

YC Music Reviewers

Technical Changes:

- **Top-level Menu** re-ordering
 - Move "Music" next to "Forums"
 - Remove "Music Guide" altogether and place a link to it somewhere in the "Music" subpage.
- **Main Music Page**
 - Remove "Upload Guide" from all pages. Leave it only where you're actually uploading things.
 - Make "Upload File" button more visible with a brighter color and/or larger size. Possibly change name to "Upload Music" to be consistent with header.
 - Thumbnails for composers seem not to be showing up. Or are those for the pieces themselves? If so, kill em. These are not videos and should not have thumbnails.
 - "Most Watched" should be changed to "Watching Right Now."
 - "What's New" should be changed to "New Music"
 - "Top Authors" sidebar should be changed to "Top Composers"
 - "Random Files" should be in line with "most watched" etc. in middle of page.
 - Under each upload, little icons should be under the title to show what type of media the files are. If there's a score and mp3, a little PDF icon and music note icon would be lovely. This gives advance warning to what's there before one clicks it. i.e:



and



, preferably made custom to avoid copyright.

- **Upload File Page**
 - Simplify "Genre", "Sub-Genre", and "Form" fields greatly. People don't write in 80% of these on a regular basis. Perhaps something more generic like "Type"
 - Do not allow uploading of graphics. (I'm not sure the rationale here.) PDFs should be the only acceptable format for scores.
 - Update "Upload Guide" to reflect current upload protocols (in time).
- **Username Header**
 - Make "Upload Music" drop-down more visible and in a contrasting color. Better to have a single button and then chose the category on the Upload File page.
- **Categories**
 - Simplify Categories thus:
 - Orchestra
 - Band/Wind Ensemble
 - Chamber Ensembles
 - Piano/Solo Keyboard
 - Vocal/Choral

- Jazz
 - Rock/Pop
 - Electronic
 - Other
 - Incomplete Works
- Allow pieces to be part of **more** than one category if necessary. For ex. a piece with Orchestra and Choir should be under *Orchestral and Choral*. Not sure of the technical ramifications of this but it's a good idea. The Category should really be an organizing field rather than like a hierarchy of folders.
- Remove "Competitions" and "Music Appreciation" altogether. Competition pieces should be submitted as normal but be specified as a competition piece in the applicable forum thread. This is up for discussion.
- **NOTE:** Just because a piece "sounds" like game or film music doesn't make it so. If it is specifically written for a film or game without a score, it could go in either electronic or other if applicable.
- [Music Guide](#)
 - **Remove or Demote:** Pointless to the average user since it is difficult to navigate and not very useful. I think it should be thrown out, or, given exclusively to the reviewers in a staff forum. With the lack of reviews being broadcast like that, and from the top-level menu at that(!), it shows that we don't do stuff here, which needs to change. Don't advertise your lack of activity! (This also goes for the home page activity markers but that's not my area.)
- [Music Directory:](#)
 - **Remove:** The navigation by category on the main music page is actually quite good. Leave it at that. The colors are nauseating anyway.
- **Music Navigation (on main Forum Page below Shoutbox)**
 - **Remove:** This is a pointless thing to have on the main forum page. We don't need four ways to get to the same content. Direct people to the main Music page and you're good.
- **Music Pages (Individual Scores)**
 - **DISABLE DOWNLOADING!** Unless the composer authorizes it, downloading should be disabled by default. Make this an option on the Upload File page.
 - **Disable Printing of Score:** Same as above.
 - Little Icons under scores in the "We Also suggest" bar.
 - Change "We also suggest" to "Recommended"
 - If possible, make the mp3 player simplified similar to the old player but larger.
 - Scores should be next to the mp3 file with a link and an icon showing it is a popup. i.e.


 - PDF and mp3 icons in "Recommended" section like under main Music Page

Policy Changes:

- **MAJOR WORKS:** Bring it back! Showcase the best of YC in one place. Should not be in a separate

folder like in years past but rather given a special star or something next to the titles.

- **Reviewer Stamp of approval:** Perhaps well reviewed works can get a special star similar to major works but of a lesser color. A Hierarchy of rewards for making good music, in other words.
- **Reviewer Jurisdiction (for lack of a better term):** Reviewers should be allowed to roam free among the categories and review any work they like. If they have a special area of expertise they are welcome to focus on that area but are not bound by it.

Reviewer Responsibilities:

- **Write reviews** that are thought-provoking and encourage discussion. Depending on the size of the work, the reviews should reflect the length accordingly. A full paragraph is the absolute minimum but a full three or four is recommended delving into artistic and technical issues with the piece. Naturally, reviewers are free to do more.
- **Review Often** focusing on works that have not been reviewed. If a work is not of sufficient quality to be given a full review, indicate this to the composer in a comment and encourage him/her to revise or write something new that's better.
- Reviews (and all posts) should adhere strictly to the **Code of Conduct**.
- **Report spamming** or inflammatory posts to the forum moderator(s).
- Be a member of the **community** in good standing.
- **Nominate** works to be featured as "Major Works"

Reviewer positions are not permanent. Breaking of the responsibilities repeatedly is grounds for dismissal from the role.

Reviewer positions are invisible (for now). They will not have special moderator privileges unless promoted to moderator after clear dedicated service to the Music Uploads section.

Potential Reviewers:

jrcramer

J. Lee Graham

James H.

nikolas

HeckelphoneNYC

SergeOfArniVillage

composerorganist

Peter_W.

Black Orpheus

Voce

piano_player18

benxiwf

Jamie Whitmarsh

JohnPax

johnbucket

Elizabeth

Max Castillo

Mitchell

Gardener

maestrowick