

Patrick Kirst – Biography

Patrick Kirst represents the next generation of film composers, providing a fresh and unique voice, revealing the unseen but deeply felt emotional landscape of film. He recently finished his lush, dark and emotional score for the Chilean period drama **Tierra De Sangre**, which was in competition in the *Best Original Score* category at the 2014 Golden Globes Awards. Other recent credits include his eclectic and intimate score for the *Mar Del Plata Film Festival Grand Prize Winner* **Las Malas Intenciones** (The Bad Intentions) as well as his powerful lyrical score for **Der Grosse Kater** (The Big Cat), starring acclaimed actor Bruno Ganz (Downfall, The Reader) along with an all-star German cast.

In 2008, Patrick collaborated with **DisneyNature** on their first nature documentary **Earth**, based on BBC's highly successful Planet Earth TV series. In 2007 Patrick started his working relationship with critically acclaimed composer Aaron Zigman. Credits include top-grossing romantic comedy **The Proposal** (2009), starring Sandra Bullock and Ryan Reynolds, **The Ugly Truth** (2009), starring Katherine Heigl and Gerard Butler, **What's Your Number?** (2011), starring Anna Faris, **I Don't Know How She Does It** (2011), starring Sarah Jessica Parker and Greg Kinnear, **Sex and the City: The Movie** (2008 and 2010), and **Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium** (2007), starring Dustin Hoffman and Natalie Portman.

Patrick's recent documentary credits include **The Golden Stool**, released on Time Warner's Africa Channel (2008), **At the End of Slavery**, produced by the International Justice Mission, narrated by Danny Glover (2009), and the 2011 **Sundance** entry **An African Election**, about the process of democratization in Ghana, West Africa.

A great supporter of independent filmmaking, Patrick scored the short film **Kavi**, which was nominated for Best Live Action Short at the **2010 Academy Awards**. Indie feature credits include Peruvian drama **The Bad Intentions** (which premiered at the Berlinale earlier this year), **Framily** (which had its successful festival run in 2010), and **Where the Road Meets the Sun**.

Born in Southwest Germany close to the idyllic and inspiring French Alsace-Lorraine and the German Black Forest areas, Patrick began playing the piano at the age of seven and soon started improvising as a means of self-expression. His first works were written for piano and then later on for several theater plays at his high school. It was then when he discovered his passion for music as it interacts with other media.

After extensive studies at the Classical Music Conservatory in Karlsruhe, Germany, Patrick was awarded a national grant to do research on the perception of film music. In 2000, his journey continued abroad through a generous scholarship from **Rotary International**. He attended the **Berklee College of Music** in Boston, followed by **New York University**, and then the **University of Southern California**, where he studied under distinguished composers such as Academy Award nominee David Raksin, Golden Globe nominee Christopher Young, Jack Smalley and Grammy Award winner Joe Harnell.

In 2007 Patrick joined the faculty at **University of Southern California**, where he is teaching film music composition to aspiring film composers. He enjoys sharing his experience as an artist in today's highly competitive film music market.

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