



ARTS

Visual Arts Lesson Starters

- A. Create a coloring book of Pale Male's life.
- B. Create dioramas for Pale Male's nests and his offspring. See Appendix B: Pale Male NYC Diorama
- C. Develop two questions to ask filmmaker Frederic Lilien and contact him with those questions at <https://www.thelegendofpalemale.net/>.
- D. Make a film or a Prezi presentation about local red-tailed hawks/raptor ecosystems. Use interviews of experts or interview fellow students who have done research in these fields.
- E. Explore the art and science and history of nature documentary filmmaking. Find local resources/online resources. Visit the PBS Nature site: <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/nature/>.
- F. Research the main 'human stars' of the film, exploring their lives and passions. They all are fascinating people who have (had) interesting careers.

Frederic Lilien, filmmaker, film editor

Janet Hess, screenwriter, documentary film producer for PBS Nature series

Lenny Williams, film score composer and concert pianist

Marie Winn, author, nature columnist, and translator

Charles F. Kennedy, naturalist, photographer, poet

Dr. Alexander Fisher, dermatologist and medical researcher

Lawrence (Larry) Curtis, ocean cinematographer, producer

See Appendix E: Related Resources

Music Lesson Starters and Discussion Guide

The Power Of The Score: Music In The Legend Of Pale Male

Lenny Williams is one of our best documentary-film-score composers. In *The Legend of Pale Male* he masterfully blends his original music with music of other composers to help tell the Pale Male story. Look at the additional music credits at **1:23:26**.

- Do some research on those other composers—Richard Wagner, Antonio Vivaldi, Johannes Brahms, Marc Bruno. When did they live?
- What type of music did they compose?
- And think about why their music was included where it was in the film. Here are tips for appreciating the importance and power of a good score in a film.

When you hear music in a film scene, ask yourself:

- Why is *this particular music* appearing now in the film?
- What message is the music sending me?
- How is the music helping to ‘tell the story’ in this scene?
- Is the music foreshadowing some upcoming action?
- What emotions does the music cause me to feel?
- What is the mood or color or light tone of the music? Dark? Bright? Regal? Triumphant? Sad? Eerie? Frightening? Fast? Slow? Dancing? Marching? Other?

Here are some spots to review to find the power of the score in the *Legend of Pale Male*.

- **Lenny Williams “The Legend of Pale Male Theme”** 00-:51
It reappears at 1:06:48 – 1:08:32 and again 1:16:05 – 1:21:43. What mood does this theme set? What does this music tell you about Pale Male and his human admirers? About the whole story? Why does it appear where it does later in the film?
- **Pale Male vs. Pigeons and Crows** 9:45 - 10:29 and 17:17 – 18:20
How does this music help tell the story? How does it make you feel? What instruments does the composer use to set the tone?
- **Chicks Are Born and Time Lapse Sequence** 22:21 - 25:00
Lenny Williams sets a very different tone in these scenes. A particular instrument (oboe) is the main ‘voice’. Why did Mr. Williams use the oboe to help tell this part of the story?
- **The Vigil** 34:43 – 37:14 (intermittently)
“Hungarian Dances” by Brahms. Why was this music chosen?
- **Fledging** 39:00 – 41:33
“Ride of the Valkyries” by Wagner. Why was this music chosen? What are the prominent instruments in this piece? How do they make this scene even more powerful?
- **Pale Male Party in Central Park** 41:35 – 42:53
“Gloria” by Vivaldi. Why this music?
- **9-11 and the Spring After** 43:50 – 45:30

What happens in Mr. Williams score through this section? How does the music mirror and accent Color? Tone? Mood? Messages?

- **The Nest Comes Down** 49:49 – 53:40

What transition does the music help us make through these scenes? What mood does the cello evoke?

- **Protest Scenes** 1:01:09 – 1:02:53

“Vois Sur Ton Chemin” by Bruner. Why was this music chosen?