

September 10, 2016

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am an Iranian-Canadian composer and a professor of composition at the University of Tehran, where I teach composition, orchestration, and analysis. I've written two books on music entitled *Introduction to the Analysis of Atonal Music*, and *An Introductory Analysis of Alfred Schnittke's Music*, both published by the University of Tehran Publications. I've also released two CDs: *Unspoken Grievances*, a collection of my concert pieces, for which I won the award of best classical composer at Fajr International Music Festival (2015), and *Yesterday to Today*, a selection of my music on film and Television. My compositions have been performed, recorded, and read by well-known musicians and orchestras in Iran, Canada and US, including Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, Toronto Youth Symphony Orchestra, and Tehran Symphony Orchestra. I have composed the score for many short and feature films, as well as TV shows, including *Today* (2013), which was screened at the Toronto International Film Festival. In addition, I've adjudicated in several festivals including Fajr International music Festival (2013), Pejman Music Contest (2014), and university entrance exams.

Although I have known Mr. Ali Birang for 7 years, I first heard his music on TV almost 17 years ago, and I must say that he is one of the most talented media composers in Iran. His music for TV shows written while he was a teenager (e.g. *The Eternal Train*, *The World of Shirin*, etc.) was unique, and is remembered by many people. His pieces are catchy, technically rich, and serve the picture very well, while being demanding independently as well. I have had the opportunity to meet and collaborate with him on the music for a TV show (*The Chef*-2009), and found his comments very influential on my work. He has also wrote and arranged successful songs and concert pieces. His recent Duet for violin and viola was acclaimed after its premiere in Tehran. He knows Iranian music and can blend its elements with Western music. In addition, Mr. Birang is exceptionally skillful in working with computer samples and software, and has a vast knowledge of digital production. His ability to record, synthesize, mix and master is a considerable asset. He can handle the music production from scratch and deliver the best results. Recently, he was hired to record and mix a project for Tehran Philharmonic Orchestra. His technical ability, in addition to his compositional skills, distinguishes him from other composers.

Mr. Birang is not only a gifted composer, but also a multi-style pianist. He has experience in Classical, Jazz and Pop piano, and is a very good improviser. He has been on the stage for several performances, and has collaborated with some great Iranian musicians.

I believe he can work much better in the American music and film industry than Iran, and fully unleash his talent. With his knowledge of both Persian and Western culture and music, I think he can have a successful career abroad.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best Regards,



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