

Stories Behind The Cue

Stéphanie Hamelin Tomala



Stéphanie Hamelin Tomala is a Canadian-American composer for film, television, and animation whose music blends orchestral textures, voice as an instrument, and electronic sound design to create immersive sonic worlds. Her credits include *One Perfect Date*, *The Ocean Duck* (Oscarqualifying short), *The Struggle for Mother Water* (Berlinale Series Market), *I Lost My Mom*, *Living Together* (TIFF), and *Sesame Street*. A Canadian Screen Award nominee for Best Original Score, a Canadian Screen Music Award nominee, and a Hollywood Music in Media Award nominee, she has collaborated extensively with the National Film Board of Canada and is passionate about building emotionally driven worlds through music.

Simon Poole



Simon Poole is an award-winning Canadian composer whose work spans film, television, advertising, and games. He scored the acclaimed series *Hate the Player: The Ben Johnson Story*, created by Anthony Q. Farrell (*The Office*, *Run the Burbs*), and the documentary *Black Ice*, executive produced by Drake and LeBron James. *Black Ice* premiered at TIFF 2022 and won the People's Choice Documentary Award. His television credits include *Overlord* and the *Underwoods* (Marblemedia) and the long-running Discovery docudrama *Fear Thy Neighbor*. He has also contributed additional music to *Vikings: Valhalla* (Netflix) and *Big Sky* (ABC). Before focusing on screen composition, Simon toured Canada with the rock band *The Dying Arts*, sharing bills with artists including Weezer, Wu-Tang Clan, and The Prodigy. A graduate of the UCLA Film Scoring Program and alumnus of the Slaight Music Residency, Simon lives in Toronto with his wife and children.

Leah Hidalgo



Leah Hidalgo is a Toronto-based film and television composer, specializing in screen scoring for animated media. She is best known for composing the original score for the hit Netflix animated series *Unicorn Academy: Secrets Revealed*, which earned her a nomination for Best Original Score for an Animated Series at the 2026 Canadian Screen Music Awards. Her portfolio includes festival-selected films such as *Feeling the Apocalypse* (2022), *The Journey of Kelly's Bake Shoppe* (2025), and *End of the Line* (2023), which earned a Best Original Score nomination at the Independent Horror Film Festival. She also composes custom music for digital animation brands such as Giggibox and Team Kyoshi. Leah graduated with high honours from Sheridan College's Music Scoring for Screen and Stage program, where she honed her skills in scoring for film, animation, and interactive media. Leah thrives in creative environments built on trust and authentic connection, striving to translate each narrative's vision into an emotionally resonant, lasting musical experience. Beyond screen scoring, she creates, publishes, and sells original piano sheet music arrangements.

Adrian Ellis



Adrian is a 6x Canadian Screen Award nominated composer known for his inventive, concept-driven scores, including a live, single take recording for *Last Call*, and an ensemble of junk metal and power tools for *Timebox*. Feature film work includes *The Scarehouse* (NBC/Universal), *Cult Hero*, Shudder Original *The Strings*, and *The Legacy of Cloudy Falls*. Television credits include *The CFL* and *International Hockey* (TSN), *Mapping Disaster* (Autentic/Superchannel), and *Into The Universe* (ZDF/Superchannel). Adrian has four Canadian Screen Music Award (CASMA) nominations, winning in 2025 for the feature *Mother Father Sister Brother Frank*. He is the current chair of the Screen Composers Guild of Canada.

Jaasmaan Singh



Jaasmaan is a 3x CASMA (Canadian Screen Music Award) nominated Film Composer, Music Producer and singer/songwriter. Known for unique sonic signature owing to his diverse musical background, Jaasmaan's score offer unique blend of strong melodic motifs alongside lush harmonic textures. Having pursued a BFA Hons. in music, Jaasmaan brings a wealth of musical knowledge alongside his deep understanding of film music.

Amanda Cawley



Amanda Cawley is an award-winning orchestral composer known for crafting fantastical themes for Film, Television and Games.

Inspired by the power of music to enhance storytelling, Amanda specializes in creating sonic landscapes that connect narrative concepts with melodic motifs, reflecting them through carefully chosen instrumentation and soundscapes. Her talent for breathing life into characters and worlds through music has garnered recognition and admiration throughout Canada and beyond.

In 2024, Amanda received two Canadian Screen Music Awards: Best Original Score for Animated Series or Special (*Ostinato*) and Best Original Score for Games and Interactive Media (*Siegebreaker*.) Amanda recently won a Leo Award in 2026 for Best Musical Score in a Short Film (*Charlie is Not a Boy*) and was recognized by the SOCAN Foundation as the Grand Prize Winner of the 2024 Emerging Screen Composer Awards.

Her credits include 104 episodes of the internationally distributed animated series *Fireman Sam* and 20 episodes of *Ageless Gardens*, for which she received nominations at the Canadian Screen Awards and Canadian Screen Music Awards. Based in British Columbia, Canada, Amanda works from her studio while collaborating with orchestras and clients worldwide, including Netflix, BBC, Mattel, & Hallmark.