

Area composer wins music competition and releases new album

July 9, 2015

By Angela Cummings - Special to the Journal News

Destiny is a funny thing. Often in life we feel that we want one thing, then something happens and we find we were destined for something else - something greater.

When Andrew Kennedy was a young teen, he knew he loved composing and writing music and knew that was what he wanted to do with his life; but as many teens do, Kennedy grew up, got a college education, a career and his music was pushed to the side.

He never lost his passion for composing, though, and after taking an extended hiatus from composing, he has once again picked up the keyboard. Starting off in the 1980s with electric-techno style music, he never dreamed that he would be composing cinematic works today, but that is where destiny has taken him - and he couldn't be more thrilled.

MY FIRST SONG IN A MOVIE - MARKED

MARYLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
HAGERSTOWN

MARCH 26-28, 2015
Experience it!
Over 70 Movies from around the world!

MARKED SHE RAN FROM HER PAST, BUT CAN SHE RUN FROM HERSELF?

BLACKLIST

THE RED CARPET

Joe Carnahan is an American director, writer, actor and producer known for his films Blood, Guts, Bullets and Octane, Narc, Smokin' Aces, The A-Team, and The Grey.

Andrew Kennedy, an area composer, won an award for composing music for a movie trailer at the Scruffy City Film and Music Festival in Knoxville, Tenn., in April.

At the suggestion of his friend, Drew Broadhurst, Kennedy entered a composer challenge with the Scruffy City Film and Music Festival in Knoxville, Tenn., in April, where he won for composing music for a movie trailer.

Kennedy was given a random movie trailer by the festival committee and using only what he saw in the trailer, was given the challenge to write a score that would best convey the feelings and emotions of that film.

Kennedy said he believes the success of his composition "Our Struggle Within," is due to the fact that it has an unusual style.

"Our Struggle Within' has a deep, melodic sound. Most of my songs are up-beat and motivational, but I think everyone has their own struggle within, and this song went along with their trailer."

As the winning composer for the trailer challenge, Kennedy went to Knoxville, where he met the director and actors of the film he wrote the music for.

In March, Kennedy attended the Maryland International Film Festival in Hagerstown, Maryland, where he composed music for Broadhurst's film, "Marked."

"A year ago I would have never thought I'd meet people from Hollywood, so I'm excited to see what the year has to bring," said Kennedy. "I'm just starting my career in this field, and it's a completely different world. It's really exciting."

On June 18, Kennedy released his album, "Awaken," which contains many of his latest works - including "Our Struggle Within."

After taking a long break from composing, Kennedy has now written and produced over 50 songs within the past three years and with his new discovered love of composing cinematic music, he sees the possibility of Hollywood in his future.

"The thing I love about making music is that it's endless," said Kennedy.

Snippets of Kennedy's compositions can be listened to on Soundcloud by linking through his web page, www.andy-kennedy.com. Via his web page, there is also a link to www.cdbaby.com/cd/andrewkennedy2, where you can purchase his "Awaken" album.

<http://www.journal-news.net/page/content.detail/id/638118/Area-composer-wins-music-competition-and-releases-new-album.html>