

# Tabula Rasa

## *Hollywoodgrrl*

Achievement in Innovation: Winner 2007

The review below may contain spoilers for new Doctor Who up to late season 3.

**Nicky:** Some fantastic steps forward are being taken in creative video editing, and for the 2007 round we felt that Hollywoodgrrl best exemplified the spirit of innovation with the intense Tabula Rasa.

**Brad:** "Intense" is a great description. It's amazing how much impact she was able to pack into a sub-2-minute vid. And she does it in such a creative way... it's almost like looking directly into a fan's imagination.

**Nicky:** What intrigued me the most was how she conceptualised the vid - it was meant to be a single moment in time when all the memories came flooding back. This framework provided a strong context to the images. The use of stills with a lot of added motion, colour and light, all serve the notion that these images are pieces of jumbled thoughts. I thought the concept was fluidly carried out. The vid was profoundly affecting, even for someone like me who is by no means a Doctor/Rose shipper.

**Brad:** Carrying that a bit farther, it was profoundly affecting even for someone like me, who has never seen Doctor Who. You feel the vid and the importance of the moment. It radiates and pulses through the screen as images flicker past and then explode into motion.

**Nicky:** I loved how the movement of the stills in the first half of the vid very much echoed the sound of the guitars. The guitars were obviously meant to sound like ocean waves, and I got a lot of the same feeling from the ebb and flow of images.

**Brad:** The brightness shifts could have so easily gone so horribly wrong. But it's so skillfully done. It's like she's playing a visual instrument.

**Nicky:** The use of text was beautiful and very well-timed. For a song without lyrics, they served to pin down key emotional points where the vidder wanted them.

**Brad:** The text work is excellent, such great attention to detail. I love the way lines will sort of ghost and separate and fade away (in a very subtle way), and I particularly love the "I love you" line and how the text follows the camera movement.

**Nicky:** My personal favourite moment was 0:53, when the vid kicks back into actual motion. The moment was brilliantly timed to the music's dynamics, and the contrast to the stills is simply gorgeous.

I also loved all the parallel clips used in the vid, for example at 0:29, which drew a great visual link between Rose and the Doctor; but more importantly I felt the parallels at 1:05 and 1:22 served as a visual backbone to the vid in context, contrasting moments of the Doctor from when he first lost Rose and later, when the memories came back.

**Brad:** The image at 1:09 of Rose pounding on the wall is probably the most effective use of that shot I've ever seen. The whole section is filled with desperation and despair, and that shot really sums it up so perfectly, not to mention the on-point musicality.

**Nicky:** I also loved the ending of the vid. The sneakers shot at 1:33 had been sad in the show, but here it was positively heartbreaking. And the end sequence of stills of the TARDIS is incredibly beautiful and poignant.



THE FOURTH WALL

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