

Mixing Demo

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Contents

| | | |
|----------|------------------------|----------|
| 1 | Introduction | 1 |
| 1.1 | The Approach | 1 |
| 2 | Song #1: Chris | 2 |

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
- Really short delay on the vocal

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

LA2A Thing - DSP Compressor is good apparently