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Hans Zimmer: The Independent Composer

When it comes to an independent composer, an independent composer is a person who writes songs and composes music for different companies. Usually, they sign a contract to the company to make and write the music for a film soundtrack. An example of an independent composer is Hans Zimmer, one of the best composers of not only Germany, but of the world. Zimmer was contracted to many companies, like Warner Bros., DreamWorks and 20th Century Fox, to create and write music for movies and shows like Prince of Egypt, The Dark Knight Trilogy, Driving Miss Daisy and Sherlock Holmes. But when it comes to his best projects, one film that comes up is The Lion King. The Lion King was made in 1994 by Walt Disney Pictures and its Animation Studios. Zimmer helped compose some of the music with the help of Elton John & Tim Rice. While Rice and John wrote songs like The Circle of Life and Hakuna Matata, Zimmer focused on composing the score. He used traditional African music and a couple choir elements from South African producer and composer, Lebo M. Scores he made from The Lion King include “Under the Stars” and “This Land.” Each of these scores and more showed hints of African music and choir throughout the movie. They each sounded adventurous and set different tones in the movie, making the movie enjoyable for everyone and helped them imagine that they were in Africa. Because of The Lion King’s worldwide success & the music of Rice, John and Zimmer, in 1995 Zimmer went on to win an Academy Award for Best Original Score, a Golden Globe, and two Grammys for Best Instrumental Arrangement with Accompanying Vocals & Best Musical Album for Children. With all the hard work and achievement, I can say that The Lion King was in my opinion the best work he has done. And with Zimmer coming back for the remake in 2019, I see more success for our German composer.