

025:250 COMPOSITION: ELECTRONIC MEDIA I
Assignment 3, due Sept. 11

Material: 5-10 1.4 megabyte floppy disks.

Purpose: To learn how to create complex sounds using multiple tracks.

- 1) Insert floppy disk #1, format it, and name it "Billy Disk 1" and write the name on the disk itself CLEARLY and LEGIBLY (this aspect of the assignment will be graded). Name disk #2 "Billy Disk 2", and so on.
- 2) Launch Sound Effects and create a multitrack file (2-? tracks) and save it as "BJ.Whatever" (where "Whatever" is the descriptive name you choose for the sound) in the Work Space folder.
- 3) Choose "Open" from the File menu and navigate via the open dialogue window through the folder and subfolders of EMS/Studio Files/EMS Sounds until you find a sound that you like. Copy this sound and paste it into Track 1 of "BJ.Whatever", resampling to 44.1/16 when necessary. Repeat this procedure using another sound from EMS/Studio Files/EMS Sounds and paste it into Track 2 of "BJ.Whatever". Repeat again for Tracks 3-? as desired.
- 4) Use fade in/out and gain commands to blend sounds into each other. Use other effects as desired.
- 5) When you have completed your composite sound in "BJ.Whatever", select "Mix" from the Effects pulldown menu. When prompted select "mono" and "create a new document". Save this file as "BJ.Whatever.m" (where "m" denotes a mixed soundfile). Store this file in your personal folder and drag "BJ.Whatever" (the multitrack version) to the trash. Empty the trash.
- 6) Repeat steps 2-5 to create 20-30 SMALL (1-15 seconds) mono soundfiles.
- 7) In order to save on hard drive space:
 - a) make an alias of each soundfile
(click once on its icon and select "Make alias" from the file menu bar)
 - b) delete the word "alias" from the alias of the soundfile (since italics denote aliases, the word is redundant)
 - c) drag each soundfile to one of your floppy disks (in no particular order) to copy it onto that disk
 - d) confirm that the soundfile is accurately copied to the floppy disk
 - e) drag the original soundfiles from your personal folder on the hard drive to the trash and empty it.
 - f) create a folder inside your personal folder and name it "BJ.Assign.3aliases".
 - g) drag all of your aliases to this folder.
- 8) Double-click on any soundfile alias and notice that you are prompted to insert the correct floppy disk into the drive. Do not screw things up by renaming either the alias or the original version on the floppy.
- 9) When you have finished the assignment:
 - a) place "BJ.Assign.3aliases" into EMS/Assignments/Assignments to Larry
 - b) place your floppy disks into the file cabinet at the back of the room in the drawer labelled "Billy Assignments".
- 10) Grading criteria: VARIETY, VARIETY, VARIETY, in length, complexity, pitch structure, register, timbre, shape, rhythm. Most of your files should be under 5 seconds in length. Only a few should be "mini compositions" of @12-15 seconds. You are creating source material for larger projects with this assignment and I will grade the soundfiles accordingly.