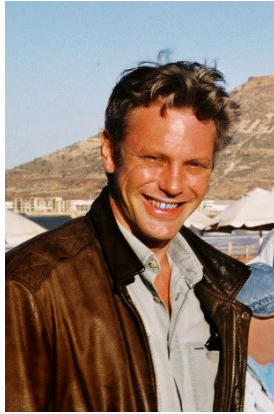


# ERNST W. MEINRATH

## BIOGRAPHY



With the influence of Paris at the genesis of his early music training, this classically trained composer progressed to write and perform across the music spectrum, and is making his impact on Hollywood.

Born in Brussels, Belgium, Ernst began his musical studies in Paris at the age of five, performed his first solo piano concert at seven and commenced Solfeggio at eight. *[Solfeggio is a pedagogical solmization technique for the teaching of sight singing in which each note of the score is sung to a special syllable. It is considered a precursor to classical studies.]*

Returning to Brussels, the 11-year-old enrolled at the Academy of Music, with classmates four to five years older than him, including adults. Studying counterpoint at 15, his musical path took a dramatic turn due to a particularly poor relationship with a piano instructor. A catharsis occurred.

Ceasing piano instruction, Ernst went to synthesizers, and formed his first band—Borrow in Furnes, a New Wave / Punk / Trash band (it was 1983!). While still studying Solfeggio, Ernst started writing songs for the group. Having devoted his entire music training to classical music, the transition came about with studies in Jazz and Pop/Rock. An early hit, “Laura in America,” resulted in 2000 copies being sold through schools, and the resulting revenue went to further enhance his collection of electronic equipment.

Then, yet another catharsis. Ernst enrolled at Université Libre de Bruxelles after passing the exams for engineering studies. Fortunate for the music world, Ernst’s studies lasted only two years, when he decided that his music was interfering with his studies.

It was 1986, and Ernst formed another band, named after its lead singer, Patricia Frans. The group recorded 11 tracks and got the attention of Virgin France. Three singles were planned, music videos, tours, etc. Then, Patricia Frans decided she was no longer interested in music. It was back to school for Ernst.

This time, Ernst enrolled at business school, a more compatible venture with his music, and formed his company, MUSICOM. With yet another band—Morningside, aka Airlock—the business of music began. Beyond concerts,



Ernst promoted the band for commercials and jingles.

Regular clients included Columbia Pictures, Buena Vista Europe, Pioneer and Chrysler, among others. Work included trailers for *Cliffhanger*, Bram Stoker's *Dracula*, *Spiderman 1, 2 & 3* and *Quantum of Solace*. Ernst's work on trailers was the catalyst to score motion pictures.

In a period of six years, Ernst refined his scoring techniques on over 40 short films. During this time, he met director Olivier van Hoofstadt (*Go Fast, Dikkenek*). van Hoofstadt came to him and asked if he could do all of the post sound and music for his short, *Snuff Movie*, and complete the work in six days. The film went on to be awarded in seven categories at the International Short Film Festival at Namur (Belgium), including Best Music. The collaboration resulted in a partnership in a feature production company, Seven.



Ernst scored van Hoofstadt's next two films, *Parabellum* and *Keo*, and in *Keo*, he was also given the role of Mario, one of the "bad guys."

*"In 2000, I received a call from director Celine DeSavage, who was doing a documentary, The Long Journey Home, for Miramax in New York. It was a deep down story about soldiers suffering Post Traumatic Stress Disorder after the Vietnam War. The result: deep down music with slow dark strings and heavy trip-hop-like drums mixed with a flavor of electronica. From there on, I knew I was made for features."*

With a growing presence in film, Ernst still had a commitment to his group Airlock. Finishing their first album, they were signed by Derek Birket at One Little Indian, the same Derek Birket who discovered Björk. The group went on to record two albums, "Drystar" and "Symptomatic."

*"Airlock twists from Dido through itchy DJ Krush-isms, edgy Underworld-ondowners atmospherics into Massive Attack-esque orchestral torch songs. Yes, we are talking chill out, and yes, we are talking elegant & musical pop songs..."—reviewed4u/ITK*

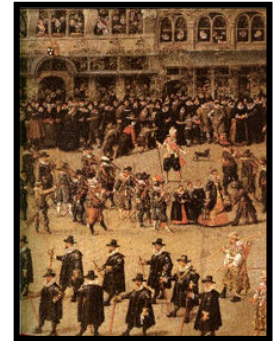
Three tracks from "Drystar" have been placed in Jerry Bruckheimer's *CSI: Miami* and in the famous British series, *As Is*.

Based upon Ernst's score for Celine DeSavauge's *The Long Journey Home*, director Giles Daoust (*Last Night On Earth*, *Artefacts*) asked Ernst to score his film *The Room*. A thriller/horror film about a disoriented family, Ernst had four weeks to compose, record the orchestra, and mix. The film is distributed by Imagination Worldwide. With the script not yet written to Daoust's next film, *Artefacts* (Lionsgate), Ernst was once again asked to score the film. As a result of their collaboration, these two fine artists established Soundtrack Nation, focusing on film scores and music supervision.



Ernst has also worked with Luc Besson (*Taken*, *Transporter 1, 2 & 3*, *The Fifth Element*) when the two produced *Dikkenek* (Olivier Vanhoofstadt, dir.). The comedy has become a cult film for the 12 to 20-year-old crowd.

Moreover, when not scoring films, Ernst is involved in two unique projects. He is scoring the Brussels' *Ommegang Oppidi Bruxellenis*, Belgium's largest historical pageant production. This colorful medieval festival takes place every year on Brussels Grand Place. The Pageant is an historical evocation of the festival held in 1549 for Charles the Fifth, his son Don Philip, infant of Spain and Duke of Brabant, and his sisters, Eleanor of Austria, Queen of France and Mary of Hungary. The production involves over 1500 extras.



The second project is for Stefan Van Ingelgem, Belgian Champion of Horse Dressage, who requested of Ernst to compose the music for his 2009 freestyle run. His idea was to have music composed for each step of the horse, so that the public—and mostly the judges—has the feeling that the horse is literally dancing on the music. The six-minute track, "The Power of Passion," has been written in a strong Hollywood style, with orchestra and very large drums. It contains the Theme from Coldplay, "Viva la Vida"; Jacques Brel's "Quand on n'a Que l'Amour & Ne me Quittes Pas"; Ashley "The Saint"; and, of course, mainly the original music of Ernst Meinrath. It was a great challenge and will continue with new music each year, building to the 2012 Olympics in London.



Ernst, his wife and three children, are residents of Brussels, Belgium and Los Angeles, California.



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# ERNST W. MEINRATH

COMPOSER CONDUCTOR

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Citizenship: Belgium

## MUSIC AWARD

**Best Film Score, International Short Film Festival, Namur, Belgium**  
"Snuff Movie," (Olivier van Hoofstadt, dir.)

## MOTION PICTURES

WARRIOR SHOWDOWN  
Wolfpack Productions

TJ Cencula, dir.  
Natalie Hsieh, prod.

THE TASK  
After Dark Films

Simon Fellows, dir  
Stephanie Caleb, exec. prod.  
Courtney Solomon, Lucy Mukerjee

DIKKENEK  
Seven Productions / EuropaCorp / Avalanche Productions

Olivier van Hoofstadt, dir.  
Luc Besson, Emmanuel Prévost, exec. prod.  
Mark Libert, Eric Bassoff, prods.

ARTEFACTS  
Title Films / Bad Fourteen Pictures / Lionsgate

Giles Daoust, Emmanuel Jaspers, dirs. & prods.

SNUFF MOVIE  
Arizona Productions / Ministrie de la Communiante Francaise de Belgique

Olivier van Hoofstadt, dir.

KEO  
Seven Productions /  
Ministrie de la Communiante Francaise de Belgique

Olivier van Hoofstadt, dir.  
Ernst Meinrath, prod.

OUTSIDER  
CAB Productions

Yann Olivier Wicht, dir.  
Gérard Ruey, prod.

THE ROOM  
Title Films / Bad Fourteen Pictures / Imagination Worldwide

Giles Daoust, dir.  
Giles Daoust, Emmanuel Jaspers, prods.

PARABELLUM  
Seven Productions

Olivier van Hoofstadt, dir.

THE LONG JOURNEY HOME (Feature Documentary)  
Miramax

Celine DeSavage, dir.

MAKING OF "CQ"  
American Zoetrope / MGM

Spike & Jones, dir.

LES BELLE ENDORMIES (Feature Documentary)  
Plasma

Alexis Lambert, dir.

## **MOTION PICTURES – TRAILERS**

CLIFFHANGER, TriStar Pictures  
SPIDERMAN 1,2 & 3, Columbia Pictures  
CHARLIE'S ANGELS 1 & 2, Columbia Pictures  
STREETFIGHTER, Universal Pictures  
UNIVERSAL SOLDIER, TriStar pictures  
WOLF, Columbia Pictures  
JUMANJI, TriStar Pictures  
BAD BOYS II, Columbia Pictures  
MEN IN BLACK 1 & 2, Columbia Pictures  
BRIDGET JONES, Universal Pictures  
THE PATRIOT, Columbia Pictures  
PANIC ROOM, Columbia Pictures  
XXX, Columbia Pictures  
THE FAST & THE FURIOUS, Universal Pictures  
CASINO ROYALE, MGM

BRAM STOKER'S DRACULA, Columbia Pictures  
QUANTUM OF SOLACE, Columbia Pictures  
LAST ACTION HERO, Columbia Pictures  
TERMINATOR 3, Warner Bros. Pictures  
PHILADELPHIA, TriStar Pictures  
MONEY TRAIN, Columbia Pictures  
S.W.A.T., Columbia Pictures  
GOTHIKA, Columbia Pictures  
THE SWAN PRINCESS, Columbia Pictures  
HOLLOW MAN, Columbia Picture  
HANNIBAL, MGM  
I SPY, Columbia Pictures  
OPEN SEASON 1 & 2, Sony Pictures Animation  
INTO THE BLUE, Columbia Pictures  
HANCOCK, Columbia Pictures

## **TELEVISION – SERIES**

CSI: MIAMI (Soundtrack, Multiples)  
CBS Paramount Television

Scott Brazil, Bryan Spicer, Dick Pearce, dirs.  
Jerry Bruckheimer, Ann Donahue, Jonathan Littman,  
Carol Mendelsohn, Nancy Miller, exec. prods.

MURDER CITY (Soundtrack, Multiples)  
Granada Television

Various, dirs.  
Andy Harries, Francis Hopkinson, exec. prods.  
Tony Dennis, prod.

AS IF (Soundtrack, Multiples)  
Channel 4 / Columbia TriStar International Television

Brian Eastman, Dean Hargrove, Sarah Baynes,  
Jonathan Collier, Julian Murphy, exec. prods.

BEAUTIFUL (Soundtrack, Multiples)  
Vijftv

## **TELEVISION – DOCUMENTARY**

BODY BAG  
Vlaamse Radio en Televisie (VRT)

Olivier van Hoofstadt, dir.

## **THEATRE**

*ONE JOB SHOW* – Giles Daoust, dir.

## **COMMERCIALS (Partial list)**

Sony Pictures Home Entertainment  
Sony Playstation

Chrysler  
Daihatsu

Pioneer  
Phillips

Disneyland Paris  
Fiat

## **SPECIAL EVENT**

*OMMEGANG OPPIDI BRUXELLENSIS* – Composed for Belgium's largest historical production. Medieval festival takes place annually on Brussels Grand' Place. The Pageant is an historical evocation of the festival first held in 1549.

## **DISCOGRAPHY – COMPOSER / PRODUCER**

*Ommegang: Original Music from the Show*  
*Face Down*  
*Drystar* (with Airlock)  
*Parabellum* (Soundtrack)  
*The Long Journey Home* (Soundtrack)  
*Symptomatic* (with Airlock)  
*The Room* (Soundtrack)

Soundtrack Nation  
One Little Indian/Virgin  
One Little Indian/Virgin  
Decode Records/PIAS  
One Little Indian  
One Little Indian/Universal Music  
One Little Indian

## **DISCOGRAPHY – MUSIC PRODUCER**

*Bruxelles Les Bains*

*Olivier Gosseries “Synthetics”*

*The Groove of America, Vol. 3*

*The Groove of America, Vols. 1 & 2*

*Who’s Who Follies, Vol. 3 & 4*

*Who’s Who Follies, Vol. 1 & 2*

*Anthology WW (Two CDs)*

*Strong Scream for Quality*

*DJ Culture*

V2 Records

Noise Traxx

Noise Traxx

Decode Records

Arcade Music Company

Indisc

Decode Records

Decode Records

Decode Records

## **EDUCATION AND ADVANCED PROFESSIONAL TRAINING**

Brussels Royal Academy of Music

Université Libre de Bruxelles

Académie des Beaux Arts, Paris

Ecole de La Saussaye, Neuilly-sur-Seine