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[Arts&Culture] Taiwanese composer Ching-Shan Chang residing in Los Angeles is chosen to join Junkie XL's SCORE Academy

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Ching-Shan Chang's short bio: Born in Taipei, Taiwan in 1994, Ching-Shan Chang started learning piano at age 5 and professional training in composing with Prof. Gordon Shi-Wen Chin at age 13. In 2013, she began her studies at Eastman School of Music majoring in composition and minoring in piano performance. Ching-Shan later graduated from New York University with a Master's degree in Screen Scoring. Although her expertise in composition lies primarily in contemporary music and film scoring, she also has experience with piano performance and conducting. She has worked with many industry professionals including the composer for "Twilight", Carter Burwell, and New York based conductor Amy Andersson.

[By Mei-Hseu Ling/Taipei] On top of her national and international recognition and achievements, Taiwanese composer Ching-Shan Chang who is currently residing in America was also selected as one of the top two candidates to join the team of Hollywood composer, Tom Holkenborg (aka. Junkie XL) in his SCORE Academy. From studying closely with the composer who has written original music for movies such as "Mad Max-Fury Road" for a year, Ching-Shan expects a big leap for her career



Since the beginning of Ching-Shan Chang's journey at age 5, she has been focusing primarily in music composing.

When it comes to Dutch film composer Tom Holkenborg - known for his stage name Junkie XL--you may have heard his scores in various Hollywood movies such as "Kung Fu Panda 2," "The Dark Knight Rises," "Mad Max - Fury Road," "Batman v Superman," "Tomb Raider," "Sonic: The Hedgehog" and "Terminator: Dark Fate." We probably do not need to further explain Holkenborg's fame and impact on the film industry.

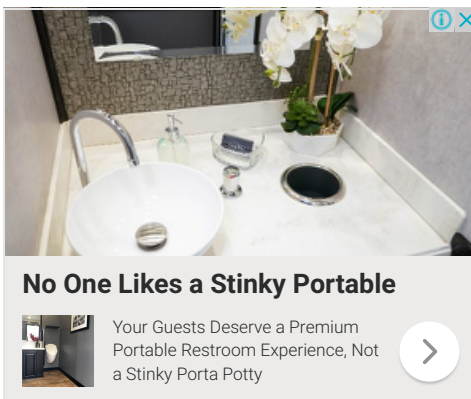
The SCORE Academy organized by Junkie XL in partnership with ASCAP selects the top 2 candidates among hundreds of applications from all over the world. For Ching-Shan to stand out from the fierce competition is not an easy task.

Ching-Shan while preparing for her big move from New York City to Los Angeles admitted, "right now, I'm stressed but excited about the future at the same time!" She further explained, "as my first time studying with a top-tier composer, I am very nervous. However, this might open a door to potential job opportunities in the industry afterwards. It would be great if I get to stay in the team after the program ends, but if not, I believe I will have met a diverse group of important people in the film industry that might lead to unexpected surprises too. I am very thankful for the opportunity and will try my best."

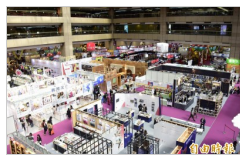
In addition, Ching-Shan was also commissioned to write 10 arrangements of famous Taiwanese folk tunes for the National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra a month before she moved. The album will be recorded in August and premier in October.

In March this year, Ching-Shan re-score for the short film "Wrapped" was selected as the only Asian finalist in the 1st International Berlin Film Scoring Competition. Later, her re-score for "Jupiter's Moon" for another competition was awarded the silver medal of the original score and soundtrack for film & television at the Global Music Awards. Furthermore, on September 25th, Ching-Shan will be traveling to Europe for the 8th International Zurich Film Music Competition affiliated with Zurich Film Festival. She will be competing against the other 4 finalists for the Golden Eye endowed with \$10,000 Francs. As the scale and the recognition of this renowned competition is much greater than many of the other film music competitions she has participated in, winning the award will mark another major milestone in the next chapter of her career as a film composer.

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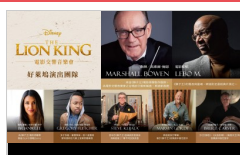
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