

Michael Benoit was born in 1975 and raised in Northeastern Massachusetts. He began studying the piano at the age of ten, covering a diverse repertoire ranging from Bach to Joplin to Bartok. His desire to perform in other ensembles led him to study the bass trombone, which brought about opportunities playing in wind ensembles, big bands, and orchestras. A solid foundation in music theory and ear training, gleaned from his years of study at the Morgan Piano School, coupled with a burning desire to write his own music, prompted his foray into the world of composition at a young age.

Michael went on to study composition at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst in 1993. Over the next four years, he was mentored as a composer by Robert Stern, Salvatore Macchia, and Charles Bestor. He was able to hone his skills by composing works for student recitals, University ensemble concerts, and student films. He also found his way into the commercial music business by pursuing composing opportunities with local production houses.

Since completing his education in 1998, Michael has continued his endeavors as a successful composer. His memberships in ASCAP, the Film Music Network, and the prestigious Manhattan Producers Alliance have led him to score a number of films and commercials. In addition to his independent work, he has also worked extensively with other New York-based composers prominent in the film and television music industry, including RMI Music, Wonderful, and The Code International.

Michael is currently involved with several projects including composing for the Discovery Channel's *Shark Week*, scoring television commercials, and working as a music engraver for commercials and films. He is also working as an orchestrator and MIDI synthesist on Nick Jr's Emmy Award winning show, *The Wonder Pets* and is a contributing composer for multiple shows on ABC, NBC, CourtTV, and other networks.