

Year 12 Sixth Form Induction Home Learning

- General listening to each of the set topics being studied over the next two years
- Pupils to listen to other pieces by the same composers
- Composition ideas based on the Battle of the Somme. This is an NMPAT initiative where we are linking with a film composer to write music for a video clip.

Northamptonshire Music
and Performing Arts Trust



Many thanks for agreeing to take part in our music hub silent film music competition which will involve up to ten of our Northamptonshire secondary schools and academies. The project commemorates the battle of the Somme which took place between July and November 1916 and takes as its inspiration the 1916 silent movie entitled 'The Battle of the Somme' which was watched by over 30,000,000 film goers at the time.

The competition is open to secondary pupils of all ages and offers cash prizes for the winners of each key stage age group.

In a nutshell, students will be given a silent film clip from the Imperial War museum archive and asked to compose a contemporary sound track to accompany it. Schools will judge their own entries and submit the winners of each key stage into a final round. The competition will culminate in an Oscars style awards ceremony with screenings of winning entries. The competition can be delivered as part of the music curriculum or as an 'unsupervised' and open competition for students in your school.

In 2006 the film composer Laura Rossi was commissioned by the Imperial War Museum to compose a new film score to the film 'The Battle of the Somme' as part of the 90th anniversary celebrations. Laura will be involved in the launch of the project and also in the judging of entries.

We do hope that you would like to participate in this competition. I have attached a more details plan that contains a number of key dates. Please could you reply to this email confirming that you would like to become a participating school.

Mud, Blood and Music

Film Music Competition Summary

Partners:

Northamptonshire Music Education Hub and Laura Rossi (Film composer working in partnership with the Imperial War Museum)

Purpose:

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the Battle of the Somme (July 1916)

What and who for?

A film score competition open to all secondary pupils: KS3, KS4 & KS5

Key outcomes:

All students:

- Understand the historical significance of both the Battle of the Somme and the 1916 film 'The Battle of the Somme'
- Understand how technology impacted on two soundtracks to the silent film composed a century apart i.e. the original piano / cinema ensemble medley and Laura Rossi's contemporary film score composed in 2006 to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the film
- Understand how to compose for film and compose sound tracks to WW1 clips provided by the Imperial War Museum archive
- Celebrate musical outcomes with a film awards evening for winning entries

Some students:

- Understand the challenges of performing and synchronising an excerpt from Laura Rossi's film score 'The Battle of the Somme'

Prizes:

- For each Key Stage winner (KS3, KS4 & KS5): £75 voucher + participation in a one day film music workshop with Laura Rossi (date to be agreed)
- For one overall competition winner: an additional £75

Process / proposed timeline:

1. **July 1st**: 10 Northamptonshire secondary schools invited to participate in the competition.
2. **Tuesday 13th September 2016, 4.30 – 7.00pm: Stage 1. Competition launch at the NMPAT Music Centre, Northampton**: Teachers from participating schools attend a twilight launch event at NMPAT Centre, led by Chris Hiscock and film composer Laura Rossi? to include:
 - a. Screening of excerpts from the film 'The Battle of the Somme', comparing the original and 2007 film scores
 - b. Initial input including
 - i. Compositional challenges of writing for a silent movie
 - ii. A working composing brief for pupils
 - iii. Allocation of archive film clips to schools
 - c. Logistics, expectations, process and deadlines i.e.:
3. **September 14th – Friday November 18th 2016: Stage 2. Developmental work in schools (8 weeks)**:

- a. Teachers launch the competition in school. Pupils are asked to compose film music to a given brief either on their own (and in their own time), or, in class as part of a planned sequence of learning using an age appropriate WW1 film clip provided by the Imperial War Museum archive
 - b. Optional (to be paid for by the school): half day visit by Laura Rossi to work with participating students
 - c. Teachers judge each school entry, select a winner from each age group and forward them to NMPAT for the next stage of the competition
- 4. Friday 25th November: Deadline for submission of winning entries to NMPAT for judging**
- 5. December 10th 2016: Stage 4a. Saturday morning rehearsal and synchronisation of a section of Laura Rossi's film score to 'The Battle of the Somme' for the County Training Orchestra and grade 6+ orchestral players from participating schools at NMPAT Music Centre.**
- 6. December 13th 2016, 7-9pm: Awards evening and screening of scenes from 'The Battle of the Somme' film. Venue: NMPAT Music Centre.**
- a. For pupils and parents of all participating schools:
 - i. Introduction: the challenge of composing a silent film track for 'The Battle of the Somme' – Laura Rossi
 - ii. Screening of three selected sound tracks from each KS3, KS4 & KS5 competition with the age group winner announced after each batch
 - iii. A screening of a complete section of the film 'The Battle of the Somme'
 - iv. Presentation of prizes (see above)