**Composition: Electronic Music II**

**025:251**

**Spring 2007**

**MIDI Instruments in Pro Tools**

1. To create an instrument track in Pro Tools, do the following.

 a. In the Track menu, select New. A window like the one below will appear:

 

 b. Select “Instrument Track” as shown above.

 c. The new track will appear in the Edit window, as shown below:

 

2. Select an instrument as follows.

 a. In the View menu, select Edit Window Views>Inserts A-E, as shown below.

 

 b. The Inserts display is shown in the track window, as seen below.

 

3. Create a MIDI track as follows.

 a. In the Track menu, select New. A window like the one below will appear:

 

 b. Select “MIDI Track” as shown above.

 c. The new track will appear in the Edit window, as shown below:

 

4. Choose an instrument as follows.

 a. Click on a blank insert tab to select plug-in>Instrument>Xpand2 (mono), as shown below.



 b. Xpand2 (mono) contains a number of instruments that are native to Pro Tools 9 and newer. Using these

instruments ensures compatibility with other computers running Pro Tools. Other categories, like the ones listed in the menu, may not installed on other computers.

 d. After selecting plug-in>Instrument>Xpand2 (mono), a window like the one below will appear.

 

 e. Notice the 4 insert windows in the lower left of the module, as shown below.

 

f. Click on insert A and navigate through the menus to your desired instrument. A flute is shown in the insert A window, as shown below.



5. Now that we have an Instrument track and MIDI track, we now want to set Inputs/Outputs so that the MIDI track will send its information to the Instrument track for playback.

a. In the View menu, select Edit Window Views>I/O, as shown below. I/O stands for Inputs/Outputs.



b. The I/O display is shown in the track window, as seen below on the right.



c. As seen above in the I/O Edit Window View, the top drop down menu is an input, the bottom an output. In the MIDI track, the input is set to “ALL” and the output is set to “Exprs128,Prt11.”

d. Click the output of the MIDI track and select Xpand2>channel 1 as seen below so that the MIDI track will send its information to the Instrument track.



5. With the MIDI track output set to Xpand2, we can now begin writing our music

 a. In the MIDI track window, change the drop down menu defaulted to regions to notes as show below.



b. N.B. the other options in the drop down menu shown above. As discussed in class, you will want to make use of these parameters, especially velocity (intensity of attack), volume, pan, and pitch bend. Choosing one over the other determines what you will be editing in the track. This is analogous to when we worked in audio tracks last semester and could work in the pan domain or the volume domain.

c. Using the pencil tool, highlighted below to the right,



 allows you to write notes and have them played back

