

ABSTRACT

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THE ANALYSIS OF SIGN THROUGH MINIMALIST TECHNIQUES IN THE FILM MUSIC OF *INTERSTELLAR*

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In this day and age, minimalist techniques can be met frequently in many Hollywood film music. Unfortunately, not many studies discuss its existence, especially its stand as signifier in film because of its lack of emotion, limited and repeated material, and static harmony, which do not support the highly-dramatic plot of Hollywood films. However, in 2014, Hans Zimmer composed the film music of *Interstellar*, which is a big-budget Hollywood film, using minimalist techniques for some scenes. Compared to *Gravity* (2013) and *The Midnight Sky* (2020), *Interstellar* lacks techniques that outer space science fiction films usually use, which applies dissonant harmonies and surging melody for its dramatic and suspenseful plot. Instead, it uses static harmony, repetitional patterns, drone, and additive process to underscore and fill the scenes. This research provides an in-depth analysis of what and how these minimalist techniques signify. After the analysis, the author identifies space, machine, rational thought, tension, and time as the signs of the minimalist techniques in the film music of *Interstellar*.

Keywords: minimalist technique, sign, signification, film music, *Interstellar* film

Reference: 15 (1983 – 2014)