

Emile Kelman
Biography
2011

Emile Kelman recently produced the record *Myth of the Heart* for Austin-based artist Sahara Smith, a project shepherded by T Bone Burnett. Sahara's record features most of the musicians from the Robert Plant and Alison Krauss record *Raising Sand*, including Jay Bellerose, Marc Ribot, Dennis Crouch and Greg Leisz. Emile's work on *Myth Of The Heart* reveals both his technical dexterity and his perspective on music making and sound landscapes. The Los Angeles Times said of the recording that Emile "learned his lessons well studying under T Bone Burnett" and gave Sahara's songs "plenty of sonic air in which to breathe...."

Emile is currently producing for Oregon based artist, ZZ Ward, and finishing a record for David Poe (another longtime collaborator and friend of Burnett's).

In the winter of 2009, Emile was also Music Supervisor for *Tough Trade*, a TV pilot Executive Produced by T Bone Burnett and Lionsgate. Emile was Burnett's "eyes and ears" on the set in Nashville, working with the lead actors, guiding them with vocal and instrument lessons, in order to achieve accurate and believable performances for pre-recordings and camera.

Emile has been engineering for T Bone Burnett for over 8 years. This opportunity has given Emile the gift of working closely with some of the world's greatest artists such as Willie Nelson, Robert Plant, BB King, John Mellencamp and Alison Krauss on many records. Emile has also explored the endless possibilities of film music and score on productions such as *Crazy Heart*, *Walk The Line*, and *Across The Universe*. Working under the tutelage of Burnett has made its mark on Emile as he has deeply absorbed his mentor's unique philosophy on sound while developing his own approach to production.

Emile has also produced several independent records for artists including Bryan Greenberg, with several songs placed on television shows including *One Tree Hill*, and ABC's *October Road*. Also, Emile's curiosity with sound has led him to write a large volume of instrumentals, with heavy, dark and tough tones – a number of which were placed in the documentary *Dirty Hands* about Los Angeles artist David Choe.

Emile is also a classical cellist – a core part of his personality and musical approach. Since 5 years old he has enjoyed playing with many elite orchestras and chamber music ensembles. He credits most of his advancements in music production to his detailed and soulful experiences in classical music. Currently, he writes string arrangements and plays on records for artists and bands, including a number of the songs he has produced.