Subject: Hmmm...is it just me?
Posted by Deej [4] on Thu, 24 May 2007 22:52:10 GMT

I have been finding less and less inspiration working in the studio lately. Maybe I'm just burned out...I dunno. I walk in there, fire it up, everything works and for some reason, what I'm hearing just doesn't start my motor. This never happened when I was using Paris, but when I was using Paris, it took me about 10 minutes to get all of the outboard/DAWS, etc. clocked up properly and playing nice so maybe by that time there was a "gratitude" factor involved in my thinking instead of a "take it for granted" factor.

Subject: Re: Hmmm...is it just me?
Posted by Kim on Thu, 24 May 2007 23:44:39 GMT

It's not just you, though it hasn't happened to me for six months or more now, touch wood colored pixel. ;o)

I have found though that sometimes I'm creative, and sometimes not. Sometimes music bores me, other times it's a dream. There have been times when I've spent 12 months fairly bored by almost everything musical, but to date i've always come out the other end going "Hey, now THERE's something I haven't done before". Sometimes it means listening to styles or bands I haven't really enjoyed before. Something always pulls me out of it though.

One thing I have noticed is that gear seems to influence this. Gear can send me both ways though. There have been times I've bought new gear and been over the moon with inspiration. Other times it seems my inspiration was actually the gear, not the music, and I get something new and wonderful, mess with it for a few hours and go "Meh, whatever" and get bored and go do something else for two weeks.

When I got Paris was an interesting time as my whole workflow had to change. Indeed it's only been recently that it's come back to where it started. The basic Paris workflow seems to be well suited to bands, but not as much to me solo in the way I work. Having the GNX-4 as a "final product scratchpad" has increased my throughput massively. I still use Paris for mixdowns and editing, but 70% of the recording is done on the GNX in loop mode.

My point being I guess that changes in workflow and gear can have unusual effects. I'm sure you'll find inspiration again, but whether you need to buy a Paris system again ;o) ...?

....that I don't know.

Cheers,

Kim.

"DJ" <www.aarrrrggghhh!!!.com> wrote:
>I have been finding less and less inspiration working in the studio lately.

>Maybe I'm just burned out...I dunno. I walk in there, fire it up, everything

>works and for some reason, what I'm hearing just doesn't start my motor.

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>took me about 10 minutes to get all of the outboard/DAWS, etc. clocked up

>properly and playing nice so maybe by that time there was a "gratitude"

>factor involved in my thinking instead of a "take it for granted" factor.

>
>

Subject: Re: Hmmm...is it just me?
Posted by Nil on Fri, 25 May 2007 00:19:46 GMT
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"DJ" <www.aarrrrggghhh!!!.com> wrote:
>I have been finding less and less inspiration working in the studio lately.

>Maybe I'm just burned out...I dunno. I walk in there, fire it up, everything

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That's because you're by nature a tinkerer more than you're a
recordist. I don't mean that in a negative way, it's just that
you would rather overcome the challenges inherent in your latest
Goldbergian setup than sit down at a fully-functioning rig that
boots up in less than 15 seconds & everything works the moment
your wallpaper comes up & you can set up a mic & dial in a nice
preamp & record for ten hours straight with no glitches,

lockups, or BSOD's. That kind of shit bores you.

So my advice would be... find something you can tinker with;
specifically a genre that you're not familiar with working
on... invite some metal band or jazz fusion group over to
record a couple of tunes. Do it for free, even, using it as an
excuse to educate yourself on how to mic a Mesa Triple
Rectumfrier 1/2 stack with five mics in the front, three in the
back & a PZM glued to the side, rather than another banjo pass
with 5 mics in the room, three out by the barn, and a PZM glued
to the chair the guy's sitting on.

Know what ah mean???

Seriously - do something musically different... it'll get your
creative juices flowing.

Neil

___

Subject: Re: Hmmm...is it just me?
Posted by wireline[5] on Fri, 25 May 2007 00:26:58 GMT
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Its not just you...its either somethingn in the air, or something in the business...I
tink there is a direct correlation between purpose, current and/or former
anticipated end results, and enthusiasm.

"DJ" <www.aarrrrggghhh!!!.com> wrote:
>I have been finding less and less inspiration working in the studio lately.

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>
>

Subject: Re: Hmmm...is it just me?
Posted by Bill L on Fri, 25 May 2007 02:26:52 GMT
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DJ,

Have you had a failed purpose lately? Something you wanted to do in the studio or with music, but could not? Any tiredness?

Purpose is the most powerful motivator a person can have. When one is on his purpose he will do anything, go anywhere, overcome anything to do it. But if the purpose is thwarted, a an opposite lethargy and apathy will result on the subject or activity. If you have had a failed purpose, spotting it and the cause can rekindle the purpose.

Another area to look at: has anyone invalidated your work or you in relation to recording or music?

Has anyone covertly made you feel smaller, or cut your desire to reach for goals in music? Here is an example of covertly hostile communication, "I don't care what anyone else says about your music. I still like it." You look for the barb disguised as a compliment, and you have covert hostility. It's very destructive, especially to artists.

Does either of these strike a chord with you?

Bill L

wireline wrote:
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>
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>
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>

Subject: Re: Hmmm...is it just me?
Posted by Aaron Allen on Fri, 25 May 2007 03:27:28 GMT
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Go check out some new ideas, new thinking, new arrangements dude. Musically,
spiritually, intellectually, visually.... explore the senses. Go somewhere
you normally wouldn't. Try a new food, theatre, road.. anything.
You will find inspriration I bet, just don't do the disservice to yourself
of analyzing it. Nay.
Enjoy the moment, breath it in w/o questioning it.
Seriously.

AA

"DJ" <www.aarrrrggghhh!!!.com> wrote in message news:46561895@linux...
>I have been finding less and less inspiration working in the studio lately.
>Maybe I'm just burned out...I dunno. I walk in there, fire it up,
>everything works and for some reason, what I'm hearing just doesn't start
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>

Subject: Re: Hmmm...is it just me?
Posted by Deej [4] on Fri, 25 May 2007 04:52:14 GMT
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I think that the learning curve has me by the short hairs right now. I'm
jumping feet first into some stuff that I just don't have the enerty levels
to pull off at the moment. This sometimes happens. It's taken a very serious
amount of brain bending to make the jump from Paris to a native system. It's
not that the native system is that hard to learn....it's not, it's just that
now that I've got the tools here to pretty much do anything I want, I'm
learning their limitations as well and basically having to "walk the walk"
now. I'm not nearly as good at this composition stuff as I wish I was (or
used to be) Back when I started out at this stuff in '97, I was really
enthusiastic. Now I'm a bit jaded, I guess, and I've been doing others

---

recording instead of thinking about what Amy and I were starting out doing.
I'm revisiting our old demos now and thinking about production ideas. This
is involving shifting gears and trying to wear a lot of hats, none of which
I feel like I'm wearing very well at the moment....especially while learning
a new DAW. Also, I think Cubase 4 does have some wierd bugs.......settings
don't come back up when closing an reopening the program sometimes so
routings have to be reset and sometimes, working with virtual instruments
(especially BFD) causes it to freak. I just don't know the program well
enough to recognize whether something is a bug or is pilot error. It's
exhausting sometimes.

I have done something fun recently. Christmas before last I bought myself
one of those Fretlight guitars and all of the software. I've got this set up
on my slave computerusing my POD XTPro as the ASIO/audio engine with
Bandstand as the midi engine for this. I've got everything routed through a
Mackie 1402 so I can do certain things and it's definitely getting me a
little stoked about playing guitar again. Some of the improvisation software
is a lot of fun. My old hands are so out of shape that they are a bit sore,
but I think this will be a nice (and constructive) diversion.

How you been doin' since the trip? Busy I'll bet.

;o)

"Aaron Allen" <know-spam@not_here.dude> wrote in message
news:46565909@linux...
> Go check out some new ideas, new thinking, new arrangements dude.
> Musically, spiritually, intellectually, visually.... explore the senses.
> Go somewhere you normally wouldn't. Try a new food, theatre, road..
> anything.
> You will find inspriration I bet, just don't do the disservice to yourself
> of analyzing it. Nay.
> Enjoy the moment, breath it in w/o questioning it.
> Seriously.
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> AA
>
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> "DJ" <www.aarrrrggghhh!!!.com> wrote in message news:46561895@linux...
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>>granted" factor.
>>
>
>

Subject: Re: Hmmm...is it just me?
Posted by rick on Fri, 25 May 2007 09:03:56 GMT

now that i've started composing again after almost 9 years of "studio"
life i'm feeling really good. it took me a while to get back in the
groove but i'm actually having fun again. the interns are almost done
being trained enough not to kill other inspiration from "newness"; and
other engineers are starting to rent time here. so i don't have to
really do anything but what i want and when i want. life is getting
better.
now if the mac would stop it's occasional "non crashing" whatevers
i....

On Thu, 24 May 2007 22:52:14 -0600, "DJ" <www.aarrrrggghhh!!!.com>
wrote:

>I think that the learning curve has me by the short hairs right now. I'm
>jumping feet first into some stuff that I just don't have the enerty levels
>to pull off at the moment. This sometimes happens. It's taken a very serious
>amount of brain bending to make the jump from Paris to a native system. It's
>not that the native system is that hard to learn....it's not, it's just that
>now that I've got the tools here to pretty much do anything I want, I'm
>learning their limitations as well and basically having to "walk the walk"
>now. I'm not nearly as good at this composition stuff as I wish I was (or
>used to be) Back when I started out at this stuff in '97, I was really
>enthusiastic. Now I'm a bit jaded, I guess, and I've been doing others
>recording instead of thinking about what Amy and I were starting out doing.
>I'm revisiting our old demos now and thinking about production ideas. This
>is involving shifting gears and trying to wear a lot of hats, none of which
>I feel like I'm wearing very well at the moment....especially while learning
>a new DAW. Also, I think Cubase 4 does have some wierd bugs.......settings
>don't come back up when closing an reopening the program sometimes so
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>(especially BFD) causes it to freak. I just don't know the program well
>enough to recognize whether something is a bug or is pilot error. It's
>exhausting sometimes.
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>I have done something fun recently. Christmas before last I bought myself
>one of those Fretlight guitars and all of the software. I've got this set up

>on my slave computerusing my POD XTPro as the ASIO/audio engine with
>Bandstand as the midi engine for this. I've got everything routed through a
>Mackie 1402 so I can do certain things and it's definitely getting me a
>little stoked about playing guitar again. Some of the improvisation software
>is a lot of fun. My old hands are so out of shape that they are a bit sore,
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>How you been doin' since the trip? Busy I'll bet.
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>;o)
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>> Seriously.
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>> AA
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Subject: Re: Hmmm...is it just me?
Posted by John [1] on Fri, 25 May 2007 11:19:47 GMT
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So Paris gives you a woody? Go back to Paris. Cubase is kicking total ass
for me so do what works for you. Life is too short to whine over DAWs.

Subject: Re: Hmmm...is it just me?
Posted by Aaron Allen on Fri, 25 May 2007 12:42:03 GMT
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The amount of 'you have been gone a week' make up work has been absolutely
nuts. There are only 2 of us to cover 280 acres and when I got back he went
out sick for a few days, and is going on vacation all next week.
Jeeezzzz.......
Yesterday was an 11 hour day, then I came home and had band rehearsals :0
I gotta catch up w/you soon though, I still have to work out finals on all
our horse trading last month :)

AA

"DJ" <www.aarrrrggghhh!!!.com> wrote in message news:46566cf8$1@linux...
>I think that the learning curve has me by the short hairs right now. I'm
>jumping feet first into some stuff that I just don't have the enerty levels
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Subject: Re: Hmmm...is it just me?
Posted by John [1] on Fri, 25 May 2007 13:47:55 GMT
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Oh, also Cubase has a LOT of bugs. Linking channels sucks, trying to move
volumes of linked channels with VSTi's included will hose up, record enabling
folder tracks of linked channels won't record all channels.

Cubase is NOT pro for sure. However, forget midi and VSTi's, just do Audio,
don't link too much, record in 32 bit float and all your clipping problems
vanish (pull down master fader for any clipping and rendered clipping is
gone) and your golden.

It's amazing how feature rich and buggy Cubase is. They are pretty sloppy
programmers IMO. The richness sucks you in and the bugs slap you down.

I'm loving it though, but you have to know the problems and there are a lot.

Subject: Re: Hmmm...is it just me?
Posted by Deej [4] on Fri, 25 May 2007 13:52:25 GMT
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"John" <no@no.com> wrote in message news:4656e90b$1@linux...
>
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> folder tracks of linked channels won't record all channels.
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> programmers IMO. The richness sucks you in and the bugs slap you down.
>
> I'm loving it though, but you have to know the problems and there are a
> lot.

Ahhh...so it's not my imagination then? That's good. I seldom hang out on
the Cubase Forum because everyone there bitches and no one from Steinberg
answers them so it's hard to know if it's the users or the software
developers who don't know what they are doing. The midi/VSTi capability is
one thing that I need to use with this program and even though it is buggy,
it still has functionalities that are useful. Maybe I'll make the jump to
Nuendo, though I don't know if that would be an improvement........same
company, but the forum there at least gets responses from the company. I
guess if you pay the $$$, you get at least some respect......although I will
admit that some of the posters I've seen on theCubase forum don't seem to
have much of a clue and/or are using cracked software and trying to get
support for it.

Deej

Subject: Re: Hmmm...is it just me?
Posted by Deej [4] on Fri, 25 May 2007 13:55:38 GMT
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"John" <no@no.com> wrote in message news:4656c653$1@linux...
>
> So Paris gives you a woody? Go back to Paris. Cubase is kicking total
> ass
> for me so do what works for you. Life is too short to whine over DAWs.

Life is never too short to whine over stuff. God created whining on the 8th
day........we just screwed up the calendar.

;o)

Subject: Re: Hmmm...is it just me?
Posted by David L on Fri, 25 May 2007 14:34:00 GMT
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On the subject of tinkering, DJ, check this out -

http://www.anti-theory.com/soundart/circuitbend/

David L

On 24-May-2007, "Neil" <IUOIU@OIU.com> wrote:

> That's because you're by nature a tinkerer more than you're a
> recordist. I don't mean that in a negative way, it's just that
> you would rather overcome the challenges inherent in your latest
> Goldbergian setup than sit down at a fully-functioning rig that
> boots up in less than 15 seconds & everything works the moment
> your wallpaper comes up & you can set up a mic & dial in a nice
> preamp & record for ten hours straight with no glitches,
> lockups, or BSOD's.

Subject: Re: Hmmm...is it just me?
Posted by John [1] on Fri, 25 May 2007 17:34:43 GMT
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Don't forget to check out www.kfocus.com/cubase and turn on you adblocker

---

Subject: Re: Hmmm...is it just me?
Posted by Deej [4] on Fri, 25 May 2007 20:24:44 GMT
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Now this looks really fun!!!

"David L" <david@revealaudio.com> wrote in message news:4656f4ff$1@linux...
> On the subject of tinkering, DJ, check this out -
>
> http://www.anti-theory.com/soundart/circuitbend/
>
> David L
>
>
> On 24-May-2007, "Neil" <IUOIU@OIU.com> wrote:
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>> boots up in less than 15 seconds & everything works the moment
>> your wallpaper comes up & you can set up a mic & dial in a nice
>> preamp & record for ten hours straight with no glitches,
>> lockups, or BSOD's.

Subject: Re: Hmmm...is it just me?
Posted by Bill L on Sat, 26 May 2007 02:34:17 GMT
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They all have bugs. It's truly a case of pick your poison. I've been
using Samplitude - same deal.
Bill

John wrote:
> Oh, also Cubase has a LOT of bugs. Linking channels sucks, trying to move
> volumes of linked channels with VSTi's included will hose up, record enabling
> folder tracks of linked channels won't record all channels.
>
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> I'm loving it though, but you have to know the problems and there are a lot.

Subject: Re: Hmmm...is it just me?
Posted by John [1] on Sat, 26 May 2007 11:40:22 GMT

I'm sure you're right but it always amazes me when they advertise applications
as pro and major features are buggy and broken.

Subject: Re: Hmmm...is it just me?
Posted by Bill L on Sat, 26 May 2007 12:17:50 GMT

I heard that.

John wrote:
> I'm sure you're right but it always amazes me when they advertise applications
> as pro and major features are buggy and broken.

Subject: Re: Hmmm...is it just me?
Posted by Neil on Sat, 26 May 2007 16:04:59 GMT

"John" <no@no.com> wrote:
>
>I'm sure you're right but it always amazes me when they advertise applications
>as pro and major features are buggy and broken.

I noticed you mentioned something like: "forget MIDI" amongst
other things... what's wrong wih the MIDI? I use MIDI a LOT in
Cubase & have never found any kind of problem with it - it's
easy & bug-free, from my perspective. Now I'll grant you, I'm
not on C4, I'm still on SX3, so I can't speak to anything
specific to version 4, but I'm curious... what MIDI-related
issues are you having?

Neil

Subject: Re: Hmmm...is it just me?
Posted by Deej [4] on Sat, 26 May 2007 16:33:21 GMT

Hi Neil,

There are times I will be playing around midi editor (piano scroller) and
the program will just stop passing audio (requiring not just closing the
project, but also closing the program). Also, sometimes when using BFD, the
system will just freeze up. this never happened in CSX3 and doesn't happen

on my slave box with VStack. When relaunching the program, the VST I/O settings for the external FX are scrambled, requiring repatching. Also, I have also named my outboard gear in the "favorites" menu, but somehow this got duplicated and now, when I launch Cubase, the I/O that was assigned to these processors shows up split between one or the other duplicate group. If the wrong duplicate is instantiated by Cubase 4, the, of course, audio is muted for that channel, requiring me to do a lot of troubleshooting every time I open a project. Cubase will not allow me to delete the duplicate external gear names.

There are some things about C4 that are very *wrong*........at least here.

Deej

"Neil" <IOUIOU@OIU.com> wrote in message news:46585aab$1@linux...
>
> "John" <no@no.com> wrote:
>>
>>I'm sure you're right but it always amazes me when they advertise
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>>as pro and major features are buggy and broken.
>
> I noticed you mentioned something like: "forget MIDI" amongst
> other things... what's wrong wih the MIDI? I use MIDI a LOT in
> Cubase & have never found any kind of problem with it - it's
> easy & bug-free, from my perspective. Now I'll grant you, I'm
> not on C4, I'm still on SX3, so I can't speak to anything
> specific to version 4, but I'm curious... what MIDI-related
> issues are you having?
>
> Neil

Subject: Re: Hmmm...is it just me?
Posted by Miguel Vigil [1] on Mon, 28 May 2007 17:02:39 GMT
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come back to Denver and order the thai fried rice

....HOT....

El Miguel (that'll tweak it :)

"Aaron Allen" <know-spam@not_here.dude> wrote in message
news:46565909@linux...
> Go check out some new ideas, new thinking, new arrangements dude.
> Musically, spiritually, intellectually, visually.... explore the senses.
> Go somewhere you normally wouldn't. Try a new food, theatre, road..
> anything.
> You will find inspriration I bet, just don't do the disservice to yourself
> of analyzing it. Nay.
> Enjoy the moment, breath it in w/o questioning it.
> Seriously.
>
> AA
>
>
> "DJ" <www.aarrrrggghhh!!!.com> wrote in message news:46561895@linux...
>>I have been finding less and less inspiration working in the studio
>>lately. Maybe I'm just burned out...I dunno. I walk in there, fire it up,
>>everything works and for some reason, what I'm hearing just doesn't start
>>my motor. This never happened when I was using Paris, but when I was using
>>Paris, it took me about 10 minutes to get all of the outboard/DAWS, etc.
>>clocked up properly and playing nice so maybe by that time there was a
>>"gratitude" factor involved in my thinking instead of a "take it for
>>granted" factor.
>>
>
>