

# UNSW



SIMON HUNT

LECTURER  
School of Media Art

7.1.08

To Whom It May Concern -

I write in regards to Johan Sydseter's application for your course. I lecture in the Digital Media and Fine Arts degrees at the UNSW College Of Fine Arts, and am the head sound lecturer there. I taught Johan during his Bachelor Of Digital Media degree, particularly focusing on his audio post-production work in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2006.

While I am asked to write many references for students, it is with particular pleasure that I write one for Johan, who is essentially the most talented audiovisual sound design student I have come across in over ten years of teaching. In the second half of 2006, I initially had serious doubts about the student film (made by others) that Johan had chosen to post-produce for his major audio project, as it seemed to be a confused melange of psychodrama and narrative confusion; with the requisite poorly recorded audio (not by johan) that required replacement.

Over the semester, Johan "rescued" the film with an intelligent, ambitious sound design that anchored the project from all corners - working from character perspectives, using both stereo and surround space to give a sense of internal/external events and perceptions of time, essentially using all possible post-production methods to make "sense" of the film and its many possible narratives.

He achieved this while, at the same time, learning to use a Protools HD studio, learning about foley and voice recording (all dialogue required replacement); learning how to manipulate both the literal and psychological "spaces" via impulse responses, composing minimal "musical" textures in perfect concert with the sound design, and learning how to master and mix film soundtracks in general. It was an extraordinary achievement, and is a post-production project that I will continue to use as a "before and after" example in my classes.

I unreservedly recommend Johan Sydseter to you as an unusually talented audio-visual sound designer. Please contact me if you have any questions or need any more information.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Simon Hunt'.

SIMON HUNT  
Lecturer In Digital Media / Head lecturer in Sound  
UNSW College Of Fine Arts

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES  
UNSW SYDNEY NSW 2052 AUSTRALIA

Telephone: +61(2) 9385 0657  
Facsimile: +61(2) 9385 2163

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