Gaston Gonzalez Rodriguez

202513320

M5MUMS2: Major Study 2

Dr. Mark Oliveiro

Assessment 2: ReadMe
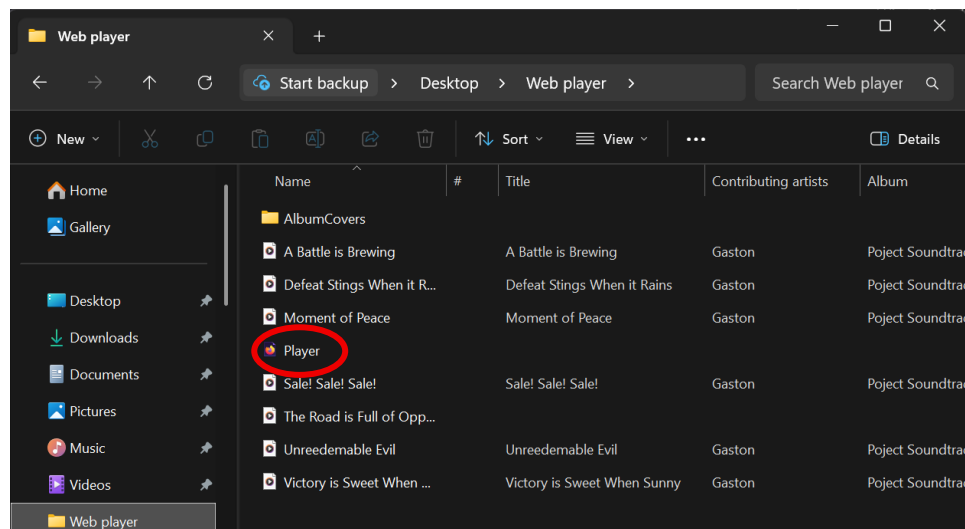
Due date: 30/11/2025

<u>Introduction</u>

This project is a concept EP designed as an interactive musical experience.

Each track was composed with the intention of working in any order, allowing the listener to experience a different narrative and emotional arc with every playthrough. Although the first track always remains the same, the six that follow will adapt to a cohesive journey.

To further show this idea, I built a dedicated web player that shuffles and layers six second transitions in real time, letting the user experience the soundtrack the way it's intended.
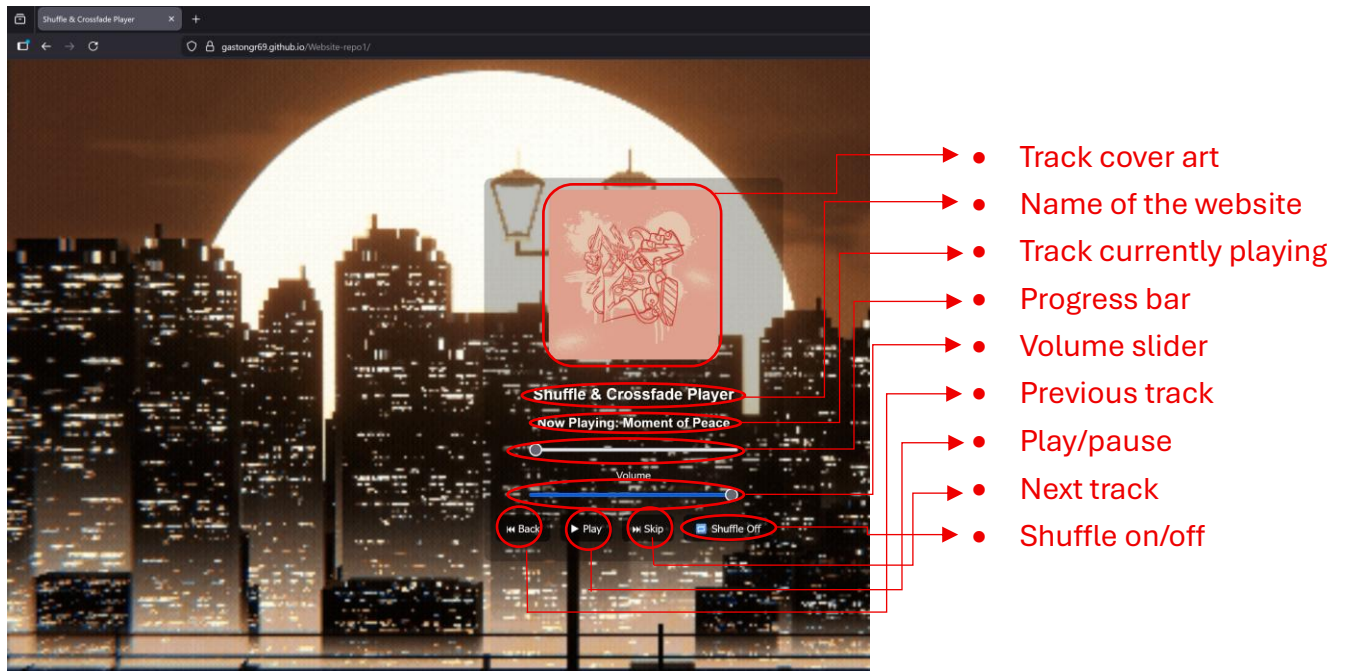
<u>Web player Instructions</u>

1.-If you're initializing the web player from the downloaded folder click and open the file named **"Player"**.
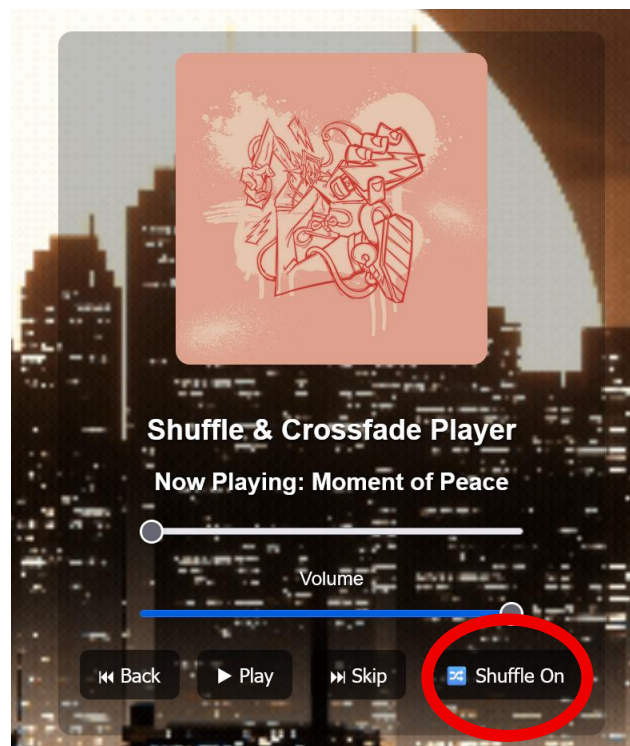

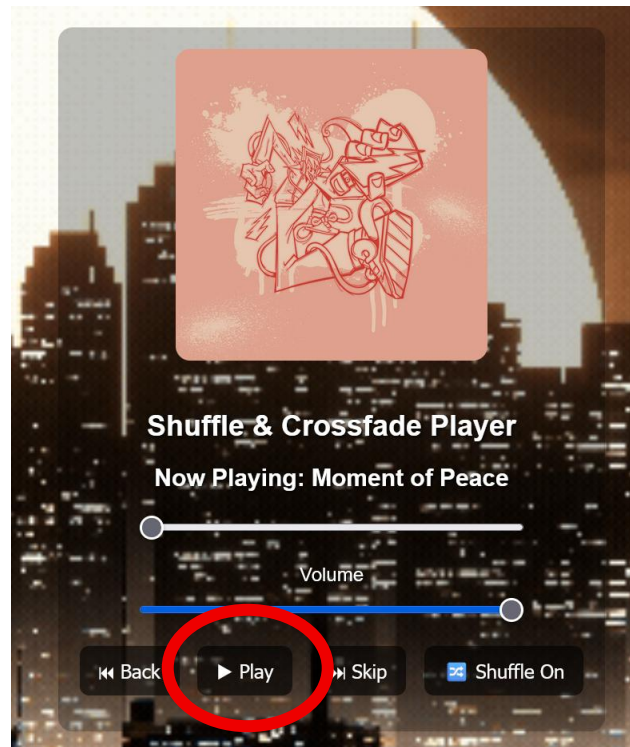If you're not downloading the folder file, then click on the website link:

https://gastongr69.github.io/Website-repo1/

2.- Once you're in the website familiarize yourself with the layout:

- Track cover art
- Name of the website
- Track currently playing
- Progress bar
- Volume slider
- Previous track
- Play/pause
- Next track
- Shuffle on/off

3.- After getting comfortable with the layout, you'll have two options, if it's the first time you listen to the EP then skip this step, if it's the second time using the web player then click on the shuffle button until it reads **"Shuffle on"**.

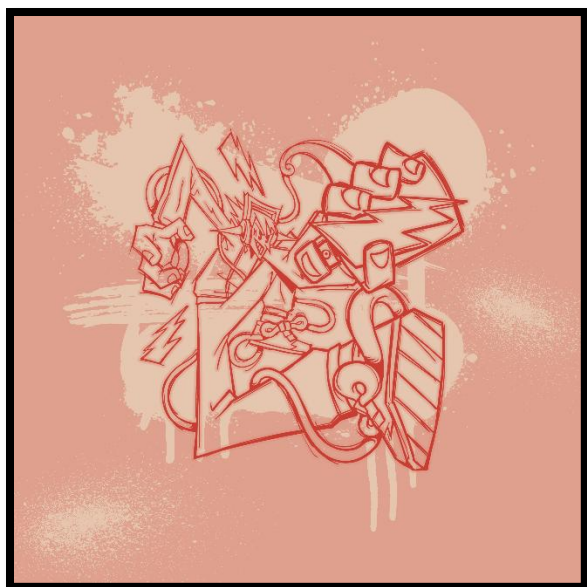**4.-** Next, initialize the player by clicking on the **"Play"** button.

You've now started the experience, and you can begin to enjoy it at your own leisure, adjust the volume slider to a level that fits your listening space and continue to enjoy this experience.

Known bugs

- Clicking too quickly on the skip button may skip more than intended.
- The full six second fade in and out must pass before skipping tracks, else, the player may experience latency.
- Volume slider may not update correctly, refresh page to fix.
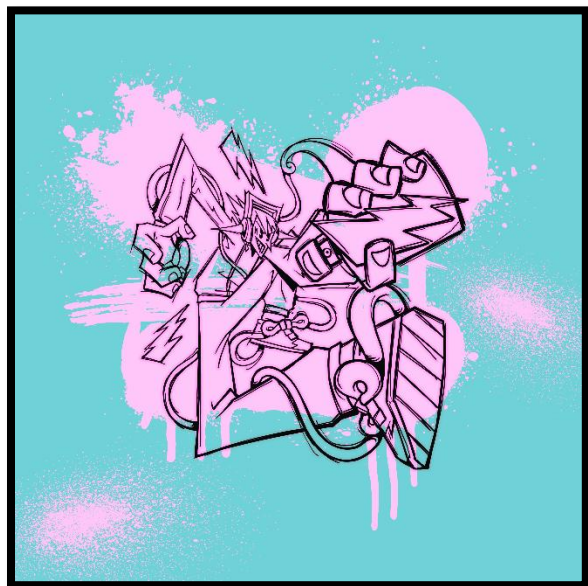
EP concept contents

Moment of Peace:

This piece acts as a theme song, being the title track that always plays as a starting point for the experience.
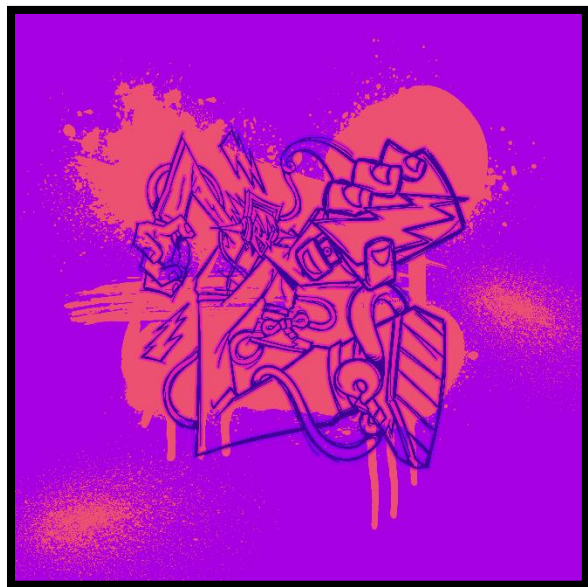
The opening track sets the tone with a relaxed but steadily building tension. A piano carries the piece forward with a constant, subtle pull, while a soft Rhodes guides the harmonic motion beneath it. A funky bass and tight drums lock into a smooth groove, giving the track its laid-back momentum. Near the end, an organ steps in to introduce the main melody, and gentle strings lift the final moments, bringing the piece to a warm, reflective close.
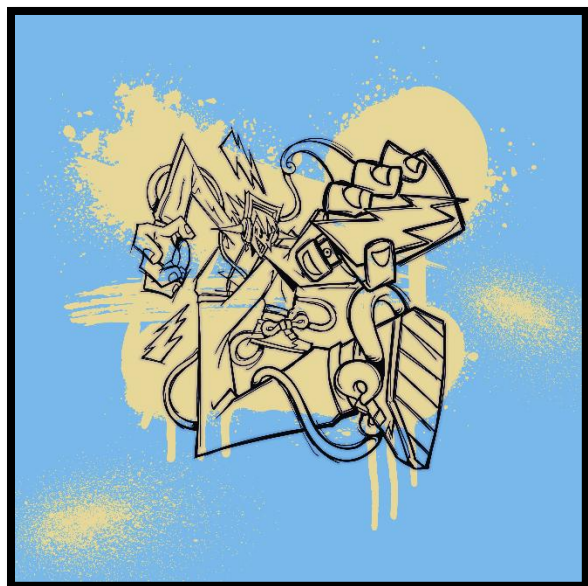
The Road is Full of Opportunities:

"The Road is Full of Opportunities" places the listener at a symbolic crossroads, a point where one path meets another, carrying a quiet sense of unease without ever becoming overwhelming. Instead, it invites anticipation for what lies ahead. Built on syncopated rhythms and a minimal ensemble of piano, Rhodes, funky electric bass, and drums, the track holds itself within a transitional space, capturing the feeling of movement, choice, and change.
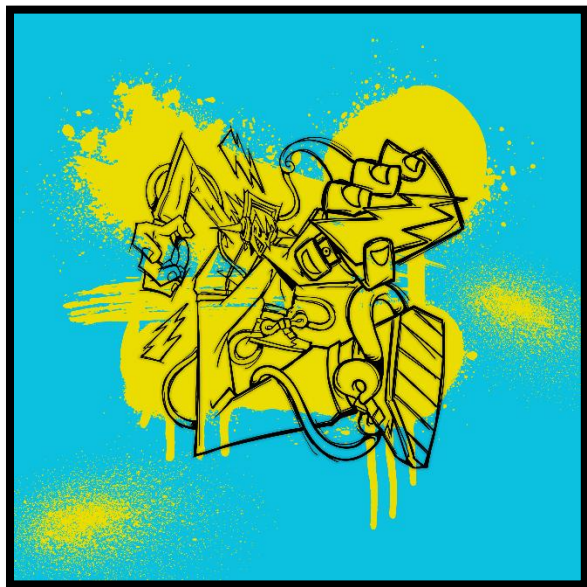
A Battle is Brewing:

"A Battle is Brewing" marks a sharp turn in intensity, standing as the most aggressive piece in the collection. Heavy, distorted electric guitars drive the track forward with raw force, while a powerful organ sitting on an octave just above the rest of the arrangement keeps the tension constantly on edge. Throughout the piece, DJ-style scratch effects slice between sections, injecting a gritty, funky energy that both disrupts and propels the momentum. The result is a confrontational, high-stakes battle theme charged with urgency and adrenaline.

Victory is Sweet When Sunny:

This victory theme bursts with bright synths and energetic drums, capturing the rush of triumph. Sharp piano and organ stabs accentuate each phrase, echoing the harmonic language of classic videogame soundtracks while keeping the momentum lively and celebratory. Underneath it all, a funky bass anchors the track, preserving the EP's signature groove and tying this moment of success back into the world it belongs to.
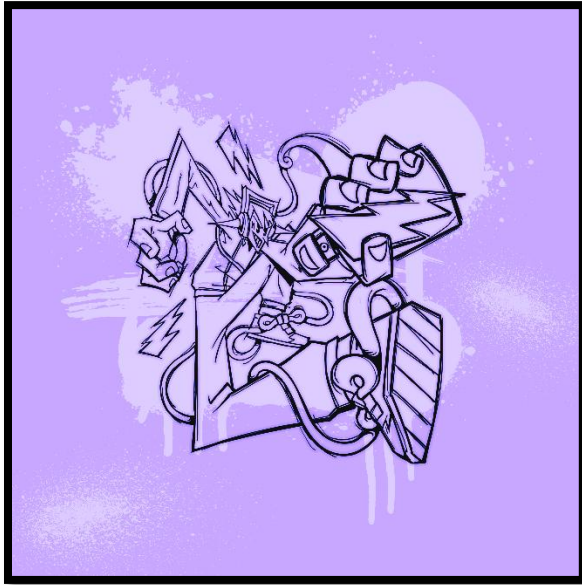
Sale! Sale! Sale!

This shop theme welcomes the player into a light-hearted, comforting space, a brief respite where they can restock and prepare for the journey ahead. Playful cash-register samples sprinkle character throughout the track, while a cheerful, easygoing melody shines with double-layered harmonies that brighten the atmosphere. Beneath it, a soft Rhodes supports the mid-range with gentle chords, offering a sense of permanence and stability without ever overshadowing the other elements. The result is a warm, inviting piece that feels both functional and charming.

Unredeemable Evil

"Unredeemable Evil" serves as the main antagonist's theme, but instead of leaning into a dark or oppressive tone, it adopts a lighter, more animated character. This deliberate choice subverts the typical expectations of a "villain theme," giving the piece constant motion and a sense of presence rather than outright menace. It's designed to blend seamlessly with the rest of the soundtrack, not to dominate it, more like a subtle, ever-lurking force woven through the journey rather than a theme that exists in isolation. The result is an antagonist motif that feels integrated, persistent, and unmistakably alive.

Defeat Stings When it Rains

The defeat theme arrives as a moment of quiet reflection rather than despair. Built on deep, enveloping pads and gentle rain sound effects, it carries a melancholic tone that never sinks into true sadness, suggesting that this loss is not the end, but a chance to regroup and try again. It mirrors the victory theme by reusing its melody and instrumentation yet transforms them through a shift to a minor key and a tempo reduced by half. This creates a stark contrast to its bright, upbeat counterpart, turning celebration into contemplation and giving the listener a space to pause, reassess, and prepare for what comes next.

Composition: Gaston Gonzalez Rodriguez
Production & Mixing: Gaston Gonzalez Rodriguez
Artwork: Wendy Herdiana
Web Development: Gaston Gonzalez Rodriguez