

# Jon Opstad

COMPOSER FOR FILM & TELEVISION

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## 2010

**MISSING: THE CLAUDIA LAWRENCE STORY**  
(composer)  
*Broadcast August 2010 on Channel 4*

Channel 4/Glasshead

Documentary  
Dir. Billy Dosanjh

**HOW NOT TO LIVE YOUR LIFE**  
(rhythm section arrangements & programming – songs)  
*due for broadcast 2010 on BBC3*

BBC3/Brown Eyed Boy

Sitcom  
composer: Richard Thomas

**LOVE AT THE END OF THE WORLD**  
(composer)

Drama Short  
dir./prod. Oonagh Kearney

**ATLAS 4D**  
(assistant composer/additional music)  
*due for broadcast 2010 on Discovery Channel*

Discovery/Darlow Smithson

Natural History Series  
composer: Sheridan Tongue  
3 x 1hr episodes

**NORTH ATLANTIC**  
(composer)

Monocle

Drama Short  
dir./prod. Bernardo Nascimento

**A MIRACLE IN WEST BROM**  
(composer)

NFTS

Documentary Short  
dir./prod. Billy Dosanjh

## 2009

**WONDERS OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM**  
(assistant composer/additional music)  
*broadcast March-April 2010*

BBC 2

Documentary Series  
composer: Sheridan Tongue  
5 x 1hr episodes

**INTO THE UNIVERSE WITH STEPHEN HAWKING**  
(assistant composer/programming)  
*broadcast May 2010*

Discovery/Darlow Smithson

Documentary Series  
composer: Sheridan Tongue  
3 x 1hr episodes

**ROOM IN ROME**  
(music preparation/copying)

Alicia Produce/Morena Films

Feature Film  
dir. Julio Medem  
composer: Jocelyn Pook

**LIVING WITH THE INFIDELS**  
(composer)

The System Predicts

Web-Based Sitcom  
dir. Aasaf Ainapore

<p><b>SATISFACTION</b> (composer) <i>International Film Festivals: Rhode Island (USA), Cambridge (UK)</i></p>		<p>Drama Short dir.: Aasaf Ainapore starring: Michael Parks</p>
<p><b>KID</b> (composer) <i>Best European Student Film – Angers Film Festival, France International Film Festivals: London (UK), Telluride (USA), Camerimage (Poland) &amp; others</i></p>	<p>NFTS</p>	<p>Drama Short dir. Tom Green prod. Mo Bazazi starring: Keiran O'Brien</p>
<p><b>FOUR WEEKS</b> (composer)</p>	<p>NFTS</p>	<p>Comedy Short dir. Mahdi Fleifel prod. Alex Ronnberg</p>
<p><b>LONG DISTANCE</b> (composer) <i>International Film Festivals: Silverdocs, Washington D.C. (USA), Brooklyn (USA), Cambridge (UK), Docudays Beirut (Lebanon) &amp; others</i></p>	<p>NFTS</p>	<p>Documentary Short dir./prod. Moritz Siebert</p>
<p><b>CHERRY ON THE CAKE</b> (composer) <i>Best Student Short Film – Chicago International Film Festival 2009 Best Animation Award, Best Student Shorts – Shanghai International Film Festival 2009 NAHEMI/Kodak Prize for Creative Filmmaking – Encounters Short Film Festival 2009 Official Selection at over 30 international film festivals, including London</i></p>	<p>NFTS</p>	<p>Animation Short dir. Hyebin Lee prod. Michelle Eastwood</p>
<p><b>TODAY ONLY</b> (composer) <i>International Film Festivals: Edinburgh (UK) Anima Mundi International Animation Festival (Brazil) V Córdoba International Animation Festival (Argentina)</i></p>	<p>NFTS</p>	<p>Animation Short dir. Toby Jackman prod. Alex Ronnberg</p>
<h2>2008</h2>		
<p><b>BRIXTON 85</b> (composer) <i>Winner – Best Postgraduate Drama, 2009 Royal Television Society Student Awards Nominated for Best Short Film, Kodak Short Film Awards, Rushes Soho Shorts, 2008</i></p>	<p>NFTS</p>	<p>Drama Short dir. Tom Green prod. Purnima Phansalkar, Laura Rees, Tom Green starring: Charles Mnene</p>
<p><b>A MEETING AT LAST</b> (composer)</p>	<p>NFTS</p>	<p>Drama Short dir./prod. Konstantinos Frangopoulos starring: Owen Teale, Danny Webb</p>
<p><b>HOUSE 149</b> (composer) <i>London Short Film Festival</i></p>	<p>NFTS</p>	<p>Documentary Short dir./prod. Lucy Kaye</p>

## Commercials/Advertising

ESPN Classic (TV), Mercedes Benz Driving Academy (internet), World Wildlife Fund (internet), NHS (promo video)

Also, several award-winning entries to student commercial competitions including the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize-winners in the 2010 **Toshiba** Commercial Competition, two of the top-10 UK winners in the 2008 **Emporio Armani** Commercial Competition and award winners in the 2009 **Kodak** Commercial Competition.

## Education

MA (Composing for Film & Television)	National Film & Television School (NFTS)	2007–2009
BA Hons. (Music)	Cambridge University (St. Catharine's College)	2002–2005

## Awards & Achievements

Finalist in the 2002 BBC Young Composer of the Year Competition.

Alan Hawkshaw & PRS Foundation Scholarship to study at the NFTS.

Compositions selected for performance in workshops by the Britten Sinfonia, 2004 & 2005.

Compositions broadcast on national radio, including BBC Radio 3's *Late Junction*.

While at Cambridge University, I was featured in the *Varsity* paper's "Talent List" of 100 student names to watch.

In a jazz context I have released two CDs under my own name, *Still Picture* (2004) and *Interpretations* (2007), each receiving highly positive praise in the jazz press. I have also led a live band performing my own compositions, gigging at venues such as London's 606 Club, Con Cellar Bar and National Portrait Gallery.

My drumming credits include recording for the composers Jocelyn Pook, Sheridan Tongue and Richard Thomas, and performing live with the Cambridge Footlights, as well as my own projects.

I am listed in the eighth edition of *The Penguin Guide to Jazz*.

## Published Articles

"The Harmonic & Rhythmic Language of Herbie Hancock's 1970s Fender Rhodes Solos"  
Pages 57–79 of *Jazz Perspectives*, Issue 1 Volume 3, April 2009 (Routledge)

"Pimp My Film: Sex, Drugs & Soul in the Blaxploitation Movement"  
*Introducing*, Issue 6, November 2009 (online art journal: [www.introducingart.com](http://www.introducingart.com))

"Gus Van Sant's *Elephant* and the Relationship of Film Music with the Banal"  
*Introducing*, Issue 4, September 2009 (online art journal: [www.introducingart.com](http://www.introducingart.com))

## Miscellaneous

Cover photography for 2007 paperback edition of *The Man Who Walks* by Alan Warner (Vintage)