

Composition: Electronic Media I

Oct. 10, 2007

Assignment 3

1. Essential keyboard shortcuts:
 - a. opt click in track window
 - b. shift [and shift] for expanding and contract
 - c. option click on soundfile in region list to play
 - d. spacebar and return for play
 - e. start from time
 - f. fade
 - g.
2. Set-up and display:
 - a. meter
 - b. insertion
 - c. edit window shows
 - d. info in sound file
 - e. ruler
3. Soundfile preparation in Peak:
 - a. normalize
 - b. remove silence
 - c. rename
 - d. rethink attack
 - e. make sharper tail
 - f. stereoirzee
4. Soundfile preparation in Pro Tools
 - a. EQ bass
 - b. Chop up long files like sound masses
5. Track methods in Pro Tools:
 - a. Most info in track 1, then track 2, then track 3, etc.
 - b. Periodically re-arrange
 - c. Whenever possible, leave as many open tracks as there are active tracks
 - d. consolidate
 - e. lock
 - f. bounce and import
6. Shaping:
 - a. add attacks and tails
 - b. create parallel eq and rev tracks for independent volume and pan control
7. Composition:
 - a. Avoid octaves
 - b. avoid equal rhythms and durations
 - c. rush to density
 - d. dispel energy
 - e. stratify: high, med, low
 - f. create secondary melodies
8. Sequencing:
 - a. Copy a promising passage
 - b. Paste after
 - c. transpose individual components individually up and down by step

d. re-arrange a little

9. Things every piece should have:

- a. chaos freak-out
- b. single line melody
- c. rhythmic ostinato
- d. 2 seconds of silence
- e. 15-second sections made of sounds no longer than 0.5 seconds
- f. rush up to a sound
- g. ping pong panning
- h. traveling pan

10. Back-up:

- a. Files in audio files folder
- b. Back up
- c. Make safety bounces
- d. Studio drive for safety backups