

Art of the Score: The Music of Joe Hisaishi

Information Sheet - Summary

Instrumentation

String Strength: 14.12.10.8.6

Instrumentation: 3[1.2/pic.3/pic] 3[1.2.3/ca] 3[1.2.3/bcl] 3[1.2.3/cbn] –
4 3 4[1.2.3.btrbn] 1 – T+5-Perc – hp – pf/cel — str

Solo Piano: Aura Go (supplied by Concert Lab)

Solo Cello: Principal Cello (supplied by Presenter)

Percussion List:

1	Piatti, Suspended Cymbal, Gran Cassa, Snare Drum, Glockenspiel, Tubular Bells
2	Marimba, Cymbal, Suspended Cymbal, Tam-tam, Snare Drum, Bass Drum
3	Glockenspiel, Hi-hat
4	Bass Drum, Tam-tam, Snare Drum, Suspended Cymbal, Cymbal, Triangle, Xylophone, Glockenspiel
5	Marimba, Glockenspiel
6	Bass Drum, Snare Drum, Suspended Cymbal, Cymbal, Tambourine, Triangle, Glockenspiel, Xylophone
7	Suspended Cymbal, Bass Drum, Glockenspiel, Marimba, Xylophone, Cymbal, Snare Drum, Tam-tam, Guiro, Cabasa, Sleigh Bells, Bell Tree, Triangle, Tambourine
8	Snare Drum, Suspended Cymbal, Cymbal, Marimba, Vibraphone, Glockenspiel
9	Snare Drum, Suspended Cymbal, Cymbal, Tambourine, Marimba, Glockenspiel, Vibraphone
10	N/A
11	Suspended Cymbal, Snare Drum, Tam-Tam, Tambourine, Gran Cassa, Conga, Triangle, Piatti, Sandpaper Blocks, Toms, Glockenspiel, Xylophone, Marimba, High Hat, Gamelan Gongs, Vibraphone

Repertoire List

Concert to include the following titles, along with **excerpts/demonstrations (not listed here)** from other sources:

Act 1

- | | |
|---|----------|
| 1. <i>World Dreams: 1st Movement</i> | HISAISHI |
| 2. <i>DA.MA.SHI.E</i> | HISAISHI |
| 3. <i>Kiki's Delivery Service</i> | HISAISHI |
| 4. <i>Water Traveler</i> | HISAISHI |
| 5. <i>Kikujiro: Summer</i> | HISAISHI |
| 6. <i>My Neighbor Totoro</i> | HISAISHI |

Act 2

- | | |
|---|----------|
| 7. <i>Howl's Moving Castle: Variation</i> | HISAISHI |
| 8. <i>Oriental Wind: Dream More</i> | HISAISHI |
| 9. <i>Departures</i> | HISAISHI |
| 10. <i>Nausicaä Of The Valley Of The Wind: Fantasia</i> | HISAISHI |
| 11. <i>Spirited Away: Suite</i> | HISAISHI |

... and more

Concert Length

The concert contains approximately 55 minutes of music and talking/presenting **per half**. Total concert time is approximately:

Act 1 – 60 mins

Interval/Intermission – 20 mins (or as is standard for your venue/orchestra)

Act 2 – 60 mins

Total: 2 hrs 20 mins

Rehearsal Requirements

The concert requires the following rehearsal amounts **as a minimum**:

2 x 2.5hr Orchestral Rehearsals (or standard call/service length)

1 x 2.5hr General/Dress Rehearsal – **must** be at the performance venue

Performance calls/services as required

Tech Requirements

Video

There is no video for this concert.

Lighting

To be discussed with the Presenter, however this concert would benefit from a **lighting rig and design**, appropriate to the venue and orchestra. The nature of film music lends itself well to a more theatrical concert-lighting feel than a traditional orchestral concert. Haze, beams, moving lights are all appropriate and will really help to sell the drama in the music. Concert Lab is happy to work with Presenters on what is reasonable re: budgets/logistics etc.

Audio

It is technically possible to perform this concert unamplified, however if that is the case then there can be **no reductions in string strengths and serious consideration should be given to amplifying the piano soloist (and possibly Cello soloist)**. If the venue is not acoustically sound (convention centre etc) or the orchestra will be performing with reduced orchestral forces then amplification will need to be considered.

That said, it is the preference of Concert Lab to (lightly) amplify all film music concerts and consideration should be given to the audience expectation when hearing such music.

The presenters will need to be amplified as a minimum.

Backline

There is no backline for this performance. The promoter/orchestra should expect to use a real grand piano and celeste.

Call Sheet

A basic call sheet will be supplied to give stage management and tech operators an idea of show flow. It will include when the Presenters enter/exit, what they say, when various excerpts and suites happen etc.

Library Requirements

Concert Lab will supply all **printed sheet music as part of the package**. The set will contain separate printed excerpts along with separate suites. This will mean that the repertoire can be put in order, and in full, before the show and doesn't require a cheat sheet for excerpts.

Presentation Style

Although this is a concert first and foremost, the hosts from **Art of the Score** will guide the audience through the career and brilliance of Joe Hisaishi's music via brief introductions to each suite, along with the orchestra performing excerpts of note and theatrically presented demonstrations of various aspects of the composer's style.

In other words, the concert is not a straight, traditional concert – more of a love letter to a great composer and a guided journey for the audience to discover the magic behind the music they love.

Education Concert Add-on

Due to the nature of the presentation style, and the Art of the Score's presenters extensive experience in various education fields, the concert can easily be adapted to accommodate a schools/education performance(s) with no extra rehearsals required.

The repertoire list would be amended down to a **45-60min performance** and the presenters would change their script to focus more on the way film music works (via Joe Hisaishi and Studio Ghibli's scores in this instance), how music can help to paint a picture and how composers help to tell stories through their compositions.

This provides Presenters with a cost-effective way to present an additional type of concert, to a different audience with different goals and outcomes, and utilise the time in the performance venue to its full effect.

Speak with Concert Lab directly on how we can adapt this performance to suit your organisation's needs.

Correct as of August 2025

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