

FEI

LONGINES LEAGUE OF NATIONS

BLIM RECORDS

MAIN ANTHEM REVEAL



FEI





It is with immense pride and satisfaction that I present to you the full length main anthem I've composed for the **Longines League of Nations**. The following pages contain an explanation of the creative process, and, due to the subjectivity inherent in musical art, a listening guide to the anthem that easily connects its constituent parts to the guidelines, specifications, and the essence of the project. Please note that this guide is meant for curiosity about what inspired me to construct the anthem in this manner, and it isn't necessarily something the listener must adhere to. Ultimately, the listener should simply enjoy the music and subconsciously immerse themselves in the world of equestrian jumping.

Presented as the ultimate and officially approved version by the FEI, this full-length 5-minute official anthem serves as the cornerstone for various subsequent adaptations of shorter durations, including TV and web spots. Additionally, the anthem will also be the foundation for all the new variations to be used during the competition itself, crafted by my esteemed producer, Ricardo Ferreira. This ensures a high level of stylistic cohesion and implements a strong sound identity.

In the near future, we are excited to unveil a distinctive edition enhanced with cutting-edge Dolby ATMOS technology, promising an unparalleled auditory experience. This not only seamlessly merges the classical and the contemporary but also underscores this fusion within the auditory realm. The sound, initially produced by a traditional orchestra with centuries-old instruments, will be masterfully blended using the latest and most advanced sound technology available. Stay tuned for this special presentation!

Thank you very much,

Rui Ribeiro
Composer



THE CORRELATION BETWEEN TIME AND GAIT



*Time Unit: Second = 60 beats per minute
(or 120 beats per minute, duplicated)*



Example of the 3 beat Canter Gait

The foundational rhythmic structure of the entire anthem was based on the correlation between the precise time unit of a **second** and the rhythmic patterns of a **horse's gait**: walk, trot, canter, and gallop. After hours of observing jumping competitions, it became evident that the rhythm of the horses' steps closely aligns with a time unit very close to a second, with each type of gait distinctly filling this second gap.

The four gaits are represented at different moments throughout the anthem, and for the sake of musical cohesion, the rhythmic foundation primarily revolves around the *canter and gallop*. This connection between the second (time unit) and the horse's gait struck me as the most natural and, I would say, almost inevitable way to combine the precision of a Longines watch that perpetually marks the second, and the equestrian world firmly rooted in the horse's gait.

Furthermore, I found it captivating to craft a musical representation inspired by the rhythmic cadence of a horse's steps in competition, as this pattern subtly underpins the entirety of the event.



THE ANATOMY OF JUMPING AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO THE STRUCTURAL COMPOSITION OF THE ANTHEM

I aimed to establish a connection between the construction of an equestrian jump and the structural composition of the anthem.

This connection exists on two different levels, which I'll describe below:

LEVEL 1 - Micro-Structure: The Anatomy of an Equestrian Jump

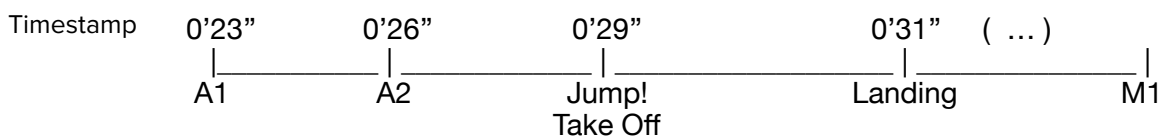
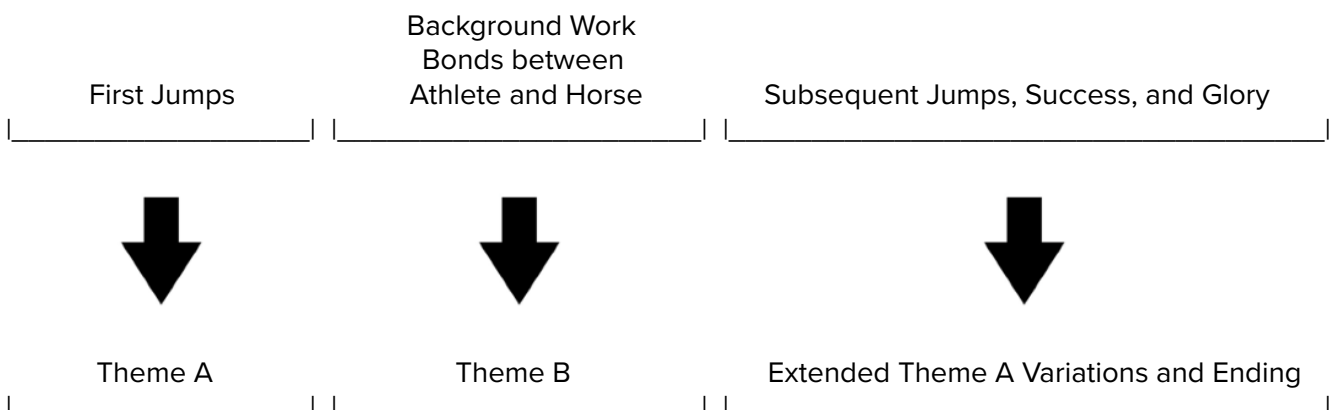


Illustration representing the beginning of the Anthem

LEVEL 2 - Macro-Structure: The Anatomy of an Equestrian Athlete's Career





Time comes to a standstill when the horse leaves the ground and the jump occurs.

The representation of this moment occurs at five instances during the anthem (in the full 4-minute and 45-second version), at the following timestamps:

Jump 1 - 0'29"

Jump 2 - 1'13"

Jump 3 - 3'16"

Jump 4 - 4'00"

Jump 5 - 5'02"





4

THE ORCHESTRA

SECTIONS AND THEIR REPRESENTATIONS



ELEGANCE
EXCELLENCE
GAITS' RHYTHM



Instruments Used:

- Violins
- Violas
- Cellos
- Double Basses
- Harp



The string section of the orchestra, during Theme A, serves to simulate and maintain the rhythm of the horse's gait, predominantly grounded in the characteristic sound of three-beat gaits.

Due to their expressive capabilities, they also form the foundation of Theme B, albeit slower and more lyrical. The legendary sound of the string section always adds an element of elegance to the orchestra's sound, a dimension consistently present in equestrian jumping.





COURAGE
DYNAMISM
DRAMATISM

Instruments Used:

- Trumpets
- French Horns
- Trombones
- Tubas
- Cimbasso

The brass section takes on added significance in this anthem, as the main melody of Theme A is played by the French Horns, and later by the Trumpets and Trombones in an almost heroic fashion, paying homage to the courage displayed by riders during the competition.

In addition to significantly infusing the anthem with dynamism and drama, the brass section also imparts a memorable and timeless quality to the anthem's sound.





ELEGANCE

Instruments Used:

Flutes
Oboes
Clarinets
Bassoons

Although the woodwind section is used less quantitatively throughout the anthem, it played a crucial role in providing subtle counter-melodies and infusing the orchestra's sound with an added touch of elegance.





SPECTACLE
DYNAMISM
DRAMA

Instruments Used:

- Timpani
- Bass Drums
- Snare Drums
- Cymbals
- Tupans
- Dhols
- Etc.

Essential to the anthem's explosiveness and spectacle, it is the percussion section that gives us the sensation of taking flight with each jump and contributes significantly to the dynamism of the composition.





PRECISION LONGINES' LEGACY

Instruments Used:

Glockenspiel
Celesta
Tubular Bells
Etc.

The precision of a Longines watch is represented here by the use of small metallic percussion instruments, mimicking the internal movements of a watch.





DIVERSITY
INCLUSIVITY
COURAGE

Instruments Used:
Vocals

An orchestra, by nature, is a vehicle of diversity, and its sound reflects the incorporation of musicians who collectively shape it.

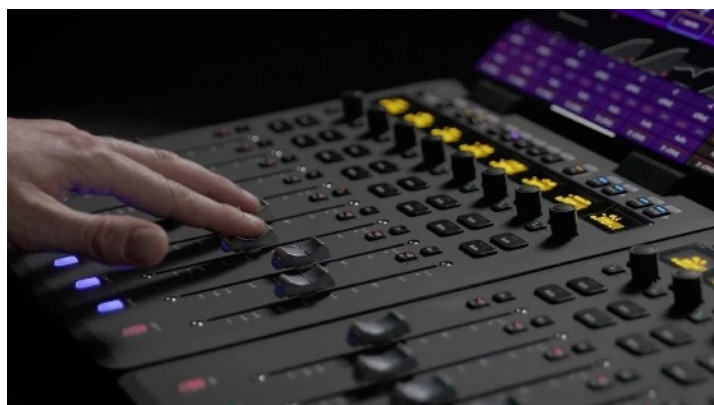
Nevertheless, I decided to include a mixed choir in the final section, which chants the word "Animo," derived from the Latin "Magno Animo," meaning "great courage." In doing so, we not only add a dimension of diversity to the anthem but also represent the competition's audience and their role in encouraging the riders.



4.7

EXTRAS

MODERNITY vs ANTIQUITY



Sounds Used:

Sound Design

Digitally Generated Sound Effects

Watches

Horse-Related Sounds



The addition of unconventional modern elements to the traditional orchestral composition, such as digitally created sound effects, serves to contrast the modern with the classical.



There are also subtle inclusions of sounds that hark back to a more ancient time, like clocks and horse-related sounds used at key moments in the anthem.



Ode to Horsemanship

The inclusion of a Theme B adds an additional layer to the anthem, representing what lies beyond the competition itself: the slow-building relationship between rider and horse, the shared life between these two participants that goes beyond competition.

While maintaining a character not too distant from the rest of the anthem, Theme B is a dynamic construction that begins with less intensity, enhancing various possibilities for synchronization with visuals, and more. Its structure builds into a crescendo, mirroring the collective efforts of riders and their horses that culminate in the Longines League of Nations.

In its own right, the Theme B is a genuine ode to horsemanship, introducing a new hue to the spectrum of the piece, deepening its emotional resonance.





To conclude, here's a listening guide down to the second. Please note that this guide is meant for curiosity about what inspired me to construct the anthem in this manner, and it isn't necessarily something the listener must adhere to. Ultimately, the listener should simply enjoy the music and subconsciously immerse themselves in the world of equestrian jumping.

The times are in reference to the full 5-minute and 11-second version.

0'00" to 0'05" - Percussive Signature opening
0'05" to 0'16" - Blend between horse walking gait (FEI) and watch tick sound (Longines)
0'16" to 0'23" - Signature Theme first presentation
0'23" to 0'29" - Horse Canter, preparing to jump
0'29" to 0'31" - Jump!
0'31" to 0'52" - Horse Gallop, Theme A
1'03" to 1'09" - Signature Theme
1'09" to 1'13" - Canter, Preparing to jump again
1'13" to 1'15" - Jump!
1'15" to 1'20" - Horse landing, the "pack shot" low hit sound
1'20" to 1'34" - "Longines Transition" to the Theme B, evoking the sound of a wristwatch
1'34" to 2'50" - Theme B - Ode to Horsemanship
2'50" to 2'58" - Percussive Signature
2'58" to 3'12" - Signature Theme Variations
3'12" to 3'16" - Horse Canter, preparing to Jump
3'16" to 3'19" - Jump!
3'19" to 3'50" - Horse Gallop, Theme A - Variation
3'50" to 3'56" - Signature Theme
3'56" to 4'00" - Canter, Preparing to jump again
4'00" to 4'04" - Jump!
4'04" to 4'09" - Horse Gallop Theme A - Epic Variation
4'36" to 4'19" - Signature Theme
4'46" to 5'02" - Outro section and preparation for the last jump
5'02" to 5'05" - Jump!
5'05" to 5'11" - Horse landing, the "pack shot" low hit sound. End.

**PRESS PLAY AND
FEEL THE MUSIC**



THANK YOU!



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