James Bagnall

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**A creative and innovative Composer and Pianist, who specialises in instrumental music and music for the moving image. Experienced in performance, production and collaboration.**

**Portfolio**

The portfolio consists of a modern classical and electronic style. The piano is a key instrument, as well as other traditional instruments and electronically made ones.

Four are music examples and four are examples of music with video.

**Music**

A simple melody developed through improvisation, using the felt piano sound, made popular by Nils Frahm:

<https://soundcloud.com/james-bagnall/a-second-spring>

A small piano album, that consists of seven pieces. Each track focuses on a different musical component, such as melody, harmony and piano resonance. Surrounding rural sounds, which are picked up on microphones when recording, are used creatively to create an ambient setting, rather than being edited out:

<https://soundcloud.com/james-bagnall/sets/field-of-sound>

This improvised track, involves a collaboration with a talented violinist:

<https://soundcloud.com/james-bagnall/vapours-improvisation-violin-and-piano>

An electronic track, focused around multi-recorded piano. These are blended with electronically synthesized instruments and sampled strings to create an ambient soundscape:

<https://soundcloud.com/james-bagnall/soon-we-dream>

Full link, to the rest of my music portfolio: <https://soundcloud.com/james-bagnall/tracks>

**Music with Video**

A video example from my Masters degree portfolio submission. The music involves traditional and electronic instruments, as well as creative sound design to illustrates the drama unfolding on screen:

<https://vimeo.com/191039416>

A video montage of Bramhall Park. Sounds captured from the park are combined with piano, violin and electronic instruments to creatively capture the park’s atmosphere:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XSOLRArvoZo>

Music provided for an 11 second ident, for an independent wargaming channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_WLXx8OuW6k>

An original track, composed for a Manchester based director. Used in his independent short film:

<https://vimeo.com/82569841>

**Performance**

Nils Frahm and Ólafur Arnalds, are key influences on the modern classical style found in my portfolio. Incorporating their performance style, has helped me to have successful performances in Manchester and Stockport. I believe that modern classical music can be accessible. After seeing James Rhodes get this across well in his performances, I too attempt this in mine. I interact with the audience in between pieces, and talk about how classical music can be enjoyed by anyone in any setting.

**Education**

**2013 – 2015 University of Huddersfield**

**M.A. by Research**

* Researched the relationship of timbre in film, and how it can be a key tool in a composer’s music.
* Submitted a 30-minute composition portfolio and 5000 word thesis.
* Attended a weekly master classes.
* Worked with Dr. Elizabeth Dobson in her scoring for film undergraduate module, and also provided help and feedback to students.

**2010 – 2013 University of Huddersfield
Bmus (Hons) Music 2:1**

* Specialised in Composition and Scoring for film.
* Other modules studied included: musicology, techniques of music analysis and performance.
* Good attendance and met all deadlines.
* Performed in University concerts, and with the Edges Ensemble in the Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival.

**Cheadle/Marple College, Marple**

**A levels 2010**

Three A levels and one AS level.

**Hillcrest Grammar School, Stockport
GCSE’s 2008**

10 passes, including 2 A\*’s in History and Music and one A in Mathematics.

**Employment**

**Private Piano Teaching: 2014-Present**

Teaching piano, theory and music technology throughout Stockport. Students have taken ABRSM piano and theory exams.

**Riffs Music Academy: December 2014 – December 2015**

Taught lessons to young and adult students, and guided many of them with their LCM grade exams.

**Huddersfield University Tour Guide. June 2013 – July 2014**Guided potential students and parents around the universities music facilities. Interacted and answered their questions about the course, town and general student lifestyle.

**Bar Staff, The Governors House. May – September 2011**

**Imagine FM, 2-week work placement. June 2009**

Assistant to Head of broadcasting. Edited the weekly track list programme and external broadcasting.