

# MARK CRAWFORD

Primetime Emmy®-Nominated Composer

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## Professional Summary

Mark Crawford is a Primetime Emmy®-nominated composer who has traveled the world scoring films and soaking up cultures. Utilizing his diverse production background with years of editing, sound recording, and music producing, as well as a variety of composing techniques including cutting edge sample libraries and preparing complex orchestrations for studio recording, he believes in a holistic approach to film scoring, considering all the elements of the production and post-production process to weave unique scores into the DNA of a story.

## Skills

- Composing, orchestrating, and arranging music for picture and immersive/interactive experiences. Clear communication and scheduling when determining scope of project.
- High degree of proficiency using orchestral sample libraries and electronic synthesizers.
- Primary Instruments: Piano, percussion, modular synth, drum set, guitar, ukulele, washboard, spoons, accordion, and harmonium.
- Scoring Software: Logic Pro, Sibelius, Finale, and Pro Tools. Instrument libraries include *Spitfire*, *Cinesamples*, *East/West*, *Native Instruments*, *Symphonia*, and *Spectrasonics Omnisphere*.
- Familiarity with camera and post workflows and on-set field sound recording, as well as design and delivery for Holoplot 3D audio technology.
- Additional software skills: Adobe Premiere, Final Cut Pro, Avid, Adobe Creative Suite.

## Experience

***The Social Dilemma (2020)*** Feature Documentary - Netflix. Wrote, orchestrated, and recorded full original score, which included a wide array of synthesizers from almost every decade and juxtaposing live string elements to create a blend of sounds that pushes the boundaries of what we (and modern technology) define as music. For the film's soundtrack, Mark also recorded a new cover of "I Put a Spell on You" performed by 5-time Grammy award-winner Brandi Carlile and Tony and Grammy award-winning artist Renée Elise Goldsberry. [Album released by Lakeshore Records.](#)

Awards: Sundance 2020 Official Selection. 7 Primetime Emmy® nominations including Outstanding Music Composition. Emmy® winner of Best Editing and Best Writing. BAFTA award nominee, Best Documentary. Edward R. Murrow Award Winner, Feature Documentary.

***The Love Bugs (2020)***: Short Documentary - PBS POV. Composed, orchestrated, and recorded 20-minutes of music for the short film score with live ensembles including a woodwind trio, string quartet, and a professional flutist who is renown for making bug sounds with her tones and tonguing. Premiered on PBS POV November 2020.

Awards: News & Documentary Emmy® Award nominee for Outstanding Music composition. Emmy® Winner for Best Short Documentary.

***The Illuminarium - Wild: A Safari Experience (2021)***: Immersive Experience. Composed 17 minutes of music for a cutting edge 64-channel 3D audio Holoplot system for the Illuminarium's opening immersive safari-themed experience in Atlanta, GA. Collaborated with traditional West African musicians to create compositions that incorporated various instruments including the kora, gyl, kalimba, and talking drum.

***Chasing Coral (2017)***. Feature Documentary, additional music. Composed 4 additional songs to drive the camera installation segments which complemented the primary score for the Sundance Audience and Emmy® Award-Winning Film. 2017 Sundance U.S. Documentary Audience Award, Shortlisted for the Academy Awards. 2018 News and Documentary Emmy® award for Outstanding Nature Programming and nominated for Outstanding Music and Sound Design.

***Chasing Ice (2012)***: Feature Documentary, additional Music. Composed entire temporary score, which was eventually replaced by J. Ralph's music except for two songs which he said he "couldn't do anything better than that" so they stayed. Thus, I firmly planted my foot in the door to the composing world. 2012 News and Documentary Emmy® award-winner for Outstanding Nature Programming.

***Sonnie (2020)***: Short Documentary - PBS. Synopsis: After carrying the burden of misfortune throughout his life, a single father seeks redemption as he raises his son. Winner of 3 regional Emmy® Awards.

***Welcome Strangers (2020)***: Short Documentary. Composed a score with a small ensemble of strings and piano and overdubbed instruments in triplicate to create a warmer, bigger, and inviting string sound. Premiered at Big Sky Film Festival.

Synopsis: Every night at 6pm, just outside of Denver, Colorado, detained immigrants are legally released from an ICE facility onto unfriendly, industrial streets. *Welcome Strangers* is a short documentary that tells the story of Sarah Jackson, a young woman who searches the streets for these immigrants and invites them into her home.

**Classic (2019):** *Feature Documentary.* Tapping into Colorado's abundant bluegrass musician network, the score pays tribute to rural Athabaskan music along with plenty of experimental musical techniques to complement the story's playful nature, including the use of harmonium, washboard, spoons, and an opera singer.

Synopsis: Set in the small Alaskan town of Nenana, *Classic* documents the 100th anniversary of the Nenana Ice Classic, a "natural lottery" where people all over the world try to guess the exact moment Spring begins. Those involved - quirky townsfolk and competitive gamblers - are put to the test when the historic contest is forced into the 21st century. Premiered at the 2019 Denver Film Festival.

**Knives (2014):** Short Narrative. Composed a soundtrack for this modern western showdown that takes place between a shopping cart collector and a knife sharpener played by [Peter Friedman](#) (*Succession*). *Knives* was a Columbia University MFA Thesis Film, won the Audience Award at the University's

**The Unreasonables (2010-2012):** Drew inspiration from many world music styles to create a soundtrack for this 10-part documentary web series following social entrepreneurs tackling global problems. Traveled to 14 countries around the world in process of creating it. Screened to an international audience for the United Nations' Peace Day 2010.

**Various Scoring Projects (2010-Present):** Clients include: National Geographic, Radical Media, IBM, Blackboard, Harvard University, Justin's, Herman Miller, Fast Company, BioGraphic: A Cal Academy publication, Crocs, and 174 Power Global.

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## Awards and Recognition

- **2021 Primetime Emmy Awards (Nominee)** - Outstanding Music Composition for a Documentary Series or Special, *The Social Dilemma*
- **2021 News & Documentary Emmy Awards (Nominee)** - Outstanding Music Composition, *The Love Bugs*
- **2021 Cinema Audio Society, USA (Nominee)** - Outstanding achievement in Sound Mixing for Motion Pictures - Documentary, *The Social Dilemma*
- **2021 ASCAP Composer's Choice Award (Nominee)** - 2020 Documentary Score of the Year, *The Social Dilemma*
- **2021 Global Impact Film Festival (Nominee)** - Best Sound Design, *Sonnie*

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## Education

- **University of Colorado**, BFA, Film Studies, 2008.
- Technology Arts Media Certificate. Dean's List Honoree; 2005-2008.
- Four years in University of Colorado Golden Buffalo Marching Band; score arranger for the drum line.

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## Other Work Experience

- **Exposure Labs:** Sound recordist for *The Social Dilemma*. Camera Operator and additional sound for *Chasing Coral*.
- **J. Ralph:** Composing internship while he wrote music for *Racing Extinction*. 2014
- **E Town:** Production internship, produced short web videos from live shows. 2009
- **Jerry Aronson:** Organizing and digitizing footage from his feature documentary, *The Life and Times of Allen Ginsberg*. 2008 - 2010.
- **Papa Murphys:** Among the many odd jobs I had during high school and college, this one taught me how to make darn good pizzas.