

the MUSIC

“It was announced recently that half the world’s population has seen a James Bond movie. Based on that figure, it is likely that just about everybody who communicates without tom-toms has heard the James Bond music - its instantly recognisable theme and titles”

Albert R. Broccoli

Rivalling the special effects and spectacular sets in importance is the music which accompanies every James Bond production. The movies have legions of fans passionately devoted to the memorable themes which have become a main ingredient in their success. Indeed, how could they begin the film without the familiar strains of the Bond theme accompanying the gunbarrel sequence which opens every entry in the series?



Fact:

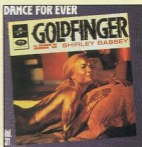
Shirley Bassey, who had a world-wide hit with *Goldfinger*, went on to sing the title songs for *Diamonds Are Forever* and *Moonraker*.

The man most associated with the music in Bond's world is composer John Barry, who has written an impressive twelve 007 scores to date. A multiple Oscar winner (though, ironically never nominated for his work with the Bond series), it was Barry who made the first pop hit from a movie title song (*Goldfinger*). However, there have been other notable composers who have graced the world of 007 with their own unique styles: former Beatles producer George Martin, Marvin Hamlisch, Bill Conti, Michael Kamen and Eric Serra.

For decades, Bond title songs have proven to be chart hits. Among the top title tunes: *Live and Let Die* by Paul McCartney and Wings; *Nobody Does It Better* by Carly Simon; *For Your Eyes Only* by Sheena Easton; and *A View To A Kill* by Duran Duran.



Despite language and cultural differences, Bond's music has universal appeal.



Fact:

In 1965, *Goldfinger* became the best selling album in the U.S. - displacing The Beatles from the top rank!

Live and Let Die, *Nobody Does It Better* (from *The Spy Who Loved Me*) and *For Your Eyes Only*, were all nominated for 'Best Song' Oscars.



John Barry attending the Royal premiere of *You Only Live Twice*.

Fact:

Sheena Easton (pictured here with Cubby Broccoli, John Glen and Michael G. Wilson) not only sings the theme song *For Your Eyes Only*, but appears in the title sequence too.



Disco versions of the Bond themes are highly sought-after by collectors. But not for the music - it's the covers they collect!