

RSNO

SCOTLAND'S NATIONAL
ORCHESTRA



FILM
COMPOSERS
LAB

Film Composers Lab 2024:25
Application Pack

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About the Programme

Film Composers Lab is a professional development scheme for early-career composers with an interest in composition for screen. Delivered by the Royal Scottish National Orchestra (RSNO), the programme builds on the success of the RSNO's Composers' Hub initiative, delivered annually between 2015 and 2022.

Film Composers Lab offers five emerging UK-based composers an invaluable opportunity to expand their skills in film composition by rescoring an existing short film while working directly with a professional orchestra, project mentors, experienced film composers and seasoned screen industry professionals, creating a brand-new composition for a full symphony orchestra. Delivered in a hybrid format, the project will culminate in a workshop at the RSNO's world-class recording facility, Scotland's Studio, in May 2025. All five new scores will be programmed at a special public screening in the summer of 2025, where one winning work will be selected for performance in the RSNO's 2025:26 Season.

Activity and Dates

Participants will take part in masterclasses with industry experts – providing insights into all aspects of composing for film, from the director-composer relationship to orchestration and budgeting – while working on their new compositions. Each participant will have a 1:1 mentoring session with award-winning film and TV composer John Lunn (*Downton Abbey*, *The Last Kingdom*, *Shetland*). Co-mentor Danai Kokogia will be on hand to provide regular support and advice to participants throughout the project. There will be two opportunities for participants to workshop their scores with RSNO musicians at Scotland's Studio in Glasgow. Activities will be delivered in a hybrid format between November 2024 and May 2025, with the key dates that composers need to commit to as follows:

Date	Activity	Location
9 Nov 2024	Induction Day including tour of Scotland's Studio and attendance at RSNO's <i>Final Symphony</i> concert	Glasgow
9 Feb 2025	Online Film Industry Masterclasses Day	Online
16 Feb 2025	Workshop 1 (with chamber ensemble)	Glasgow
12 Apr 2025	In-Person Film Industry Masterclasses Day	Glasgow
24 May 2025	Workshop 2 (with full symphony orchestra)	Glasgow
25 May 2025	Mixing Session	Glasgow

In addition, prospective applicants should make note of the following dates:

Applications deadline: 5pm on Friday 13 September 2024

Interviews via Zoom: Monday 7 and Tuesday 8 October 2024

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Project Facilitators



Lead Mentor: John Lunn

Emmy-winning composer John Lunn, best known for his scores for British television, will act as lead mentor for the Film Composers Lab, guiding participants' experience and providing targeted mentorship during the programme. Lunn has composed the scores for such critically acclaimed series as *Hamish Macbeth*, *Bleak House*, *Shetland* and *The Last Kingdom*. After acting as sole composer of the BBC series *Downton Abbey* during its six-season run, he returned to score the 2019 and 2022 film sequels.



Associate Co-Mentor: Danai Kokogia

London-based Greek film composer Danai Kokogia's roster of projects encompasses a large variety of styles with an emphasis on orchestral and hybrid music. In 2021, Kokogia was commissioned by Taco Bell and ad agency Deutsch LA to compose, arrange and produce an epic orchestral score for their quirky animated *Quesalupa* commercial. She also composed the hybrid score for drama/action feature film *GEAL*, and acted as midi programmer for feature political documentary *Faceless*. Other notable projects include feature documentary *opPRESSion*, award-winning animated short *Layers of Fear*, and experimental drama short *The Color of You*.



Masterclass Leaders: Film and Music Industry Professionals

Participants will take part in a series of masterclasses, which will provide industry insights into the creative, practical, and business elements of composing for screen. Curated by the programme's Film Industry Consultant Holly Daniel, these sessions will be delivered by established UK and international composers, film directors, music supervisors, orchestrators and producers, as well as members of the RSNO Artistic Team and staff.

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Eligibility Criteria

We welcome applications from everyone, regardless of ethnicity, heritage, gender, sexuality, religion, disability, or socio-economic background, and would particularly encourage individuals from groups currently underrepresented in the field of composition to apply. The only specific eligibility criteria are that applicants must be:

- Based in the UK
- A current PRS member (or applying member)
- In the early stages of their career, with some experience of composing for picture
- Experience in preparing orchestral scores and parts is preferred

Travel/Accommodation Bursaries

Support for all participants

This programme is designed to be available to any early-career composer resident in the UK. For the in-person days in Glasgow, we will provide travel and accommodation bursaries to all participants (up to a maximum of £1250) to ensure that their participation in the Film Composers Lab is financially sustainable.

Application Notes

To apply for a place on the Film Composers Lab scheme, please complete the application form overleaf and return it by email to engage@rsno.org.uk with the required supporting materials. The deadline for applications is **5pm on Friday 13 September 2024**. Shortlisting will take place in late September and shortlisted candidates will be interviewed via Zoom on Monday 7 and Tuesday 8 October.

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Application Form

CONTACT INFORMATION	
Full name	
Preferred pronouns	
Address	
Postcode	
Phone number	
Email address	

ABOUT YOU	
Are you a: (tick as appropriate)	<input type="checkbox"/> Current PRS member? What is your PRS membership number?:
	<input type="checkbox"/> Applying member?
Do you have any accessibility issues?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, please specify:
How did you find out about the Film Composers Lab?	

PERSONAL STATEMENT
<p>Please tell us why you would like to participate in Film Composers Lab and how it will benefit you at this stage in your career. (500 words max.)</p>

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SUPPORTING MATERIALS

Please attach the following alongside your completed application form:

- Curriculum Vitae
- An example of an orchestral score or part that you have prepared (in PDF format)
- Two composition samples, of which at least one is a score to picture. The picture does not need to be an original project – rescoring is acceptable (you can either attach files to your email or provide links below)

Composition 1:

Composition 2:

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Film Composers Lab is supported by



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