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Subject: Intimate bassy vocals???

Posted by [brandon\[2\]](#) on Fri, 09 Feb 2007 14:54:57 GMT

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This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

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Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

How would you guys go about getting those intimate sounding vocals with = lots of bass...low end in them.

Genre like you would hear Sinatra or Dino sing.

Like Christmas carols.

Kind of like a radio announcer voice but singing.

I heard a CD that was Christmas songs and there was this type of song.

I just like the intimacy and low end.

I have not been able to achieve this before.

Obviously lots of processing, but it doesn't really sound overly = processed.

--=20

Thanks,

Brandon

-----=\_NextPart\_000\_001F\_01C74C27.F93CDEE0

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<DIV><FONT face=3DArial>How would you guys go about getting those = intimate=20

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<DIV><FONT face=3DArial></FONT>&nbsp;</DIV><FONT face=3DArial>  
<DIV><BR>-- <BR>Thanks,</DIV>  
<DIV>&nbsp;</DIV>  
<DIV>Brandon </DIV></FONT></BODY></HTML>

-----=\_NextPart\_000\_001F\_01C74C27.F93CDEE0--

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Subject: Re: Intimate bassy vocals???  
Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Fri, 09 Feb 2007 15:08:00 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Large diaphragm mic like C1 studio projects mic and princeton digital  
reverb stereo room on Vocal Chamber preset 1 with 15% mix will do very  
nicely.

Also, stand back 1 foot from the mic and crank up the gain into the mixer.

Brandon wrote:

> How would you guys go about getting those intimate sounding vocals with  
> lots of bass...low end in them.  
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> Thanks,  
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> Brandon

---

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Subject: Re: Intimate bassy vocals???

Posted by [brandon\[2\]](#) on Fri, 09 Feb 2007 15:19:34 GMT

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---

It really sounds like there is more than that.  
Like major compression on the lower register.  
You really hear the smooth low end of the male vocalist.

--

Thanks,

Brandon

"John" <no@no.com> wrote in message news:45cc8eb3@linux...

> Large diaphragm mic like C1 studio projects mic and princeton digital  
> reverb stereo room on Vocal Chamber preset 1 with 15% mix will do very  
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> Brandon wrote:

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>> --

>> Thanks,

>> Brandon

---

Subject: Re: Intimate bassy vocals???

Posted by [Graham Duncan](#) on Fri, 09 Feb 2007 16:00:26 GMT

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---

The crooner sound is all about the great proximity effect from a  
figure-8 ribbon mic.

Graham

Brandon wrote:

> How would you guys go about getting those intimate sounding vocals with  
> lots of bass...low end in them.  
> Genre like you would hear Sinatra or Dino sing.  
> Like Christmas carols.  
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> Thanks,  
>  
> Brandon

---

---

Subject: Re: Intimate bassy vocals???  
Posted by [brandon\[2\]](#) on Fri, 09 Feb 2007 16:04:29 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

K... so my AKG 414 with the Antares mic modeler set to U-47 will do the  
trick???  
:-)

--  
Thanks,  
  
Brandon

"Neil" <IOUOIU@OIU.com> wrote in message news:45cc9a8a\$1@linux...  
>  
> "Brandon" <a@a.com> wrote:  
>>  
>>  
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> That's a U-47, baby!  
>  
> Neil

>  
>

---

Subject: Re: Intimate bassy vocals???  
Posted by [Deej \[4\]](#) on Fri, 09 Feb 2007 16:37:16 GMT  
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---

I thought that part of this had to do with treating the mic capsule with a layer of tar by while smoking a cigarette during instrumental passages and blowing the smoke right into the mic grille to\*thicken\* the sound.

;o)

"Gene Lennon" <glennon@NOSPmyrealbox.com> wrote in message news:45cc962c\$1@linux...

>  
> LD - U47, Sony C-37A, etc. Others work but these are the best.  
> Worked close for proximity.  
> Quality Pre like a Class A Neve.  
> Original LA-2A!!!!  
> 1/4 turn counter clockwise of R37 (Side-Chain Pre-Emphasis)  
> Gene

>  
>

> "Brandon" <a@a.com> wrote:

>>

>>

>>How would you guys go about getting those intimate sounding vocals with  
> =

>>lots of bass...low end in them.

>>Genre like you would hear Sinatra or Dino sing.

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>>Thanks,

>>

>>Brandon

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Subject: Re: Intimate bassy vocals???

Posted by [gene lennon](#) on Fri, 09 Feb 2007 16:41:32 GMT

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---

Worked close for proximity.

Quality Pre like a Class A Neve.

Original LA-2A!!!!

1/4 turn counter clockwise of R37 (Side-Chain Pre-Emphasis)

Gene

"Brandon" <a@a.com> wrote:

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>  
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Subject: Re: Intimate bassy vocals???

Posted by [Deej \[4\]](#) on Fri, 09 Feb 2007 16:47:29 GMT

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---

Brandon,

You should demo an SE Gemini or Z5600. They both have got a bit of that intimate (maybe U47'sih) mojo. I heard some comparisons a while back with these mics and a U47 and they were pretty similar on dialog recordings. The comparison was done by Roger Nichols (FWIW). When I'm looking for that kinda' sound, I go to my Gemini here.

Mike Castoro at WunderAudio in Austin <http://www.wunderaudio.com/> is making U47 clones and has some \*real\* U47's for sale as well.  
<http://www.mistyhillaudio.com/>

You might give him a call and talk to him about these. He's an experienced source of information on vintage mics and doesn't live too far from you.

Deej

"Brandon" <a@a.com> wrote in message news:45cc9bf0\$1@linux...

> K... so my AKG 414 with the Anteres mic modeler set to U-47 will do the  
> trick???

> :-)

>

> --

> Thanks,

>

> Brandon

>

>

>

>

> "Neil" <IOUOIU@OIU.com> wrote in message news:45cc9a8a\$1@linux...

>>

>> "Brandon" <a@a.com> wrote:

>>>

>>>



>>>How would you guys go about getting those intimate sounding vocals with  
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>> Neil  
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>

---

---

Subject: Re: Intimate bassy vocals???  
Posted by [neil\[1\]](#) on Fri, 09 Feb 2007 17:00:10 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

"Brandon" <a@a.com> wrote:

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That's a U-47, baby!

Neil

---

---

Subject: Re: Intimate bassy vocals???  
Posted by [Nil](#) on Fri, 09 Feb 2007 17:14:10 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

"Brandon" <a@a.com> wrote:

>K... so my AKG 414 with the Anteres mic modeler set to U-47 will do the  
  
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As long as that mic model includes rolling off some of the 414's high end, it might.

Actually, I shouldn't've been so glib - you can get that sound without a u-47, of course, just make sure the mic gets worked in close, like Gene said, use a fairly neutral-sounding LDC (like NOT a C-1), set on something other than omni, and the cleanest preamp you have (since you'll be in real close - to capture the detail)... make sure you're paying attention for where the optimal distance for the singer should be...you get in TOO close, and you get too many mouth noises; too far & you're not taking advantage of the promximity effect - I disagree with Gene on the compression, though - you don't always need it... some mics just kinda sound that way when worked up-close & personal like that. Dunno what you've got for mics, but if you've got a handful of LDCs, you should be able to find one that works.

Neil

---

---

Subject: Re: Intimate bassy vocals???  
Posted by [brandon\[2\]](#) on Fri, 09 Feb 2007 17:24:16 GMT  
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---

Here is a link to the song I was refereing to:  
[http://www.amazon.com/gp/music/wma-pop-up/B00005LNAS001005/ref=mu\\_sam\\_wma\\_001\\_005/104-4024696-4499911](http://www.amazon.com/gp/music/wma-pop-up/B00005LNAS001005/ref=mu_sam_wma_001_005/104-4024696-4499911)

--

Thanks,

Brandon

"Gene Lennon" <[glennon@NOSPmyrealbox.com](mailto:glennon@NOSPmyrealbox.com)> wrote in message [news:45ccaa7a\\$1@linux...](mailto:news:45ccaa7a$1@linux...)

>

> I'm not saying you cant get a similar sound using other methods, I saying  
> that what I described was, and is the exact method used on may of these  
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> Graham is correct to point out that in the very early recordings, Sinatra  
> liked the RCA ribbons and many people continue to use ribbons for this  
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> but the LDC is still more common.

> The R37 trick has been a secret weapon for may producers but you also need  
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> Gene

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> P.S. I have used a 414 successfully to get this sound, specifically my C  
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---

Subject: Re: Intimate bassy vocals???

Posted by [brandon\[2\]](#) on Fri, 09 Feb 2007 17:25:30 GMT

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[http://www.amazon.com/Austin-Rhythm-Christmas-Various-Artist/s/dp/B00005LNAS/sr=1-12/qid=1171041756/ref=sr\\_1\\_12/104-4024696-4499911?ie=UTF8&s=music](http://www.amazon.com/Austin-Rhythm-Christmas-Various-Artist/s/dp/B00005LNAS/sr=1-12/qid=1171041756/ref=sr_1_12/104-4024696-4499911?ie=UTF8&s=music)

That is Paul Ray.

--

Thanks,

Brandon

"Brandon" <a@a.com> wrote in message news:45ccaea4\$1@linux...  
> Here is a link to the song I was refereing to:  
> [http://www.amazon.com/gp/music/wma-pop-up/B00005LNAS001005/ref=mu\\_sam\\_wma\\_001\\_005/104-4024696-4499911](http://www.amazon.com/gp/music/wma-pop-up/B00005LNAS001005/ref=mu_sam_wma_001_005/104-4024696-4499911)  
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>

---

Subject: Re: Intimate bassy vocals???

Posted by [Deej \[4\]](#) on Fri, 09 Feb 2007 17:49:36 GMT

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Hmmmm.....I might have been in the studio for that recording. I was present at a couple of these old Christmas sessions back in the mid-late '90's at Bee Creek Studios and Paul Ray was there. IIRC, the mic was a Neumann TLM 193 through either the preamp on a modified TAC Matchless console or the preamp would have been the old Demeter VTMP-2 preamp that was modded by Larry Seyer that I bought out of this studio and still have here in my rack. In either case, the vocal was processed by a Tube Tech CL1 . If it's the same session, this would have been recorded to either an MCI 1" 8 track or an Otari MTR90 2" 24 track with Dolby SR and mixed to the MCI JH-110 that I also bought out of that studio and eventually sold to Andy Salamone (Cactusfire) when his studio was in Taos. I think Parisite Craig Mitchell now owns that deck.

The long and winding gear road.....

;o)

"Brandon" <a@a.com> wrote in message news:45ccaef@linux...  
> [http://www.amazon.com/Austin-Rhythm-Christmas-Various-Artists/dp/B00005LNAS/sr=1-12/qid=1171041756/ref=sr\\_1\\_12/104-4024696-4499911?ie=UTF8&s=music](http://www.amazon.com/Austin-Rhythm-Christmas-Various-Artists/dp/B00005LNAS/sr=1-12/qid=1171041756/ref=sr_1_12/104-4024696-4499911?ie=UTF8&s=music)

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>>>>Neil

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>>

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>

>

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Subject: Re: Intimate bassy vocals???

Posted by [brandon\[2\]](#) on Fri, 09 Feb 2007 18:02:52 GMT

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---

When I listen to it from the CD thru my AKG cans I can definately hear a lot of low end on his vox.

--  
Thanks,

Brandon

"Neil" <OIUOIU@OIU.com> wrote in message news:45ccb72c\$1@linux...  
>  
> Both those Paul Ray cuts have a lot more high end on the vox  
> than I would have anticipated you were looking for, based on the  
> sound you were describing earlier (Bing, Sinatra, etc); and

> really not as much proximity effect, either.  
>  
> You should be able to duplicate that, no problem. There's  
> nothing overly unique about that sound - just a good, crooner-  
> type vocal line recorded well.  
>  
> Neil  
>  
>  
> "Brandon" <a@a.com> wrote:  
>> [http://www.amazon.com/Austin-Rhythm-Christmas-Various-Artists/dp/B00005LNAS/sr=1-12/qid=1171041756/ref=sr\\_1\\_12/104-4024696-4499911?ie=UTF8&s=music](http://www.amazon.com/Austin-Rhythm-Christmas-Various-Artists/dp/B00005LNAS/sr=1-12/qid=1171041756/ref=sr_1_12/104-4024696-4499911?ie=UTF8&s=music)  
>>  
>> That is Paul Ray.  
>>  
>>  
>>--  
>> Thanks,  
>>  
>> Brandon  
>>  
>>  
>>  
>> "Brandon" <a@a.com> wrote in message news:45ccaea4\$1@linux...  
>>> Here is a link to the song I was refereing to:  
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>>>  
>>>  
>>> --  
>>> Thanks,  
>>>  
>>> Brandon  
>>>  
>>>  
>>>  
>>>  
>>> "Gene Lennon" <glennon@NOSPmyrealbox.com> wrote in message  
>>> news:45ccaa7a\$1@linux...  
>>>>  
>>>> I'm not saying you cant get a similar sound using other methods, I  
>>>> saying  
>>>> that what I described was, and is the exact method used on may of these  
>  
>>>> recordings.  
>>>> Graham is correct to point out that in the very early recordings,  
>>>> Sinatra





Subject: Re: Intimate bassy vocals???

Posted by [gene lennon](#) on Fri, 09 Feb 2007 18:08:10 GMT

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---

that what I described was, and is the exact method used on many of these recordings. Graham is correct to point out that in the very early recordings, Sinatra liked the RCA ribbons and many people continue to use ribbons for this today, but the LDC is still more common. The R37 trick has been a secret weapon for many producers but you also need to get the rest of the LA-2A setting just right.

Gene

P.S. I have used a 414 successfully to get this sound, specifically my C 414 B-ULS, but the U-47 is a completely different animal.

"Neil" <IUOIU@OIU.com> wrote:

>

>"Brandon" <a@a.com> wrote:

>>K... so my AKG 414 with the Antares mic modeler set to U-47 will do the

>

>>trick???

>

>As long as that mic model includes rolling off some of the 414's

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>like that. Dunno what you've got for mics, but if you've got a

>handful of LDCs, you should be able to find one that works.

>

>Neil

---

Subject: Re: Intimate bassy vocals???

Posted by [gene lennon](#) on Fri, 09 Feb 2007 18:11:40 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

"DJ" <www.aarrrrggghh!!!.com> wrote:  
>I thought that part of this had to do with treating the mic capsule with  
a  
>layer of tar by while smoking a cigarette during instrumental passages and  
  
>blowing the smoke right into the mic grille to\*thicken\* the sound.  
>  
>;o)  
>

G

---

---

Subject: Re: Intimate bassy vocals???  
Posted by [Neil](#) on Fri, 09 Feb 2007 19:02:20 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Both those Paul Ray cuts have a lot more high end on the vox than I would have anticipated you were looking for, based on the sound you were describing earlier (Bing, Sinatra, etc); and really not as much proximity effect, either.

You should be able to duplicate that, no problem. There's nothing overly unique about that sound - just a good, crooner-type vocal line recorded well.

Neil

"Brandon" <a@a.com> wrote:  
> [http://www.amazon.com/Austin-Rhythm-Christmas-Various-Artists/dp/B00005LNAS/sr=1-12/qid=1171041756/ref=sr\\_1\\_12/104-4024696-4499911?ie=UTF8&s=music](http://www.amazon.com/Austin-Rhythm-Christmas-Various-Artists/dp/B00005LNAS/sr=1-12/qid=1171041756/ref=sr_1_12/104-4024696-4499911?ie=UTF8&s=music)  
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>>>>

>>>>Neil

>>>

>>

>>

>

>

---

Subject: Re: Intimate bassy vocals???

Posted by [chuck duffy](#) on Fri, 09 Feb 2007 19:07:07 GMT

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---

I believe that you hit the nail on the head - it's mining the proximity effect.

Chuck

Graham Duncan <[graham@grahamduncan.com](mailto:graham@grahamduncan.com)> wrote:

>The crooner sound is all about the great proximity effect from a  
>figure-8 ribbon mic.

>

>Graham

>

>Brandon wrote:

>> How would you guys go about getting those intimate sounding vocals with

>> lots of bass...low end in them.

>> Genre like you would hear Sinatra or Dino sing.

>> Like Christmas carols.

>> Kind of like a radio announcer voice but singing.

>> I heard a CD that was Christmas songs and there was this type of song.

>> I just like the intamacy and low end.

>> I have not been able to achieve this before.

>> Obviously lots of processing, but it doesnt really sound overly processed.

>>

>>

>> --

>> Thanks,

>>

>> Brandon

---

---

Subject: Re: Intimate bassy vocals???

Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Fri, 09 Feb 2007 19:08:03 GMT

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This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

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Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

RE20, proximity effect and a good compressor would be the place I'd =  
start.=20

AA

"Brandon" <a@a.com> wrote in message news:45cc8ba5\$1@linux...  
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---=20

Thanks,

Brandon

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<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2>AA</FONT></DIV>  
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  <A href=3D"news:45cc8ba5\$1 @linux">news:45cc8ba5\$1 @linux</A>...</DIV>  
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Subject: Re: Intimate bassy vocals???

Posted by [xpam\\_mark](#) on Fri, 09 Feb 2007 19:25:43 GMT

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---

What's an R37? Something I should own?

W. Mark Wilson

"Gene Lennon" <glennon@NOSPmyrealbox.com> wrote in message news:45cc962c\$1 @linux...

>

> LD - U47, Sony C-37A, etc. Others work but these are the best.

> Worked close for proximity.  
> Quality Pre like a Class A Neve.  
> Original LA-2A!!!!  
> 1/4 turn counter clockwise of R37 (Side-Chain Pre-Emphasis)  
> Gene  
>  
>  
> "Brandon" <a@a.com> wrote:  
>>  
>>  
>>How would you guys go about getting those intimate sounding vocals with  
> =  
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>><DIV><BR>-- <BR>Thanks,</DIV>
>><DIV> </DIV>
>><DIV>Brandon </DIV></FONT></BODY></HTML>
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Subject: Re: Intimate bassy vocals???

Posted by [Miguel Vigil \[1\]](#) on Fri, 09 Feb 2007 19:48:04 GMT

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---

It's the proximity effect. No problem to get that out of a C1. The only processing I had to do was rolling off some low end. (It was very close :-)

Bjorn R

"Neil" <IUOIU@OIU.com> wrote in message news:45cc9dd2\$1@linux...

```
>
> "Brandon" <a@a.com> wrote:
> >K... so my AKG 414 with the Antares mic modeler set to U-47 will do the
>
> >trick???
```

>

```
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>
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```
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> mics just kinda sound that way when worked up-close & personal
> like that. Dunno what you've got for mics, but if you've got a
```

> handful of LDCs, you should be able to find one that works.  
>  
> Neil

---

Subject: Re: Intimate bassy vocals???  
Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Fri, 09 Feb 2007 19:57:00 GMT  
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---

I'll have to try the figure 8 on my C3. Great tips here !

BR wrote:

> It's the proximity effect. No problem to get that out of a C1. The only  
> processing I had to do was rolling off some low end. (It was very close :-)  
>  
> Bjorn R  
>  
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> "Neil" <IUOIU@OIU.com> wrote in message news:45cc9dd2\$1@linux...  
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>> Neil  
>  
>

---

Subject: Re: Intimate bassy vocals???  
Posted by [gene lennon](#) on Sat, 10 Feb 2007 00:01:05 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

"W. Mark Wilson" <xpam\_mark@avidrecording> wrote:  
>What's an R37? Something I should own?

LOL

R37 is a trim pot on the backside of LA-2As. The LA-2A was originally designed to be used for Radio DJ work.

Every radio station uses a transmission audio processor in front of its transmitter. The processor's most important function is to control the peak modulation of the transmitter up to the maximum legal amounts allowed by the FCC. However, very few stations use a simple peak limiter for this function. Instead, they use more complex audio chains that almost always include pre-emphasis. In the USA, FM radio is usually pre-emphasized at 50 microseconds. Pre-emphasis

This much high frequency push frequently made DJ voices (that were already limited to extreme levels) sound very bad on FM stations. The LA-2A includes a trim pot (R37) whose job it is to increase the compression ratio on the high frequencies (approximately a reverse curve to the radios stations pre-emphasis curve.)

Normally for music work the trimmer is turned all the way clockwise (flat). But when you back it off slightly you get a unique type of frequency dependent compression that is easily recognized when heard but a little hard to describe. It softens the high end but it sounds quite different than standard eq reduction.

Now that LA-2As are both precious and old, many studios wont touch the trimmers.

best compressor/limiters.

Gene

---

Subject: Re: Intimate bassy vocals???  
Posted by [Martin Harrington](#) on Sun, 11 Feb 2007 01:15:08 GMT  
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This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

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Easy,=20  
Get a singer that sounds like Sinatra or Dino.  
It's all in the voice modulation, not the recording.

--=20

Martin Harrington  
www.lendaneer-sound.com

"Brandon" <a@a.com> wrote in message news:45cc8ba5\$1@linux...  
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Thanks,

Brandon

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