After I retire (original song) - Mixing Choices

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This is an original song with elements of multiple pop styles. In the first verse we want to express the busy study life with a dramatic style of music, and then the chorus goes into a poetic vision of the future retirement life. The second verse uses the same lyrics and melody, but the overall chord progression is different from the first verse and chorus, and the arrangement is more rock-oriented. We want to express that even though we are retired, we want to be a cool old man in the future.

Technical program notes

1. Lead Vocals:
    - In general we want to create an intimate clean lead vocal, so in lead vocal EQ, we cut the low frequency of the vocal and enhance the high frequency around 2-5k. Moreover, we compressed the lead vocal on the whole.
    - Besides, we want to create some vintage style for some of the lead vocal parts, therefore we attenuate the highs and lows in that part and then add tiny distortion to the track.
    - Since we want the lead vocal to have some depth instead of feeling flat and close, we add a direct reverb on the lead vocal track and set the pre-delay to 82ms.
2. Backing Vocals:
    - SInce the backing vocals are harmonic accompaniments for the lead vocal, we are not aiming for a clean and intimate style, therefore we cut and attenuate some part of the frequencies and use the reverb to push the vocal back. In the reverb settings, we don't want the backing vocals go beyond the space range in the song, therefore we set the length to 61ms, and the spacing to 44.2ms.
3. Violin:
    - When mixing the violin, we set this one-track violin into several parts when mixing because in different sections, the violin is playing a different role. In the intro and the outro part, we want the violin to be intimate and shine. Therefore we enhance the mid to high frequency of the violin in EQ settings. Besides, in the outro part, we use the automation to send more volume to reverb track so that the violin will shine out.
    - In chorus part, we attenuate the mid-high frequency in the violin, because we need the vocal to be the most important part here so that the violin won't conflict with the lead vocal.
4. Piano:
    - Mix is lacking mid-low frequency, so we boost mid-low on piano to fill the mix
5. Drums:
    - We have no drummers, so we have to use software drum
    - Boosting lows for kick
    - Gated Reverb for Snare
6. Bass:

    - Bass is recorded with a low octave pedal and guitar
    - Lack some low ends, boosted
7. Electronic Guitar:
    - Using SM57 and C414 to record on a marshall
    - Attenuate some mid end to leave room for other things
    - Left and Right Doubled
8. Acoustic Guitar:
    - We add the delay for the strumming acoustic guitar in the end (using bypass automation to control the gate) because we want some ping-pong delay effect at the end of the song, or the end will be too sudden without any tail.
    - Besides, in order to create a beautiful tail in the end, we add more volume send to the reverb track.
9. Other technical process:
    - We used a lot of automation on both track parameters and effect parameters
    - We use reverb sends to make sure all musical instruments feel like in one space
    - Finally, we add a limiter to the master track to future compress the audio, level up a bit and avoid clipping.