

HDM - MAY 2017

# FILM MUSIC (& SOUND)

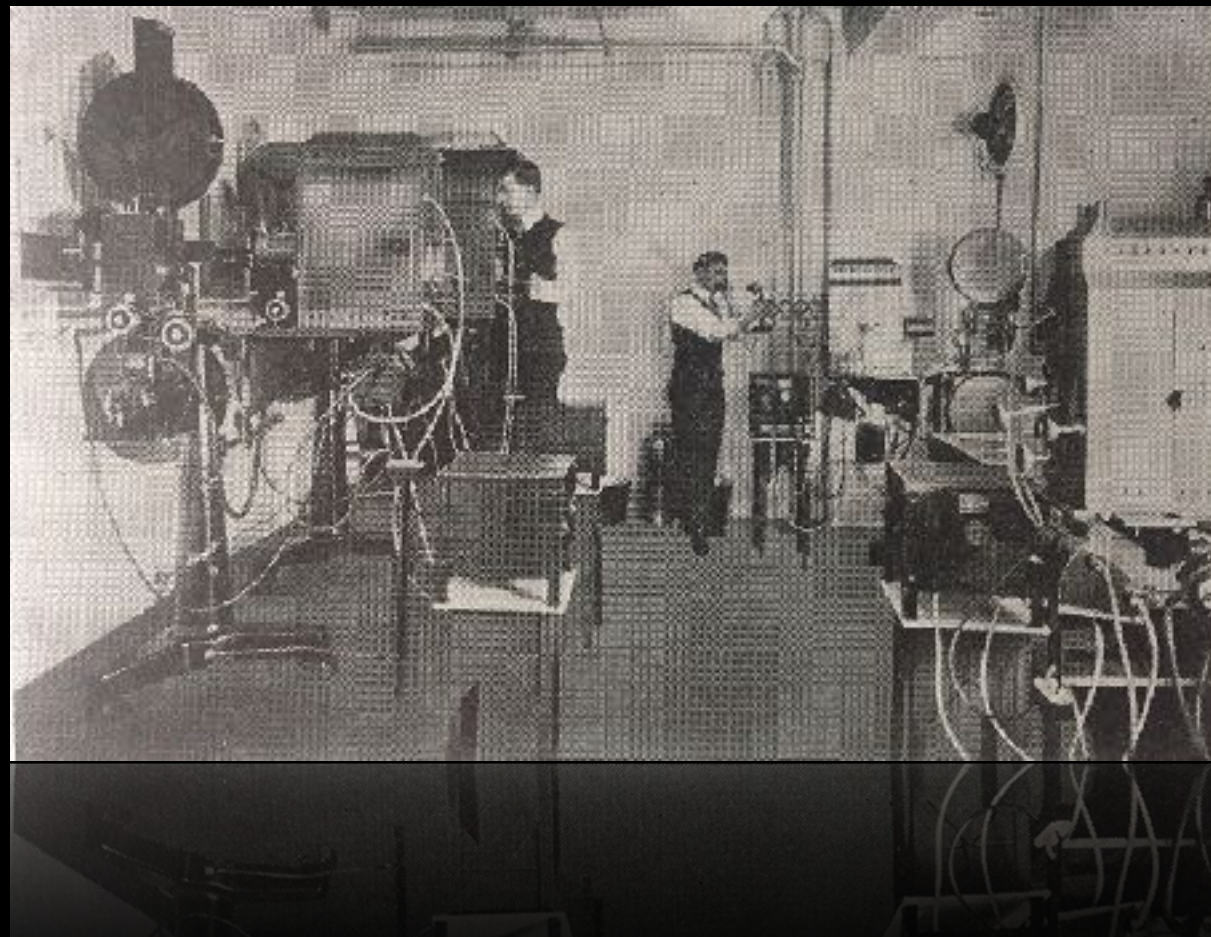
# THE HISTORY OF FILM MUSIC

- Photography -> Silent movies -> Movies with sound.
- Aristotle's tragedies, Shakespeare, opera.



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# THE HISTORY OF FILM MUSIC

- Photography -> Silent movies -> Movies with sound.
- Aristotle's tragedies, Shakespeare, opera.
- Movie projector made a lot of noise.
- The myth about of the drinker cinema pianist...
- The film music concept was born.



# THE HISTORY OF FILM MUSIC

- Piano -> orchestra.
- And a crew of foley artists.
- The cinema organ.
- The early sound film had "sync sound" or soundtrack.
- 1927 - The Jazz singer



# SOUND IN FILM

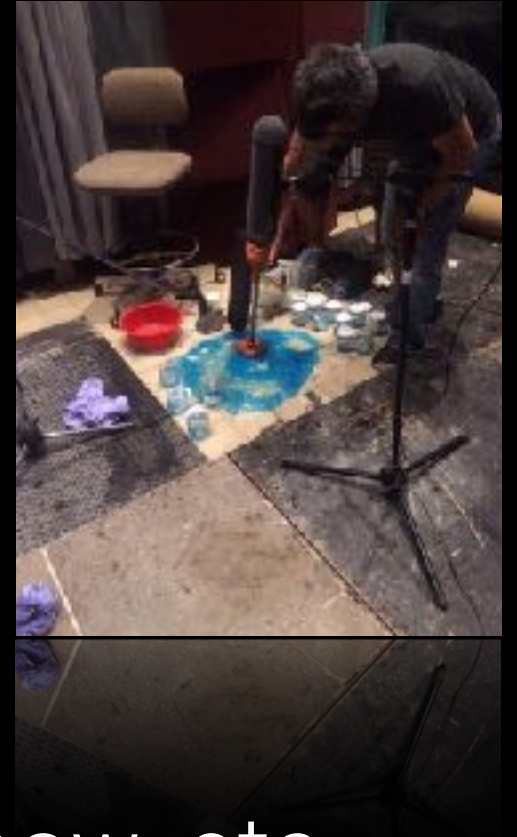
- The dialogue is recording when shooting, sometimes extra afterward.
- Most other sounds are added on afterwards.
  - Environmental sound
  - Sound effects
  - Speaker, voice-over
- Sound ratio (Hz, dB, pan)
- Sound design





# SOUND DESIGN - FOLEY

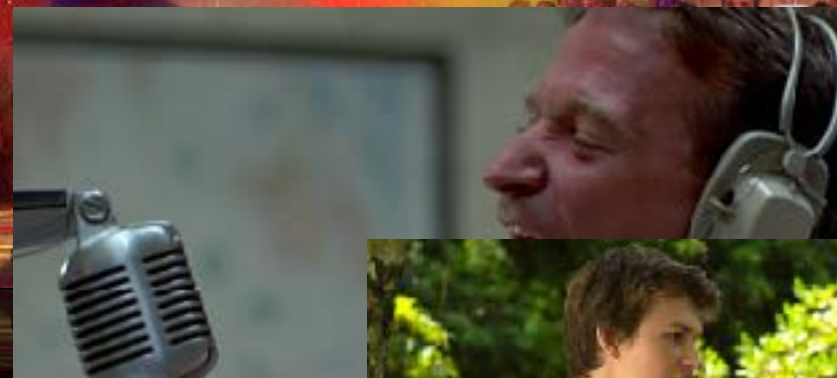
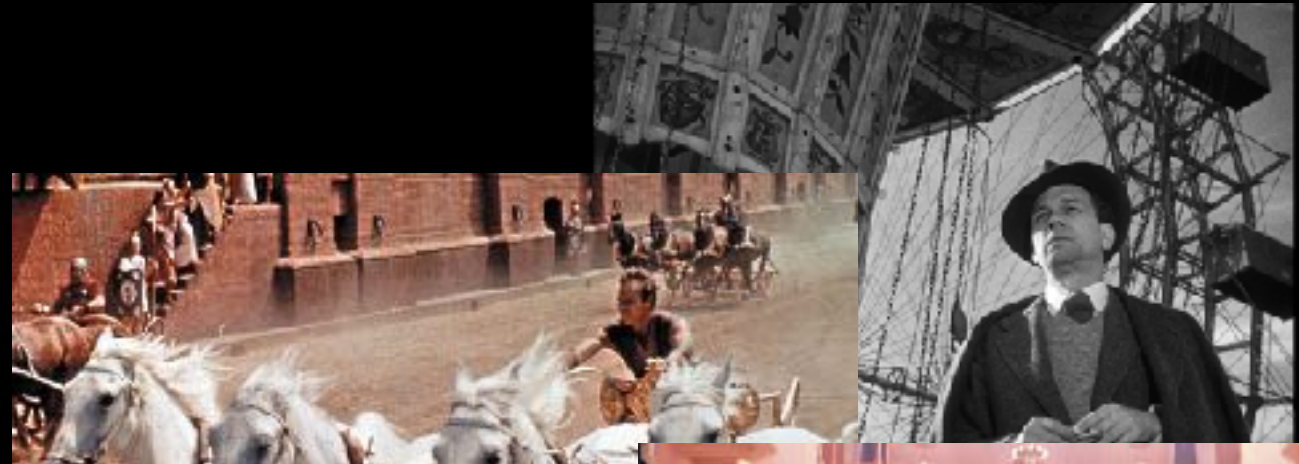
- Record sound
- Edit sound
- Shape sound
- Potato flour in plastic bag = Steps in the snow, etc ...





# TYPES OF FILM MUSIC

- Dramatic underscore
- Popmusic
- Source music





# CONTENT & NARRATIVES

- ✦ Content - What the movie is about, the made up reality
- ✦ Narratives - How the movie is told



# CONTENT & NARRATIVES

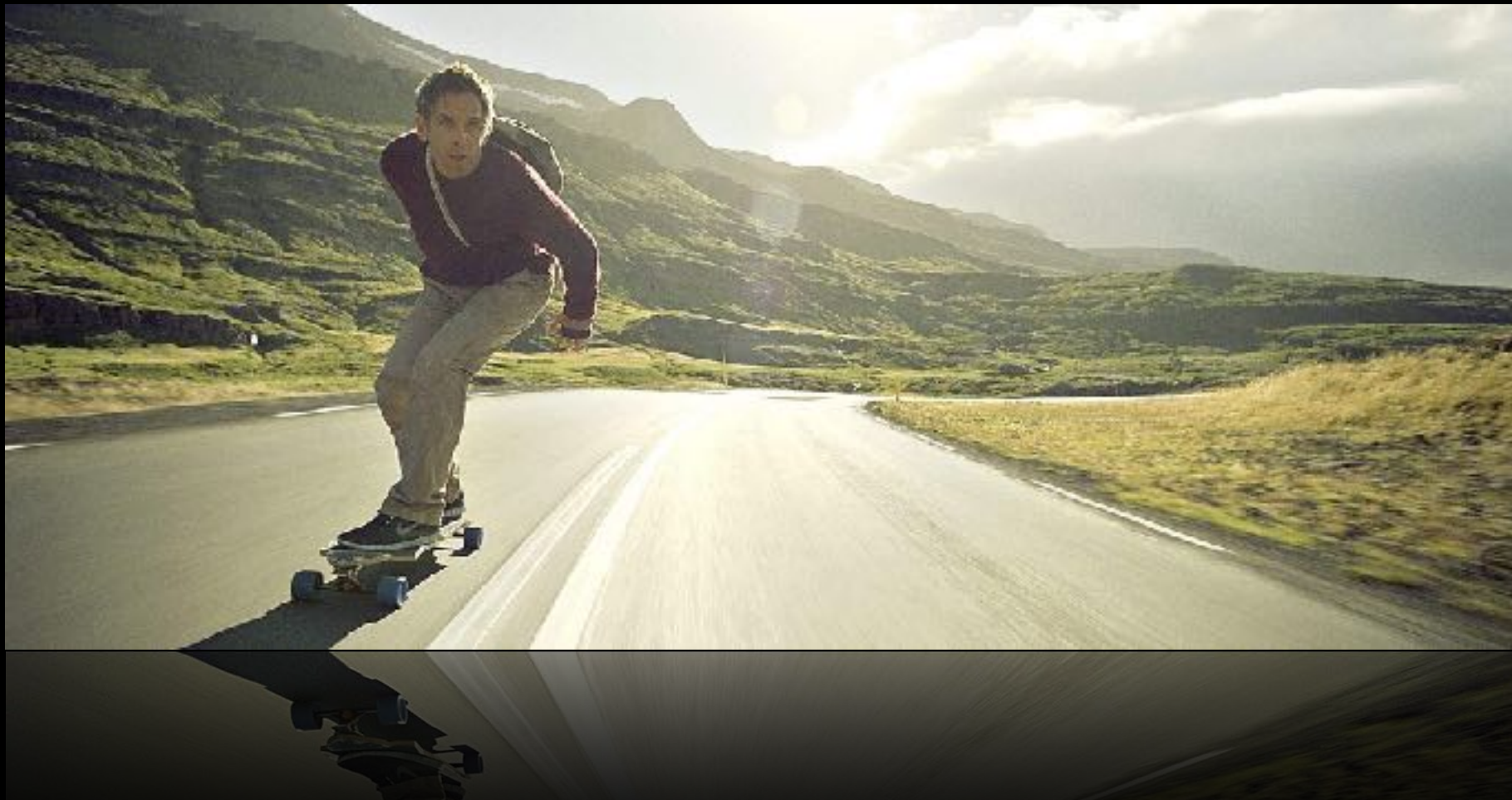
- Diegetic music, part of story, content
- Non-diegetic music, not part of story, narratives
- On, shows on screen
- Off, not on screen





# PRINCIPLES OF FILM MUSIC

- Invisibility
- Inaudibility
- Creator of emotions
- Narrative clues
- Continuity
- Cohesion



# FUNCTIONS OF FILM MUSIC

- Boosts/changes the mood
- Creates continuity and expectations
- Marks things, leads/focuses the eye
- Clarifies, defines the environment
- Places the story in the room, geographically and temporally
- Portrays characters
- Describes things that are not visible





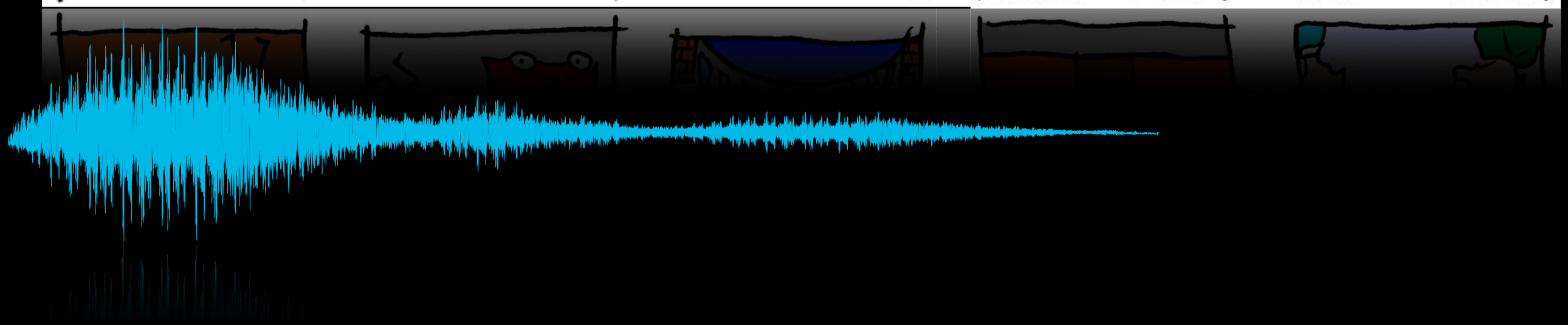
# FUNCTIONS OF FILM MUSIC

- ✦ Boosts/changes the mood



# FUNCTIONS OF FILM MUSIC

- Creates continuity and expectations
- Marks and separates scenes





# FUNCTIONS OF FILM MUSIC

- Marks things, leads/focuses the eye
- Explains important things



# FUNCTIONS OF FILM MUSIC

- Clarifies, defines the environment
- The tempo in the music vs the tempo in the picture
- Mickey Mousing...
- Stagecoach...
- Bladerunner





# FUNCTIONS OF FILM MUSIC

- ✦ Places the story in the room and geographically and temporally
  - Diegetic music...
  - National / cultural music
  - Historical music
  - Bladerunner and the future...



# FUNCTIONS OF FILM MUSIC

- Portrays characters
- 5:th element
- Themes:
  - Pink Panther
  - James Bond
  - Darth Vader
  - Jaws vs Superman
- And the use of themes...





# FUNCTIONS OF FILM MUSIC

- Describes things that are not visible on screen
- Diegetic music
- M - In the hall of the mountain king...



# TIMBRE

- Timbre, how music is portrayed by the instruments and sounds.
- How the instruments sounds:
  - Associations:
    - Time
    - Place
  - Preconceptions
- The border between sound and music





# MUSICAL ELEMENTS

- Number of voices - affects the timbre, but a single instrument ...
- The pitch - low and high tones are more engaging.



# MUSICAL ELEMENTS

- Number of voices - affects the timbre, but a single instrument ...
- The pitch - low and high tones are more engaging.
- Volume - loud sounds are more intrusive, but soft music may also affect.

# MUSICAL ELEMENTS

- Melodies and melodic movements;  
Upward melodies -> more positive  
Downward melodies -> more negative
- Tremolo - changes in amplitude
- Vibrato - changes in pitch
- Key:  
Minor -> more negative  
Major -> more positive  
But, minor and major, do not do anything, do not create the entire effect!



More activating for  
the audience



# PSYCHO ACOUSTIC ELEMENTS

- Pitch - highs vs. lows.
- Tempo - slow tempo vs. fast paced.
- Volume - loud vs. low sound levels. Variations in the sound level.
- Silence - the absence of sound and music ...

# MUSIC VS OTHER SOUNDS

- Sync sound, the dialogue must not be drowned by music.
- Environmental sounds, film music complements the environmental sounds.
- Sound effects vs dialogue.
- More modern form of film music ... what is sound, what is music?