



Announces:



THE MONSTER SQUAD

Composed and Conducted by **BRUCE BROUGHTON**
Intrada Special Collection Volume ISC 50

The mid to late '80s was a particularly busy time for composer Bruce Broughton, who wrote several large scale scores that would become instant favorites. Titles such as the Oscar-nominated *Silverado*, *Young Sherlock Holmes*, and *Harry and the Hendersons* are just a few that became fan favorites. One score that has remained unavailable for 20 years is his horror score to *The Monster Squad*. Director Fred Dekker specifically hired Broughton to score his film because he wanted that big sound Broughton had achieved for the above mentioned films and could think of no better a composer to bring back the lush, old-fashioned sound of the Universal horror movies. After all, *The Monster Squad* was about a group of five pre-teen kids who band together to fight a reunion of monsters not seen together since the '40s: Frankenstein's monster, Dracula, The Wolfman, the Gillman, and the Mummy. "If the music in those Universal horror films was big and emotionally rich, and I was known for doing those kinds of things, then why not go and find a guy who could do a score like that?" said Broughton.

The rich score to *The Monster Squad* is anchored around Broughton's theme for Dracula. "I really tried to get the feeling of the undead after living with these characters for weeks – the sadness, the lack of opportunity," comments Broughton. He characterizes the broad appeal of his score, pointing to the film's culmination during the vortex sequence. "The music is big, mushy, and emotional. And that probably answers the question of why people liked this score so much. *The Monster Squad* has these large emotional gestures, which are melodic, lyrical and full of heart. It's got these big, dramatic orchestrations, the kind of sound that was easily identifiable as being 'me.'" And while it is clearly a Bruce Broughton score with his trademark sound, it is the dark, gothic mood that differentiates it from all his other work, making it a unique work that sits comfortably among his finest.

A big orchestral treatment was important to Fred Dekker: "*The Monster Squad* was arguably a slight idea for a movie, and the only way it would work was if it felt like the real deal. So I pushed for that big orchestral sound. I remember the first day of scoring, walking into the Fox soundstage and seeing the orchestra. I was blown away when their sound came through the speakers in the control room. Two years earlier I'd thought of this movie. Sitting there now was beyond anything I could imagine. I think I burst into tears. I was pretty weak for that first day."

While the film performed poorly at the box office, it gathered a cult following over the years.

Thanks to the generous cooperation of Paramount Pictures, *The Monster Squad* makes its soundtrack debut just in time for its 20th anniversary.

This release is limited to 3000 units.

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