

Transcription

Welcome to Magnus Retail Transcription service. My name is Dr. Mary Crowell. I earned my BA in piano performance at Huntingdon College in Montgomery, AL and my MM in musicology and DMA in composition at University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, AL. I enjoy transcribing music and edit the GAFilk songbook every year for the GAFilk convention held in Atlanta, GA. Music transcription generally refers to listening to an auditory source of music, and then notating that music down on paper or program such as Finale. You can contact me at music@magnusretail.com if you would like me to transcribe music for you. (I arrange and adapt for other instruments too.)

Most of the time I transcribe music into lead sheet form, but I am very comfortable transcribing and arranging music for piano. I can also transcribe music for guitar, voice, and just about every other instrument. I do not transcribe in TAB, however.

In order to get immediate cost and time estimates, please send a digital music file to music@magnusretail.com or email me a link. If you are requesting a lead sheet and already know the chords, please send me lyrics with chords too. You can always send me a CD (inquire by e-mail for my snail mail address). For your convenience and mine I prefer PayPal for payment, however I can accept checks and money orders. My rate is \$50 an hour.

Finale is my program of choice. I will give you professional sheet music as a PDF file that you can have published or duplicated. I can also provide you with a MIDI file, an MUS file, or an XML file (readable by Sibelius), as well as transpositions, for no additional charge. I am also able to take your hand written score and produce a professional engraving via Finale.

The Transcription Process (This applies mainly to song transcriptions.)

- 1) Once your source material arrives I listen several times to familiarize myself with the work as a whole. I am not on the clock at this point, and you will not be charged until I actually begin notating.
- 2) If you have sent a copy of the lyrics and a sound file, the sound file will be considered the more accurate authority should the two differ in some way(s).
- 3) Transposing your music to a key other than the one in the recording is not a problem.

- 4) If each repeat of a recorded song has melodic variations, I usually choose to transcribe the first verse and/or chorus, as that's often the most reliable version. Please, let me know if you want the variations or prefer the definitive version of your song to be a different verse/chorus.
- 5) I generally omit fillers (pickings, hammerings, strums "between" melody notes, etc.) unless you ask for them. If they seem integral to the music, I will ask you whether you want to include them.
- 6) Once all notes and lyrics are entered into Finale, I will email or snail-mail you a copy for review. Please, print the attachment, proofread and correct the hard copy. You catch errors and see necessary changes much better that way.
- 7) Then, please scan or photograph the corrected page(s) for your files, and email them to me as a PDF or jpg, so I can make corrections.
- 8) When the typesetting is completed I can either mail you hard copy of the music, or send it via email attachment as a pdf (Adobe Acrobat Reader) file. Also we can discuss alternate formats.