

Liberty University School of Music

presents

Student Recital Series

Junior Film Scoring Program

H.J. Bateman, *Film Composer*

April 15, 2026

Macel Falwell Recital Hall

MUSIC 305

5:00pm

JUNIOR FILM SCORING PROGRAM

A collection of Film Music Samples and Compositions

H.J. Bateman, *Film Composer*

Program

Spirit: Stallion of the Cimmaron

*Written and Directed by: John Fusco,
Kelly Asbury,
& Lorna Cook
Produced by: Jeffrey Katzenberg
& Mireille Soria
Music by: H.J. Bateman*

Kiwi

*Written and Directed by: Dony Permedi
Produced by: Dony Permedi
Music by: H.J. Bateman*

Planet Ocean

*Written and Directed by: Lucy Allwood,
Michael Pitiot,
& Yann Arthus-Bertrand
Produced by: Nicolas Coppermann
& Jean-Yves Robin
Music by: H.J. Bateman*

- PROGRAM NOTES -

Spirit: Stallion of the Cimmaron:

Spirit: Stallion of the Cimmaron (2002) is an animated film taking place in the western US in the mid to late 1800s. The story follows a wild mustang called Spirit who is captured by invading European settlers as they expand west. He is freed by an Indigenous American boy named Little Creek, and they soon bond over their shared resolve to never be broken of their original sense of freedom.

In this trailer I really wanted to capture the wonder of the fresh air and balanced varieties of nature that each existed in their own right. For this, I chose to create a full orchestral score, featuring a Native American style flute and a traditional drum.

Kiwi:

Kiwi is an animated student short film about a Kiwi (a flightless bird native to Oceania) who's dream is to be able to fly like any other bird. His method of achieving this goal is creative and quite unconventional, which I wanted to capture.

When I began work on Kiwi, I stripped all sound and re-foleyed every sound effect. So, everything you hear is a result of me smuggling random objects into the labs and hoping not to get walked in on while obsessively clanging boxes, hammers, squishies, and bungee cords against each other.

Musically, I wanted not just to focus on the eccentric nature of the short film, but I also sought to emphasize the magic of the first experience doing something 'normal' especially if you had to achieve that with a bit more resourcefulness.

Planet Ocean:

Planet Ocean is a French Documentary released in 2012, and highlights the importance of ocean conservation. The preview shows the variety of the underwater ecosystem and its right to exist undisturbed. I wanted to explore this cue from the perspective of someone in awe of what they see—so when I recorded my vocals I made the deliberate choice to keep them as raw as possible. I did this by using a more scratchy tone and no pitch correction.

This was specifically to portray the viewer as being in complete awe of God's creations; so much so that they have to choke back tears. As for instrumentation I went for a 'less is more' approach and only used resonant synths. The other unique sound you'll hear is a sampled heartbeat that I applied flex time to to match the average heart rate of the animals shown.

I thank God every day for the creative gifts He has given me, and the people He has put in my life over the past couple of years.



H.J. Bateman is a student of Dr. David Schmal.

This recital is presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Bachelor of Music in Commercial Music: Film Scoring (Film and Media) Concentration degree.

**We would like to thank the
Liberty University Administration for
their faithful support of the School of Music.**

Dr. Dondi Costin, President
Dr. Scott Hicks, Provost and Chief Academic Officer
Dr. Stephen Müller, Dean, School of Music
The School of Music Administration, Faculty, and Staff

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