## Music

# The function of music in film

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#### **Credits**

- An obvious use of music in film (as there are words on the screen).
- Sets the mood for the type of film action, drama, horror, romance, comedy etc.
- The end credits these days can often be a popular song not featured in the film, but used in trailers to promote it.



#### https://youtu.be/IQ-vyftT7nA

#### Mood and atmosphere

- Allows the audience to understand how everyone in the scene is feeling or the general mood of the occasion.
- · Camera will look at everyone (not focus on one person).



https://youtu.be/LL--prfnuJ8

#### **Dramatic effect**

- · Can create contrast or highlight something in the scene.
- Can sometimes be a 'ta-dah' moment or involve the use of tension in the music.
- · Camera will often pan out.



#### https://youtu.be/Owq\_aBJ9G6Q

#### Sense of locale

- · Can give a sense of the time or place in which the film or a particular scene is set.
- Can involve music from a particular time period, genre or culture.



https://youtu.be/tLZQ\_xQEHGY

#### **Character emotion or identification**

- A small theme (or motif) can be associated with a particular character and may identify them as being a 'hero' or 'villain' (for example, the Jaws theme).
- · Helps the audience connect with the emotions of the character without any dialogue.
- The camera will focus on one character (unlike mood and atmosphere that looks at everyone in the scene).



#### https://youtu.be/r4kiXh8YOzk

#### Pace and action

- · Generally a chase/running scene or a fight scene.
- The music will reflect the movement on the screen.



https://youtu.be/WLqCug7otCw