

Light Scores in the 21st Century

Diverse Stories
Excellent Music

Atonement 2007



- Best Score for Dario Marianelli
- Story in two parts: before and during WWII
- Opening scene: Viewer Guide 32.1
 - Repeated piano pitch represents typing
 - Briony theme
 - Sound of a typewriter in music
- Dunkirk with sad lament; solo cello

Pan's Labyrinth 2006



- Spanish film; mixes realism and fantasy
- Visions of cruelty from Spanish revolution; fantasy narrated by a Faun
- Simple lullaby at beginning; source of much of the music; Oscar nomination for Javier Navarrete
- Opening scene
 - Framed story; we see Ofelia dying; lullaby; hear story of a princess
 - In flashback, Ofelia sees fairy; lullaby in score

Slumdog Millionaire 2008



- Best Picture; Best score; Best Song
- Composer: A.R. Rahman
- English film; inspired by Bollywood
 - Jamal playing/winning Millionaire
 - Later interrogation/torture by police
 - Flashbacks show Jamal as a slumdog
- Rahman mixes Western and Indian styles

The Artist 2011

- French Film; first to win Best Picture
- Silent film shot in black-and-white
- Story of Hollywood and transition to sound
- Rise of a young actress; fall of star
- Best Score by Ludovic Bource
 - Much in style of era
 - Captures humor, drama, and romance
- Romance: Viewer Guide 32.2



Swiss Army Man 2016



- Independent film
- Story involves 2 main characters
 - Hank, seemingly marooned, tries to hang himself
 - Manny is a dead corpse that washes up on shore
 - Full of gas, Manny takes Hank for a water ride
 - Hank and Manny become close friends (imagined)
 - Surprising ending
- Music
 - Andy Hull and Robert McDowell
 - Primarily voices, supported by a synthesizer

Quentin Tarantino

- *Kill Bill* Vol. 1 (2003), Vol. 2 (2004)
 - Director: Quentin Tarantino
 - Extreme violence shown
 - Music taken from variety of sources, often running counter to action
- *Django Unchained* 2012
 - Based on character from Spaghetti Westerns
 - Variety of music from Western to Rap



The Hateful Eight 2015

- Best Score for Ennio Morricone
 - Rose to fame with Spaghetti Westerns; *The Mission*
 - Tarantino previously quoted his earlier works
 - First Tarantino film with commissioned score
- Music sets dark mood and creates black humor

