



HANS ZIMMER



Timeline

1957	1964	1971	1977	1982-1987	1988-1995	2000	2001-PRESENT
Born in Frankfurt, Germany	Zimmer's father dies and he focuses on music	Moves to London where he attends school	Works with a band called the Buggles	Writes film, advert and TV soundtracks	Wins many awards for his film scores, including The Lion King.	Performs a live concert for the very first time	Continues to make music for films

Key Songs

Video Killed the Radio Star	1979 – The first song to appear with a music video on TV, performed by The Buggles.
Moonlighting	1982 – The first film soundtrack created by Zimmer about Polish workers in the U.K.
Going for Gold	1987 – This gameshow theme tune gave Zimmer enough money to pay his rent.
The Last Emperor	1987 – Zimmer won his first Academy Award for the soundtrack to this film.
The Lion King	1994 – A set of songs and music which has become Disney's most successful soundtrack of all time.
Crimson Tide	1995 – Won a Grammy for the score to this film which is one his most famous.
The Prince of Egypt	1998 – Zimmer performed with Ofra Haza, an Israeli singer who the directors thought so beautiful, they turned her into a Disney character in the film!
Pirates of the Caribbean	2006-2011 – Zimmer was too busy to produce music for the first film, but wrote the scores to the next three.
Planet Earth II and Blue Planet II	2016-2017 – Working with the BBC, he wrote the music to these famous David Attenborough documentaries.
2018 World Cup	2018 – He wrote the TV intro music to the World Cup and the UEFA Champions League.

DID YOU KNOW?

Hans Zimmer is Jewish and his mother had to escape Nazi Germany during World War II and flee to the U.K.

The Importance of Hans Zimmer

Self-Taught

Zimmer is a self-taught musician. He had formal piano lessons when he was younger but gave up after two weeks. After his father died when he was young, he disappeared into a world of computers and music, learning as he experimented. His mother was a musician, and his father was an engineer.

Electronic and Orchestral Music

Zimmer is most famous for combining the traditional orchestra with electronic music. He often used synthesizers (a keyboard which generates unique audio signals) when composing, along with instruments from an orchestra. He can play piano, keyboards, guitars and often uses technology and computers to develop his work.

Prolific Composer

To be 'prolific' means to create a lot of content. Zimmer has produced nearly one hundred film soundtracks, many of which you might know: King Fu Panda, Boss Baby, Madagascar, Spongebob the Movie, The Simpsons Movie, Rango, Shark Tale, Batman Vs Superman, X-Men, The Amazing Spider-Man 2, Iron Man, Transformers and more!

Famous Events

The Lion King (1994)

Zimmer wrote the score to the original animation and the live action follow-up in 2019. The part where Mufasa died meant a lot to him as his father died when he was young. The film also contained songs from Elton John.

Computer Games

As he grew up, he was interested in electronic music, computers and computer games and has also produced the music for many games such as FIFA 19, The Simpsons, Lego Batman 3 and Skylanders Giants.

Awards

Zimmer has won many awards for his music. The most successful being The Lion King. He has won 3 Golden Globes, 4 Grammy Awards and 1 Academy Award.