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In TV and films, the video part is recorded separately from the audio part as video and film cameras don't have built in microphones. Sound post production starts when a locked cut of all the visual elements of the film is assembled. It is generally used to describe all the stages of audio production that take place between studio recordings to the final master recording.

Film and Music Sound Post Production

In films, the audio has to be synchronized with the video part. This process is applied to cinema, commercials, as well as television. The main ingredient of audio post production is Automatic Dialogue Replacement when the production audio lacks in quality and the actor is called back to record a part of it again.

In music audio post production, an increasing number of musicians and software is used to create electronic music. The process involves audio level compression, equalization, compression, multi band audio etc.

Members Involved in the Process

There are different members in post production to look after various responsibilities. The dialogue editor takes care of examining every spoken dialogue and line in detail to check for poorly recorded lines or parts where actors are out of sync with lip movements.

There are sound effects designers who add ambient background music and special effects such as sounds of doors slamming, gun shots or loud explosions.

Foley artists fill in minor yet crucial details such as footsteps across the floor, a running faucet, the sound a plastic cup makes as it is placed on a table etc.

The role of the music editor is to either make original music or purchase the license to use copyrighted music. The composer would look for places to where original music can be scored for video movement.

By far the most important part of audio post production is the mix where various elements of the project are blended and balanced to create a harmonious effect. Sound post production companies assign this duty to experienced dialogue mixers, music mixers, effects mixers etc. The composite soundtrack is compressed and delivered as a digital file or optical film stock.

Sound Post Production Companies

Now that you know the complex processes that go into audio post production, you need to carefully select the company that has the skill and expertise to deliver what you require. The company should preferably have experience in this field with proven track record and a list of clients who will vouch for their quality services. Sound Post Production is vital in creating a big impact on viewers, a poorly edited piece that sounds jarring to the listener's ears is sure to be a put off. So invest wisely and choose a good company because your reputation depends on their job well done.

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