer Guide 22.1

Adapted Scores



- *Sting* 1973
 - ✓ Best Picture and Best Adapted Music Oscars
 - ✓ Music adapted from Scott Joplin Rags
- Exorcist 1973
 - ✓ Avant-garde music is adapted
 - ✓ Penderecki is most prominent composer

Kubrick Adapted Scores

- ✓ A Clockwork Orange 1971
 - ✓ Really dark film
 - ✓ Borrows Beethoven, Rossini, Singin' in the Rain
- ✓ Shining 1980
 - ✓ Music mostly from modern and avant-garde composers: Penderecki and Bartok
 - √ Film is often adapted to the music
- ✓ Wendy Carlos created opening
 - √ Famous for Switched On Bach
 - ✓ All synthesizer
 - ✓ Uses "Dies irae" from the Mass of the Dead



Amadeus 1984



- ✓ Best Picture
- ✓ Music by Mozart
- ✓ Based on play about life of Mozart
- ✓ Mozart
 - ✓ Greatest child musician
 - ✓ Never secured permanent position
 - ✓ Died young under mysterious circumstances
- ✓ Dictation scene: Viewer Guide 22.3

