

# The Tamil Musician A.R Rahman

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Music that comes from the future and Travels to the present.....

A movie called Ponniyin Selvan was been released theatrically on the 30<sup>th</sup> September with the music direction of AR Rahman.

Every songs in this movie been released in 5 different language namely Tamil, Hindi, Malayalam, Telegu and Kannada, the interesting part in this is that it praises about the Kaveri river also called as Ponni Nadhi in Tamil.

It was been a biggest expectation in the Tamil industry as the film was been based on a King Rajendra Cholan and his greatness of being the King of the Emperor. The song called as Ponni Nadhi talks to the people through a song which tells us that the sky gathers and rushes for the water of mother Kaveri and also that the paddy will bloom when the sound of water is heard. The two main stanzas of the song played a very big role which made the film begin with a Goosebumps and also in the trailer of the music which 2where director Mani Ratnam tries to show us the River Kaveri and the beautiful view of how the people respect the River and consider it as a God.

The song that was been composed in this movie in such a way that the music and the meaning remained the same but just the lyrics that was been changed to people from different languages to understand how the people in the Chola dynasty praised the Kaveri and the Thanjavur dynasty. Director Mani Ratnam wanted this particular songin been composed in such a way that the music slightly starts and just keep raising its tune. The first wave of the music would showcase the emperor and the entry of Ponniyin Selvan coming together and the second is to increase the tune of the music and the third wave was music wanted to showcased when the crown is been showed and when the crown is been served.

AR Rahman has a concept in his mind that the music does have any age limit. Rahman score which was been composed in a commercial named Leo coffee in the 1989 turned into a beautiful song in a movie called as The Hundred-Foot Journey which was been released in the year 2014 after 25 years as Rahman said that the music has no age. There were many score that AR Rahman composed in his commercials and later was been used in the movies. For Ex: Score BGM for Asian paints commercial in the 1987 was been used to compose a song called Chinna Chine Assai in 1992. Rahman not only used his scores from his commercials to a movie but also from a piece of BGM in a movie that converted into a song in his other films. He used a piece of flute in particular scenes in his first movie Roja and he took that specific score that he used for a particular scene in the film and composed a song called 'Rkkozhi' in a movie called 'Uzhavan'. He also picked another piece of music from Roja which became the tune for Telephone Manipol song for the movie Indian.

In an interview when an interviewer called Ranveer asked him a question that ‘How do you come up with so many tunes for so long? 30 years of coming up with magical music, Rahman answered this with such a good example that you always need to perceive yourself as the beggar, Keep your beggar’s bowl empty all the time, God will keep placing things into it. But the moment you let it stay in the beggar’s bowl and get attached to what is in your bowl, which means his tunes or his music and him saying ‘Oh, I made this beautiful song!’ God’s going to put the next piece of food in your bowl. The next tune’s not going to fall in your bowl. AR Rahman one of the creative genuineness of our culture saying the above example which gives us a clear picture of how he has travelled these 30 years with his magical tunes and compositions.

The reason why his work sounds so fresh and relevant is because he is always connected to the youth, this is what Rahman is on a different league all together.

AR Rahman always composes songs according to the trend so that it would attract the audience and forever cherish in their minds like how he composed music in his first movie Roja which also gave a hope to many music directors to prove their self with what they have without any hesitations and keep a check on the mistakes so that they learn better

Rahman is always a Gem for the Music industry.....

#### **TEMPTED TUNE IN.....**

Starting with Roja in 1992, Rahman now have 30 years of film music behind.....

What do filmmakers still want of your compositions?

A conversation between AR Rahman and Nasreen Munni Kabir.....

Filmmakers come to Rahman just because they want their music to be a little exotic; they know that Rahman like experimenting with sounds. People easily recognize Rahman sound. The session was a very good platform for the listeners to know about Rahman and his journey in the music industry which led him to win the Oscar. The important leads Rahman tries to give the Youth who is interested in music compositions is that, You must understand the story as it is very important to compose a suitable tune for every sequence. The script is the key to the whole process and that’s what primarily serves.... Rahman gives examples of his very own experience of the struggles faced by him while composting music and jingles. Rahman gives a lead to the youngsters that they must always be adapted to the trend and understand the needs of people and in what they are interested much and deliver the music so that it captures in the minds of many audiences listening to the song.....

In a Podcast called Naallanaa Maurukku with RJ Balaji it was overall a very informative and as well as an entertaining discussion. It was a conversation of how does a song gets hit and how does a song gets flopped, Is it right that if a song gets more likes and views it’s a good song and if it doesn’t get likes and views it’s a bad song. Rahman explains this from his point of view that it’s all about the promotions that gains likes and views but it is the listener they pick up what they want and what actually their mind wants. Rahman also gave an example where an Afgani guy identified him and said him he doesn’t speak Tamil but he wanted to know about the experience of a song from a movie called ‘Maryan’ but whereas this song wasn’t reached as he expected. It’s the listener who picks up what they want.

In a conversation with journalist Keerthana, Rahman explained on how to overcome the failures, Criticisms and Negativity. Rahman with smiles in his face and in a positive way said that if you fill your brain cells with love it would also out as love if you fill it with worries inside then it would come as worries itself just like a reflection. The point he tries to convey that you should not afford to be negative, the space of spirituality, love, refining and self questioning the struggle between the desires to refine and divert them towards goodness, Nobody in this world is perfect as we all human beings we all dark sides and light sides the way we take effort to accomplish a goal is what matters a lot whereas music was that beautiful thing that made him overcome all this criticisms, failures and negativity.

### **The Journey**

It all started as a young boy without having any idea of becoming a Music Director but ending up as the Oscar Award winner for his music composition. Rahman's life began as Jingles composer for commercial which led him to meet Mani Ratnam also a great Film Director. He got his first work as a Music composer after Mani Ratnam listed some of his Music that Rahman composed in his free time. His first film as a Music Director was the movie called as Roja which was been released in the year 1992. The film was a big hit in both the story and the songs composed by Rahman, people came to know about Rahman after this film, and he also got a lot of opportunities after the music from this movie was a hit. Rahman always tells that the music has no age and it can be used anywhere. There are many scores that Rahman composed in his commercials and later was been used in the movies. He always had a concept that the script of the movie is as equal as the music because if you understand the script it would be much easier and well as meaningful for the music to be played at the right time. Rahman music is been identified as his music gives that feel of going to other world when its love failure song or also a Romantic song. The song that made me feel like I'm in heaven was a song called as Ennode Ne Irindhal from a Tamil movie called as 'I'. The kind of Goosebumps we get whenever we listen the song Jai ho can never been done by any of the musicians today as Rahman is always been concentrating on the trend that captures quickly by the audience. The quality of voice that so real but feels effortless, some people can sing anything and make it sound good but that isn't enough.

He is always been connected to the youth the changes he got from the age he started experimenting about the music was so different that he used many scores from his commercials and added it on his movies at the beginnings when he was introduced to the industry but now as he clearly understood that the audience now always wait to listen something new and special which connects their lives to the song. In an interview with Nasreen, Rahman was been asked about his secrets that he maintain to deliver different kinds of magical music's for 30 years; he said the answer quoting a very good example that you always need to perceive yourself as a beggar, keep the beggar's bowl empty all the time, God will keep placing things into it. But the moment you let it stay in the beggars bowl and get attached to what is in your bowl, which means that his music and him saying 'Oh, I made this beautiful song!' Gods going to put the next piece of food in your bowl, the next tune is not going to fall in your bowl. This was a beautiful example from Rahman which gave us clear picture about what Rahman gone through in his life as musician.

The reason I picked Rahman as a topic to research was the unbelievable change as music he still able to give the audience even after so many years. The trend he adopts from the youth and picks the line that

makes people to relate the lyrics in their lives. It's a biggest gift for us living in this generation to feel and listen to his blissful music where he never fails to give his best always. The struggles that he faced after his father passed away and being the only male with three sisters forced him to compose music and get dropped out of the college as his family was facing financial issues after his father passed away and only he was the breadwinner for his family.

The Great Music composer, singer, lyricist and also now a film director A.R Rahman is the best gift that this generation could have ever had and also who made India proud by winning two Oscars for his music compositions.