

The Problem:

Keeping music production projects organised is hard because:

- ▶ Need to have many versions of the same thing.
- ▶ Metaprojects are a thing.
- ▶ Need documentation, especially in research contexts.
- ▶ Need to work quickly and intuitively.

| | | |
|---|----------------------|-------------|
| Hwol | 30/03/2019 3:26 PM | File folder |
| If it Sounds Good | 17/04/2019 12:59 ... | File folder |
| In Cahoots With Big Chungus | 26/07/2019 6:44 PM | File folder |
| Infinite Complicit | 11/07/2019 4:58 PM | File folder |
| Just Another Coward | 15/03/2019 2:20 PM | File folder |
| Just Another Coward ITS FINALL DONE | 12/10/2018 3:18 PM | File folder |
| Just Another Coward Saturated | 25/09/2018 3:12 PM | File folder |
| kinds like you | 12/10/2018 3:40 PM | File folder |
| Lost in a Boxing Ring | 15/03/2019 2:20 PM | File folder |
| Lost in a Boxing Ring Album Version | 18/07/2018 2:05 PM | File folder |
| lungfish | 18/08/2019 1:40 PM | File folder |
| marital arts | 5/08/2018 3:04 PM | File folder |
| Millionth Column | 20/09/2018 2:09 PM | File folder |
| Mirrors | 4/06/2018 3:52 PM | File folder |
| Monotony | 20/08/2018 4:57 PM | File folder |
| new amp settings wow it actually doesn't... | 16/12/2018 9:51 PM | File folder |
| oh yeah it never ends | 1/11/2018 4:02 PM | File folder |
| paranoia | 2/10/2018 12:59 PM | File folder |
| Picture Cache | 8/11/2019 1:51 PM | File folder |

| Name | Date modified | Type | Size |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|----------|
| Audio | 12/07/2019 6:10 PM | File folder | |
| Melodyne | 16/06/2019 1:37 PM | File folder | |
| complicit come on man what the ... | 20/06/2019 3:49 PM | CWP File | 2,743 KB |
| complicit oh god really the same ... | 16/06/2019 3:30 PM | CWP File | 1,850 KB |
| complicit tweaks 2.cwp | 5/07/2019 5:12 PM | CWP File | 3,757 KB |
| complicit tweaks new drums.cwp | 5/07/2019 8:37 PM | CWP File | 3,796 KB |
| lungfish 2.cwp | 23/06/2019 3:58 PM | CWP File | 1,529 KB |
| lungfish.cwp | 8/05/2019 12:39 PM | CWP File | 774 KB |
| making template.cwp | 13/07/2019 3:07 PM | CWP File | 3,658 KB |
| some other thing.cwp | 15/06/2019 5:21 PM | CWP File | 1,519 KB |
| you can doo drumst.cwp | 19/06/2019 3:50 PM | CWP File | 2,611 KB |
| you can doot add toms and cymb... | 19/06/2019 6:25 PM | CWP File | 2,779 KB |
| you can doot click smoothing.cwp | 24/06/2019 4:12 PM | CWP File | 2,728 KB |
| you can doot more bottom less b... | 5/07/2019 9:40 PM | CWP File | 3,750 KB |
| you can doot more bottom new b... | 16/07/2019 4:50 PM | CWP File | 3,728 KB |
| you can doot more bottom no m... | 24/06/2019 4:32 PM | CWP File | 2,729 KB |
| you can doot more bottom real fa... | 7/07/2019 12:56 PM | CWP File | 3,744 KB |
| you can doot more bottom real fa... | 4/07/2019 8:31 PM | CWP File | 3,742 KB |
| you can doot more bottom reec... | 7/07/2019 5:41 PM | CWP File | 4,335 KB |
| you can doot more bottom slight ... | 12/07/2019 2:22 PM | CWP File | 3,755 KB |
| you can doot more bottom.cwp | 16/07/2019 2:37 PM | CWP File | 3,730 KB |
| you can doot new.cwp | 25/06/2019 8:09 PM | CWP File | 2,725 KB |
| you can doot reec.cwp | 25/06/2019 4:47 PM | CWP File | 2,756 KB |
| you can doot.cwp | 18/06/2019 5:26 PM | CWP File | 2,488 KB |

The Solution:

- ▶ Take some time to actually think about project organisation.
- ▶ Use version control. In this case Git. Solutions built specifically for music production were found to be unsuitable. Git actually works very well with just a couple of caveats.
- ▶ Write some custom scripts to handle some aspects of project creation and management. These work with Git.
- ▶ Actually use the tools.

Existing Alternatives Were Unsuitable

- ▶ Built in DAW "version control" tools earn their scare quotes. Not reliable.
- ▶ There are a couple of online platforms for managing music production projects, including version control BUT:
 1. They only support some DAWs, this solution will work with any.
 2. I don't trust them.

Overall Git works well to version control music production projects, BUT:

- ▶ The actual audio files are large and USUALLY don't change after creation. Tell Git to ignore them.
- ▶ On rare occasions producers might destructively edit audio files. Git cannot help you in this case (assuming you've ignored the audio files).
- ▶ The project files have proprietary formats. You can't do the kind of useful version comparisons you might be able to do with code or text files. A tool that COULD compare (e.g.) EQ settings between different versions of a project would be enormously useful, but obviously well beyond the scope of this unit to develop.
- ▶ If you're using a DAW that allows you to save your project as one big file that includes both the project settings and audio data, don't do that.

Custom scripts take care of the following things:

- ▶ Creating new projects in the repository with unique names and all documentation present (users can set up their own project templates).
- ▶ Creating metaprojects with same conditions.
- ▶ Associating/disassociating projects with metaprojects.
- ▶ Switching projects from being active to being archived.

Source for this presentation is available at:

<https://github.com/MQ-FOAR705/Wheeler.Presentation>

Original template:

<https://github.com/snowtechblog/pico-latex-presentation> by
Anselm Köhler