

Electronic Media I

Assignment 3

Due Friday, Sept. 30, 2:00 PM in my mail box downstairs

1. Goal: To create a 3-minute composition of pointillistically organized sounds on 2-channel stereo tape.
2. Material:
 - 1) 2 blank reels of tape
 - 2) Your "Mono Transformations" tape
 - 3) Your "Composite Sounds" tape
 - 4) "Class Tape 1"
 - 5) "Class Tape 2"
3. Procedure:
 - I. 1) Patch Studio 2 as follows: Tape 2 --> EQ --> Tape 3 --> Quantum mixer --> amp
 - 2) Re-title your "Mono Transformations" tape as "Mono Transformations 1a" and place it on Tape 2.
 - 3) Place a blank reel of tape on Tape 3 and title it "Mono Transformations 1b."
 - 4) Transform any, some, or all of the sounds of "Mono Transformations 1a" and record them onto "Mono Transformations 1b," channel 1 using the following techniques:
 - a) EQ (on everything)
 - b) Speed changes, including rapmaster effects and the Varispeed control on Tape 2
 - c) Direction changes
 - d) Isolation (i.e., recording only a fragment of a sound by using the record knob on Tape 3 to control the envelope of a sound)
 - 5) Out of 40 transformations, 10 should be @ 1 second, 10 should be between 1 and 3 seconds, 10 should be between 3 and 6 seconds, and 10 may be longer. Do not turn this tape in to Larry.
 - II. 1) Patch Studio 1 as follows:
Tape 1 (1 out) --> (1 in)
Mixer (L out) --> filter --> (1 in) Tape 3 --> (1 in) amp
Tape 2 (1 out) --> (2 in)
 - 2) Place a blank reel of tape on Tape 3 and title it "Pointillism 1."
 - 3) Place any other the following tapes on Tapes 1 and 2:
 - a) Mono Transformations 1a
 - b) Mono Transformations 1b
 - c) Composite Sounds
 - d) Class Tape 1
 - e) Class Tape 2
 - 4) Create a pointillistic composition in two channels by dubbing any sounds from Tape 2 onto either channel of Tape 3 in accordance with the following conditions:
 - a) Sounds should be pointillistically organized, i.e., separated in time and pitch register.
 - b) 70% of all sounds should be less than 3" in duration.
 - c) No sound should last longer than 10"
 - d) No more than 10" of silence should occur between sounds on a single channel
 - e) Do not use any recognizable source sounds (instruments, words, etc).
 - f) You may use any sound more than once, but you should change its EQ and pitch (using vari-speed) each time.
5. Tape format: Leader tape should be spliced onto the head and tail of the recorded tape (do not turn in any blank recording tape). The tape should be labeled appropriately and should be titled, "Pointillism 1." Turn this tape in to Larry by Friday, Sept. 30, 2:00 PM (you may use the mailbox downstairs).
6. Grading criteria:
 - 1) Compositional variety, including:
 - a) Dynamic variety (within a +5 to -15dB range for peaks of sounds)
 - b) Registral variety
 - c) Rhythmic variety (avoid periodicity)
 - d) Transformational variety
 - 2) Compositional coherence
 - 3) Production values, including:
 - a) Absence of noise and distortion
 - b) Adequate signal levels
 - c) Balanced stereo signal levels
 - d) Absence of recording clicks and pops
 - e) Balanced frequency spectrum (i.e., no muddy sounds in bass or overly shrill squeals in the treble)
 - f) No reverb overkill