Subject: Leaving Paris...but will stay here!
Posted by drfrankencopter on Mon, 27 Dec 2010 14:40:38 GMT
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I've had my system for 11 or 12 years now (I forget). That's one hell of a ride for a computer based system. I got started in the DAW world with an Echo Gina and Cool Edit Pro...and that sent me quickly back to my 2" tape deck. Then I stumbled upon Paris, and Chuck Duffy's newsgroup. I liked the hardware/software, but it was really the supportive community that reeled me in.

Paris was the reason I got my 1st line-of-credit....my first venture into the adult world of debt. I paid $5K or so for a bundle 3 plus a couple AD's, an ADAT and Out card. I remember being blown away by the performance on my lowly Pentium III 500Mhz. It didn't take long before I was no longer using the 2" machine, and instead did all my work in Paris. I had high hopes for that SMPTE card to link the 2" to Paris, but it didn't pan out and I never ended up buying one in large part due to the feedback from the user community.

I remember when version 2.0 (and 2.1) were released, and it seemed like Paris developed extra appeal and power. I recall having lots of fun with 'scrub' and an obscure command to make the transport play in reverse (anyone remember how to do that...it had something to do with the transport window). That was a good period on the forum. Edmund and SSC posted frequently and the user base was generally happy. I also remember when Brian T's remix of Lonstar's 'Amazed' showed us all that Paris was truly a pro calibre system given the right material, and the right person in the mix chair.

Then Ensoniq got bought by Emu/Creative Labs....and things changed.

I remember when news of 3.0 dropped, and we were faced with a paid upgrade. That changed the mood in the forum somewhat, and we didn't see as much of Edmund and SSC. 3.0 was cool, sexier, and had several improved features, but some quirks persisted, and users demanded fixes for their $300. Updates were promised 'soon'....I think we all remember that word being used alot. I seem to recall someone on Chuck's newsgroup saw a working version of Paris Native, but that never materialized. ID got heavily involved doing forensic audio for the Nixon tapes and other activities. Several users jumped ship at this time.

I forget when the Skunkworks team formed....probably soon after the discontinuation of Paris (around 2002 IIRC). It's amazing to think of the amount of material that was handed over from Ensoniq,which was then turned into working XP drivers, and new FX plugins. Paris had new life and the community (though smaller) was invigorated again. Paris is a little like a phoenix...it rises from the ashes.

I lost touch with Paris around 2005 or so, as I had 2 young daughters, and a studio build out taking up the majority of my 'free' time. My build out was sufficiently complete in 2009 and I went looking for a DAW to use. I was pretty amazed to see that once again Paris had risen from the ashes, this time due to Mike Audet's multicore driver and FX plugin ports from the Ensoniq DP series. I figured I'd give Paris another go in my studio.

It's still amazing that the hardware works. I was able to get some projects done on the system, but have come to find that the limitations imposed by the software are cramping my style. In a quest

for native aux capability I modded the senderella plugin and did some experiments to discover a bit more about how Paris' native FX system works (or doesn't). Paris' lack of native auxes on EDS submixes, and inspiration from folks like Mike Audet and Kerry Galloway gave me the motivation to dig into the code and learn how to write VST plugins. Thank you! I did initial beta-testing in Reaper...and came to really like that program. I bought an RME 9652 (like many other remaining Paris users), and have been treating Paris more like a summing mixer.

Eventually I decided to just drop the Paris part of the equation. I've recently bought a Mackie MCU and extender, and an SSL alphalink. I'll be transferring my remaining active projects from Paris to Reaper, and then will attempt to sell the majority of my system. I figure I'll hang on to a bundle II (EDS1000 + IF442 + C16) in case I need to playback an old paris project. I try to keep my old systems...I still have my cassette 4-track that got me into all this mess in the 1st place. I've got fond memories of that box...and fond memories of Paris.

So, don't be surprised if you see my rig come up for sale in the next few weeks (will be selling 2X EDS, 1 MEC, 2 analog ins, 1 out, 2 Adats, 2 C16s). I may no longer be an active paris user...but I'll always be a Parisite; a member of the community!

Thanks to everyone who's helped me out!

Cheers

Kris

Subject: Re: Leaving Paris...but will stay here!
Posted by dnafe on Mon, 27 Dec 2010 15:52:57 GMT
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Funny how Reaper seems to be the new DAW of choice for many of us. I got involved with it way back when and it is the default DAW for the new studio simply because of it's ease of use.

We seriously considered moving my Paris rig into the new studio but the workarounds needed to access all of todays goodies killed that idea big time and in truth it was more of a case of the learning curve for Paris (for my partners in crime) being too steep compared to learning Reaper

In my mixing room at home I still use Paris but with Mike's ASIO drivers quickly becoming more than just a dream I can see Reaper becoming the interface for my Paris hardware, at least until such time as it finally dies and then I think a Lynx II or possible a Lavry Blue will find their way into my setup.

Subject: Re: Leaving Paris...but will stay here!

Posted by Ted Gerber on Tue, 04 Jan 2011 21:52:52 GMT
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Thanks Kris for all your interest and work!

Subject: Re: Leaving Paris...but will stay here!
Posted by mani1147 on Wed, 05 Jan 2011 15:19:00 GMT
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Thanks for the trip back in memory lane Kris. Please do keep us posted of your Reaper progress.

Rob