

BROKEN ORCHESTRA (2019) Documentary Short Film (11min 47sec)

Logline:

A documentary short about the Symphony for a Broken Orchestra which collected hundreds of broken instruments from the Philadelphia public school system, fixed them and then returned them into the hands of students.

Synopsis:

When the Philadelphia public-school system began losing almost all the funding for its musiceducation programs in 2007, hundreds of instruments in need of repair were left for dead, and community members moved to action. With this film we are introduced to a few of the innovators, educators, volunteers, advocates, and musicians behind Symphony for a Broken Orchestra, a music and art project begun in 2017 that raised awareness for the issue, helping to get those broken instruments back into Philadelphia students' hands.

Symphony for a Broken Orchestra was originally created and commissioned by Temple

Contemporary at Temple University, USA. Original support for Symphony for a Broken

Orchestra was provided by The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage, Philadelphia.

Credits:

Directed by	Charlie Tyrell
Produced by	Julie Baldassi
Production Studio	Topic
Production Company	Younger Daughter Films
Executive Producers (for Topic)	Mona Panchal, Anna Holmes, Ryan Chanatry
Supervising Producer	Jennie Bedusa
Written by	Josef Beeby & Charlie Tyrell
Cinematographer	Chet Tilokani
Editor	Michael Barker
Production Designers	Karlyn Koeser & Dominika Monicka
Installation Artist	Jesse Yules
Composer	Colin Sigor (based on an original score by David Lang)
Mix Engineer	Joe Coupal
Stop-Motion Director	Martha Grant
Colorist	Conor Fisher
VFX & Titles	Kyle Fowler

Interview Subjects (in order of appearance): Joseph Conyers, Dan Blacksberg, Frank Machos, Roslyn McGee, Valerie Gay, Colin Chen, Celina Velez, Students of George Washington High School, Robert Blackson, Liz Filios, Anna Drozdowski, David Lang, Devin Greenwood, Ikru Salmon

"Symphony for Broken Instruments" by David Lang Produced and Recorded by Arun Pandian and Devin Greenwood for Found Sound Records with Assistance by Jody Elff

Director Bio:

Charlie Tyrell is a Torontonian filmmaker and the New Year's Baby of 1988. His work has screened internationally at such festivals as Sundance, SXSW, Hot Docs, Tribeca, and many more. His previous documentary short, My Dead Dad's Porno Tapes premiered at Sundance 2018 and won the Grand Jury Award at SXSW 2018 for Best Documentary Short as well as a Canadian Screen Award. To view more of his work, please visit www.charlietyrell.com

Festival Screenings:

Philadelphia Film Festival (2019), DOC NYC (2019), Sundance 2020, SXSW 2020, ReFrame Film Festival (2020)

Awards:

Best Short (Philadelphia Film Festival), Vimeo Staff Pick

Press:

Film Companion: https://www.filmcompanion.in/broken-orchestra-movie-review-2020-sundance-film-festival/ POV Magazine:

http://povmagazine.com/blog/view/shorts-spotlight-brokenorchestra?fbclid=IwAR0OYnMsbC2uc-gXm_Akkeza-LmWYPlkJEyB8IohMexDQRTyp1CKIhwOuto

Hyperallergic:

https://hyperallergic.com/505144/a-roundup-of-web-documentaries-on-debbie-harry-climate-denial-and-more/

Behind the Lens:

http://behindthelensonline.net/site/interviews/interview-exclusives/charlie-tyrell/

Broad Street Review:

https://www.broadstreetreview.com/wnwn/broken-instruments-echo-the-soul-of-a-city#

Non Profit Quarterly:

https://nonprofitquarterly.org/once-broken-instruments-now-making-beautiful-music-in-philly-schools/

We Are Moving Stories:

https://www.wearemovingstories.com/we-are-moving-stories-films/2019/1/17/broken-orchestra

Horror Buzz:

https://horrorbuzz.com/2020/01/31/broken-orchestra-sings-the-body-electric/

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