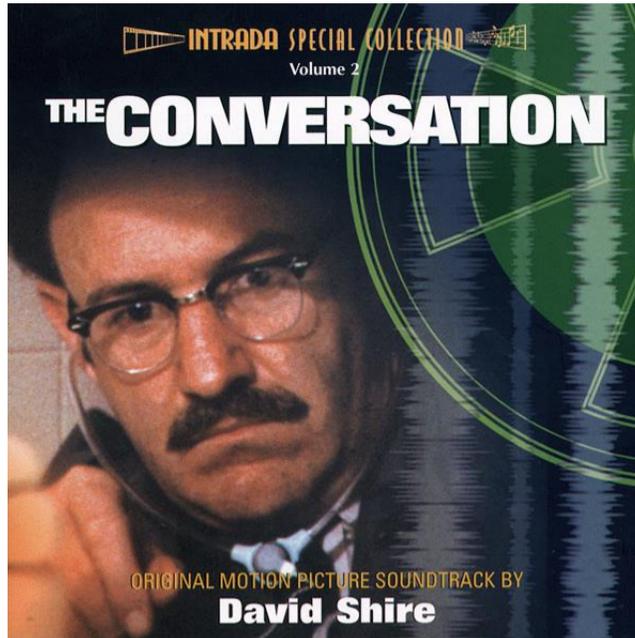




Announces:



THE CONVERSATION

Composed and Conducted by **DAVID SHIRE**
Intrada Special Collection Volume ISC 2

Intrada is proud to announce the second volume in its Special Collection, the premiere release of the much sought-after David Shire score to *The Conversation*. Written and directed by Francis Ford Coppola, Leonard Maltin (among most critics) considers *The Conversation* one of the best films of the 70s. One viewing and it's immediately apparent why: this sophisticated story – part murder mystery, part character study – features a tight script, moody cinematography, and a brilliant actor (Gene Hackman) for whom this part could have been specially written. Hackman plays Harry Caul, a surveillance expert who ironically obsesses about keeping his existence anonymous to the world, while recording other people and invading their privacy. The film opens with Caul and team recording what seems to be an innocuous conversation in San Francisco's Union Square. As the film progresses, Caul becomes more obsessed with the conversation he taped and becomes entangled in the case, sacrificing his much cherished privacy.

An element that leads to the success of *The Conversation* is David Shire's moody score. It gets inside Harry Caul and is perhaps one of the most important examples of music and character being wedded. The score proper is composed for solo piano and the main theme musically represents the anonymity on which Caul thrives. At points in the score, Shire manipulates the music electronically, much in the same way Caul manipulates the multiple recordings he has of the conversation. The score also features jazz cues composed by Shire, some of which Caul accompanies with his own saxophone.

When people saw *The Conversation* in the 70s, they left the theaters with Shire's piano tune digging at their memory. But there was no way to appease that nagging, for no soundtrack had been released. In fact, over the years, David Shire's *The Conversation* has become one of the most requested soundtracks of all time. The theme has appeared here and there occasionally, but Intrada finally fills the absence with a full-length soundtrack. In addition to what is heard in the film, the master tapes also included an ensemble version of the main theme that wasn't used in the film, heard here for the first time.

The Intrada Special Collection is a series of recordings focusing on film music from across the decades. This series is targeted to the discriminating soundtrack collector of film music and is available exclusively through Intrada and a select handful of soundtrack specialty shops.

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