

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 sibalancec 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
- Fix a problem with EQ, and then work with compression, as there may be issues with how the compressor responds to the changes in EQ

Fuck the Bus Compressor, because apparently bus compressor = sexual inadequacy. 100%.

LA2A Thing