

Call for Expressions-of-Interest: Preparation of edited volume proposal for Ashgate Screen Music Series (Routledge)

Film Music Archives: Explorations and Insights

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Dear Colleagues,

I am seeking expressions-of-interest/outline chapter proposals for a first edited collection focused on researching film music archives (for the purposes of the volume ‘film music’ is understood to embrace music for cinema and TV, and across fiction, documentary and other genres).

The book’s envisioned scope of resources ranges from institutional papers documenting the lifework of well-known film composers through collections of hitherto underrepresented creative practitioners (including women composers) to explorations of more recent digital archives. Mindful of global inequalities in the preservation and curation of film and sound materials, I also welcome expressions-of-interest/outline chapter proposals from scholars involved in the creation of film music archives where none are currently available.

The edited volume’s overarching aims are to highlight the value—as well as the challenges—of engaging with archives for film music studies; and to provide diverse, international case studies that present a wide range of resources and approaches.

Reflecting these aims, chapter contributions might typically include: a) an introductory section setting out contexts for the collection/institution/creative personnel involved, as appropriate; a narrative account that considers access to (or in some cases, creation of) a music archive/collection; b) processes of discovery during archival visits and/or searches, including any ‘aha’ moments; c) unique insights into the work of a film composer/music producer/collaborative team, gained through analysis of the archival materials concerned. (Note: these are presented as general guidelines that can be adapted to each author’s unique experience and approach).

E-resources (including video clips) linked to individual chapters will be compiled in an appendix, as appropriate.

Timeline and process: first steps

1. Expressions-of-Interest

In the first instance, to pitch an idea, and/or for more information/discussion please contact me at john.oflynn@dcu.ie by the end of August 2026.

2. Completed chapter proposals

500–700-word chapter proposals should be submitted to john.oflynn@dcu.ie

Deadline: 4 January 2027

3. *Peer review*

Chapter proposals will be peer-reviewed. Once these are accepted, a complete proposal for the edited volume, including the introductory chapter and all chapter proposals, will be submitted to Routledge by the end of January 2027.

4. *Submission of full chapters*

Authors will later be invited to contribute full book chapters of no more than 7,000 words (including bibliography)

Deadline: 1 June 2027

Following later review and editing stages, a publication date by early 2028 is anticipated.