Recording Technology II

Lab #4 - Drum Recording

*For this lab, you will have to delegate tasks to members of your lab. In addition, you have a drummer attending this lab. Treat this musician as a client. Make sure they are aware of the facilities if they don’t know the building and do what you can to make them comfortable.*

1. Power on the studio, setup the drumset, and begin setting up microphones.
2. Mic the drums using a stereo setup. Route these microphones into channels you choose on the console and output those channels to tape.
3. Move the microphones around until you get the best sounding 3D image with a minimal amount of phase interaction. Use your ears and make a judgement call for what you determine to be best. Give everyone in your lab the chance to try moving and listening mics. Share the duties so everyone gets some experience!
4. After each mic setup is completed, record 30 seconds to a minute of drums to tape. If you feel comfortable, also record to Pro Tools and compare the results.
5. Now, add close mics. At a minimum, use a top snare drum mic and a resonant head kick drum mic. Feel free to add more if you’d like. Then repeat step 4 to see how close mics reinforce the sound.
6. Repeat steps 2-5 using a different stereo setup and different mics. EXPERIMENT!
7. Repeat ad nauseum.
8. Thank the musician for their time, neutralize the studio, and put away all equipment.