Mixing Demo

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1 Introduction

Brian Martin will demo the mixing (in the box) of three student tunes.

1.1 The Approach

The Truth (in 2017):

- Melody, Harmony, Rhythm - Europe (Art)

- Rhythm, Melody, Harmony - Africa (Practical)

- Melody + Rhythm - Current

- The mix **must have melody + rhythm**. Don't screw up the groove, don't mess up the vocal.

- If the mix doesn't make you move, if you have to think, it is not working.

- Engage people viscerally - then add harmony, etc.

Art is **expression**.

Get your **ego** out of the mix.

Everything you do has a price, and minimalism is something to do.

Try pulling the faders down & removing plugins, and building up the mix from the beginning, and re-engage with the mix.

2 Song #1: Chris

- Begins by setting up the balance of the drums

- DI is a waste of time

- Avoid using "solo" - the interrelationships of sounds is what makes the mix

- Mixes relatively quietly

- Overheads, Kick, Snare (all you need for the drums)

- Reverb+Delay panned right if mono original is left

- Avoid stereo everywhere - phase issues,etc.

- Uses "Echo Boy"

- Label your I/O in the I/O preferences section

- Take the time to set your mix up

- When creating Stereo with delay, don't put it in the middle, because you'll get into the vocals and the groove

- 2mt2140 Reverb

- Dip at 40Hz in the overheads

- Save with iterations when mixing

- **"Fab Filter's aiight ..."**

- Use your ears when you mix - close your eyes!

- Careful with compression, don't worry about attack speed unless you have sibalencec problems

- Tune your drums!!

- Dip at 20Hz on kick drum

- Another "penis region" ... "if you boost before 40Hz, it is about your dick"

- Bass better through AMP because of bad low frequency reproduction

- Greg Calbi

- Take out BUT put back ... find the voice a little above and return it with very narrow Q values

- Wide stereo delay print to create a "back wall"

- Careful with compression - can create vocal sub compression bus

- Make the least number of choices possible - make them all before you record, or as you record

- Again, fuck DI