

BRIEF COMPETITION

A forthcoming high-profile prequel series to a popular 2010s-era American crime drama seeks a dramatic, sophisticated and **edgy** opening theme. This currently unannounced project – now set and produced in the UK – will follow international members of a family dedicated to tradition, honor and loyalty but also indebted to the World of crime, deception and moral ambiguity.

The 60-second main theme is to begin with a haunting melody that foreshadows action and intrigue - perhaps played by a solo instrument, or minimally without several competing elements. The choice of instrumentation should immediately establish a connection to the modern day UK setting of the show. As the theme progresses, additional orchestral – and/or electronic depending on approach - elements are introduced. These elements should contribute to the rich harmonic texture of the piece, providing depth and emotional resonance. ***The orchestration should evoke a sense of sophistication and intrigue, but also a rough and rowdy personality - reflecting the complex interpersonal dynamics and societal conflicts (both international and domestic UK) explored in series.***

We should look to employ various compositional techniques to create tension and release – at points emphasizing dynamic contrast. We want this theme to develop, and to provide opportunities to pair with both slow, moody and then increasingly fast-paced imagery.

We want the key themes of tradition, honor, loyalty, ambiguity and intrigue to shine through in this piece.

Reference themes:

‘A Beautiful Mine’ by RJD2 (*Mad Men*, 2007) > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vD12mZiFPtM>

‘Dance With the Devil’ by Immortal Technique (*American Crime Story: The People vs OJ Simpson*, 2016) > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m7lf2yOUcpQ>

‘The Valhalla Murders Theme’ by Petur Thor Benediktsson (*The Valhalla Murders*, 2020) > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6HtGzoajMyo>

Delivery:

Send your competition piece to competition@soundsgate.com by 17th March 2024.

Length up to 3 minutes (60sec main theme + up to 2 minutes of development)

Send a wav file.