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Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [Deej \[5\]](#) on Wed, 12 Mar 2008 01:53:37 GMT

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since the impossible is now possible, and we will be required to fix entire  
clambeds.....at no extra charge of course. Is overdubbing now dead?

"Steve Helm" <shelm@radford.edu> wrote in message news:47d7319a\$1@linux...

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> This is truly amazing!

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> <http://www.celemony.com/cms/index.php?id=dna>

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Subject: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [Steve Helm](#) on Wed, 12 Mar 2008 02:27:54 GMT

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Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [Deej \[5\]](#) on Wed, 12 Mar 2008 02:48:49 GMT

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"Rod Lincoln" <rlincoln@nospam.kc.rr.com> wrote in message news:47d7449b\$1@linux...

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Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [Rod Lincoln](#) on Wed, 12 Mar 2008 03:48:59 GMT

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For me, the biggest question....will it work on group sing harmonies (where everyone was recorded at the same time) this is one of the biggest things I have noticed around here, singers just aren't used to nailing group vocals anymore.

Come to think of it...I really don't want to be able to fix that sort of stuff. Just do it right. It IS something I've noticed in the last few years though.

Rod

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Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [Dedric Terry](#) on Wed, 12 Mar 2008 04:44:57 GMT  
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Wow. That's pretty cool. Remixing just took on a new meaning....

"yeah, you want the Vladimir Horowitz performance of a Mozart Piano Sonata in C major converted to Hungarian minor? no prob..."

On 3/11/08 7:53 PM, in article 47d73aa9@linux, "Mr. Simplicity"  
<noway@jose.net> wrote:

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Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [Neil](#) on Wed, 12 Mar 2008 05:34:22 GMT  
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Just like with the very first version of Auto-Tune, the genie is now out of the bottle... may as well plan to buy this new thing at some point, because if it CAN be done, clients will EXPECT it to be done.

I notice this sort of attitude all the way down to the simplest things, such as:

1.) A project I did a couple years ago, wherein I instructed the drummer to get new heads before we started tracking... he didn't - he said "they sound fine" (IMO, they didn't - they were "useable" sounds, but they could've been a helluva lot better), as I was pointing this out during mixdown, he said "yeah, but you can fix that, right?"

2.) Another project I did awhile after that one where I told the guitar player & bass player to change strings the night before we started tracking - the guitar player did, the bass player didn't... ended up having to re-amp & process the hell out of his bass track in order to overcome the deadness of the strings.

3.) On the project I just started, when getting kick tones, we nailed a great one on the first try at mic placement (which I kinda have a good method for, but still, it's nice to nail it right away, regardless!), and the drummer was very pleased on playback of the test track, but nonetheless he happened to mention: "yeah, but still, all you really need is an impact of some kind, right?", indicating his belief that anything can be done once you have that.... which is not too far off, really.

It USED to be that a musician would complain if they didn't hear "their sound" coming through the monitors - now it's as if they don't care what it sounds like coming through the monitors, they expect you to be able to make it that way after the fact. Likewise, I've recorded singers that were VERY particular about how their tracks sounded and WANTED to re-do a line because their pitch was off (not usually the case with me at the board, because I'd have them re-do it while they were still on the other side of the glass if it was clear they missed it) or they didn't like a certain phrasing or dynamic, now it's pretty much: "You can fix that, right?" lol

Yes I can... and soon i'll be doing every part on your entire album for you, too - you just go mix yourself a drink or grab a beer; the bar's over there in the corner.

lol

Neil

"Mr. Simplicity" <noway@jose.net> wrote:>I think it will eventually to break entire mixes into spectral/timbral blobs

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Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [Kim](#) on Wed, 12 Mar 2008 06:34:34 GMT  
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Studio technology, and along with it the attitude people have, is getting silly. Neil and DeeJ, you're both on the money IMO.

The question I guess is which art form you want to master. You can be a muso... a person who can play live. You can be a producer... a person who creates recorded works, often with little requirement to actually play anything. You can be a sucker who gets paid to be an engineer but is expected to take people who don't sound any good while playing an instrument and make it sound like they sounded good by, in fact, being an underpaid producer.

I assume that these bands who don't really sound like "their own" recordings aren't all that passionate about the music. Probably moreso about the groupies and other "benefits". ;o) Now I get the attraction to groupies and stuff, but at the risk of sounding old, why the world tolerates this whole fake stardom thing I really don't get. Milly Vinilly got crucified for not singing on their recordings, but it's seeming today almost like it would have been ok so long as they sung SOMETHING, ANYTHING, and then a computer used whatever, even if it was another vocal, to twist the piece of audio which they entered in the computer into something releasable.

I've got nothing against the technology. I mean in itself it doesn't hurt anything. The idea of being able to sit at a computer and have complete control, in the end, of every harmonic, every note, every hit, and be able to manipulate each and all of the above easily and quickly will, I'm sure, create astounding art, and there's no reason to be without that.

What is troubling, and in a way it's been happening for a while, is that people have forgotten the actual proper roots of music. Even the real "down to earth" music lovers who go and see local bands, in most cases, go and see loud amplified acts in a room, for the most part, full of strangers.

Now there's nothing wrong with that either, but I do think a lot of people miss out on the real basics. The pleasure of a good muso on a "real" acoustic instrument just sitting and playing to a small group of friends in a room. Hit song distribution once occurred mostly when Mozart or a good "cover" pianist was playing in town. Meanwhile some local guy knew how to strum a few tunes on the guitar.

I don't think there's anything wrong with any way of being creative. There is, however, something wrong when the public thinks one artist is responsible, when in fact they sound amazingly different if left to their own devices. I also think we're missing out on a lot by not fully appreciating real, live, acoustic, organic music anywhere near often enough.

It feels to me somewhat like we invented sex toys and then somehow forgot what it's like to just be with another person. ;o)

We think we're expanding our horizons, but it seems that the ground behind is retreating as quickly as the ground in front advances. Every time we step further into computer land we forget a little more of what we left behind, and hence the horizon remains the size it was, only less organic.

I think I'll stop talking now. ;o)

Cheers,  
Kim.

"Neil" <OIUOI@OUI.com> wrote:

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Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [Sarah](#) on Wed, 12 Mar 2008 07:48:25 GMT

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OK, that's gettin' a bit creepy. Yes, it's amazing, and I can't even begin to comprehend how someone figured out how to do this.

And maybe if I had clients, especially clients with limited talents, funds, or patience, I might have use for this. And I can even see how it could be handy as a composing tool.

But I don't have clients, and if I want to hear what my chording will sound like in a different mode or whatever, I'll just play/sing it that way. There only a couple ways I'm willing to "cheat": Editing the best parts of multiple takes together, and punching in. When someone tells me they really like my music and that I'm really talented, I don't ever want to be thinking, "Well, yeah, but I can't really do that."

And besides, there are so many really talented composers and players in the world who will never be fortunate enough to be widely recognized for it. This is why I object to using technology to make up for deficits in real talent and skill.

I'm with Hot Rod . . . just do the friggin' thing right. Or find someone who can.

Sarah  
curmudgeon, throwback, & registered nurse

PS: buy our CD . . . it's 99% midi-free. No trans fats.  
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"Steve Helm" <[shelm@radford.edu](mailto:shelm@radford.edu)> wrote in message [news:47d7319a\\$1@linux...](news:47d7319a$1@linux...)

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Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [rick](#) on Wed, 12 Mar 2008 08:55:35 GMT

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it's just another nail in what used to be music's coffin. besides  
with mp3's, sat radio, over compressed, and limited product why would  
anyone care. being out of tune may just be the only things that makes  
a song stand out from the rest.

On Wed, 12 Mar 2008 00:48:25 -0700, "Sarah" <[sarahjane@sarahtonin.com](mailto:sarahjane@sarahtonin.com)>  
wrote:

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Well said Sarah - I completely agree.

If a musician can't get a great performance in a reasonable amount of time with minimal editing on my end, I look for another musician. It costs me and my clients too much for me to sit and edit a performance for hours and hours.

I think the technology of Melodyne is cool for what it is, and could be a creative tool for creating new sounds that can't be played, but it could also be a massive time-waster. Getting the right performance should be done by the performer, not the engineer.

Regards,  
Dedric

On 3/12/08 1:48 AM, in article 47d78dc1\$1@linux, "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahthonin.com> wrote:

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Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [Andy Pow](#) on Wed, 12 Mar 2008 14:26:16 GMT  
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I've always wondered what the guys who come up with this kinda stuff look  
like....  
Just as I expected! : )

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Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [EK Sound](#) on Wed, 12 Mar 2008 15:02:49 GMT  
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Ah yes, but just think of all the billable hours it would add to a  
project to mess with all that crap!

One more reason to work on an hourly basis... "sure, I can fix it, but  
it's gonna cost ya" ;-)

David.

Neil wrote:

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Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [Jamie K](#) on Wed, 12 Mar 2008 15:21:18 GMT  
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I can imagine the sessions:

"Hal, we need you to strum a chord"

"Just one chord?"

"Just one chord, Hal, that's right."

"Uh, what chord?"

"Doesn't matter."

"Like this?"

"Great, thanks."

"OK, here I go..."

"No, we're done, Hal. You can leave now."

"Uh, really? OK, see you next time."

"We won't be needing you any more Hal, we have the chord to work with."

"wha...?"

"Hal, please clear the studio, we have the bass note to record, the horn section stab, and then we need the rest of the week to work with your chord."

"But I blocked out four hours..."

"Sorry Hal, we're only paying you for thirty seconds. But listen, if you play that same chord on the piano on your way out we'll double your pay and give you a soda. Which is like tripling your pay!"

"Yo man, you're a real jerk!"

"Nice, we can use the 'yo.' Thanks Hal."

"Mother#\*&@ ass\*#(#^!"

"Thank you. goodbye Hal."

Cheers,

-Jamie

[www.JamieKrutz.com](http://www.JamieKrutz.com)

EK Sound wrote:

> Ah yes, but just think of all the billable hours it would add to a  
> project to mess with all that crap!

>

> One more reason to work on an hourly basis... "sure, I can fix it, but  
> it's gonna cost ya" ;-)

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Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [Neil](#) on Wed, 12 Mar 2008 16:50:15 GMT  
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"Kim" <hiddensounds@hotmail.com> wrote:  
>You can be a sucker who gets paid to be an engineer but is  
>expected to take people who don't sound any good while playing  
>an instrument and make it sound like they sounded good by, in  
>fact, being an underpaid producer.

You & I certainly have differing opinions on this aspect. I

don't think what you're describing is being a "sucker" at all... it's simply a skill-set that you have the option to use, and to whatever extent you wish to employ it, based on the terms under which you've agreed to work on a given project. For example, what's the difference between - let's say Mutt Lange, getting involved with Def Leppard when he did, and taking them to a level that they probably never would have reached otherwise - and someone with a certain skill-set taking a not-so-great local band to some higher level than they could otherwise achieve without that individual's help? Or a pretty decent local band, for that matter... or a really good local band - I don't think it makes any difference, really. Yeah, we're talking a major difference in terms of the level of the industry between a Lange/Leppard project & one like I'm referring to, but insofar as helping a client/band to realize their vision... what's the difference?

You always have the option of turning down a project if you think all you're gonna be doing by working with someone is gold-plating a turd... unless you do it for a living & you feel you HAVE to take every piece of business you can get, but good lord, it's STILL better than before we had all this kind of technology... "back in the day" you'd STILL have to work with wankers from time to time, you just couldn't help them as much as you can now - I'm betting there's almost no one who was a recordist prior to this era who doesn't have at least a few projects under their belt that they would rather not admit to having worked on.

>why the world tolerates this whole fake stardom thing I really  
>don't get. Milly Vinnily got crucified for not singing  
>on their recordings, but it's seeming today almost like it  
>would have been ok so long as they sung SOMETHING, ANYTHING,  
>and then a computer used whatever, even if it was another  
>vocal, to twist the piece of audio which they entered  
>in the computer into something releasable.

Well, it's all about the saleability of the product, not the quality of the product... which is not to say that there aren't people who care about the quality of the work they do, it's just that EVERY form of entertainment seems to have a shorter shelf life these days, not just music... movies, even good ones, hit theaters & then a few weeks later they're on DVD; a couple months after that they're on Pay-per-view, then HBO, etc, etc. It's rare for a movie, even a very successful one, to stay in theaters for anywhere near as long as they used to. Look at

video games... used to be in THAT industry you'd be able to put out a good title & ride it for awhile - now you've got a lot of games that come out with a new edition every year.

So, you've got to look at the music biz as more of an "assembly line" process now... assemble it, package it, push it out the door... NEXT! Right? Which in a way is kinda the same way it was in the era that some consider to be the "Golden Age" of popular music... the Brill Building was chock-full of writers churning out songs, lower-level musicians demoing them, publishers buying 'em, then selling them to the big-name artists or their labels. Labels like Motown & entire cities like Nashville used top-notch session players who could nail stuff in a take or two, instead of using a feature artist's regular band, in order to save time/money/get a better track overall.

How much more "assembly line"-like can you get? It wasn't until albums like "Sgt. Pepper's" and "Pet Sounds" that bands would start getting really self-indulgent & spend inordinate amounts of time in the studio experimenting, tweaking... hell, WRITING in the studio! And for a brief, shining moment there - in that era when bands like Fleetwood Mac would famously spend a year in the studio working on an album - labels would actually let them. And I think people of the generation that most of us on this board seem to be in, came to think that that's the way it's normally done... we got spoiled, in a way.

But then again - a lot of those artists would have four or five songs in heavy rotation on the radio at once! If you listened to rock or Top-40 radio in that era, artists like Steve Miller, Fleetwood Mac, Boston, Bad Company, Aerosmith, Foghat for a little bit there... damn the list could go on & on - all had SEVERAL hits in rotation at the same time! Martin's Air Supply stuff too, on the pop channels... how many freakin hits did those guys have on the air at once? Four or five, IIRC. Doobies, Queen, Manilow, Linda Ronstadt - just a few more that pop into mind that each had multiple songs on the air at once. You just don't see that happening all that much anymore.

Argh - that really digressed... ok, enough typing for now lol

Neil

---

Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [Gantt Kushner](#) on Wed, 12 Mar 2008 16:53:27 GMT

Yeah, but all those billable hours add up to a stiff neck, a case of carpal tunnel syndrome and a hole in your spiritual stomach...

Gantt

EK Sound <ask\_me@nospam.net> wrote:

>Ah yes, but just think of all the billable hours it would add to a  
>project to mess with all that crap!

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>One more reason to work on an hourly basis... "sure, I can fix it, but  
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Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [EK Sound](#) on Wed, 12 Mar 2008 16:54:05 GMT

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I get to work on \*mostly\* turd polishing. In fact, it has been several years since I actually had FUN on a session... AND I turn away a LOT of "undesireable sessions"... pretty sad. Most of the good stuff is being done at the musicians home studios, we never get to see it.

David.

Gantt Kushner wrote:

> Well, I've read all the other posts to date. I share many of your thoughts  
> and concerns about having this kind of technological power at our disposal  
> and, even worse, having clients KNOW that we have these powerful tools available.  
> I originally bought AutoTune for a project that involved a singer who couldn't  
> sing in tune to save her life. It was in the good old ADAT days and tuning  
> would have involved transferring tracks into Digital Performer, tuning the  
> bad notes, then transferring back to ADAT for mixing. I thanked God when  
> that project went elsewhere and I owned AutoTune for another two years before  
> I actually began using it. I have had people ask up front if I have AutoTune.  
> If I had said "no" they would have definitely gone elsewhere. I've gotten  
> pretty darned good at tuning vocals without making them sound like they're  
> been tuned. I have also had vocal tracks that were so consistantly flat  
> that I had to dump them into Protools so I could run the Waves Soundshifter  
> plugin on them to bring them up 12 or 14 cents. Then I could import them  
> back into Paris and use AutoTune on them.  
>  
> My concern for myself is that much of the joy of recording music is gone.  
> I'm grateful that I get to record a fair amount of "straight ahead" jazz  
> that doesn't get overly processed but for other kinds of projects I find  
> myself more and more being the one who makes bad stuff sound better and OK  
> stuff good. I actually don't mind making really good stuff sound great.  
> To my mind that's the most valid use of AutoTune or digital editing - to  
> take a killer track with a couple of small flaws and make it just right.  
> The projects that call for massive manipulation just eat at me. And since  
> I do do this for a living, I can't afford to be anything but a Miracle Worker.  
> In fact, it's what brings me business at this level. The good news and  
> the bad news all rolled in one.  
>  
> My concern for the musicians is that they aren't going to learn anything  
> from a session in which they can screw up every which way and still go home

> with a CD that makes them sound like a bunch of LA session players (more  
> or less!). It's taken me 44 years to get to my current level of skill playing  
> the guitar. When the very first cassette machines came out the keyboard  
> player I traveled with and I invested in one and we began recording every  
> set, every night and every night after the gig we listened to it all. Every  
> night. Six nights a week. You learn a lot about your playing doing that.  
> And learning to play in the studio was a similar process. Record, listen,  
> record, listen, record, listen... and learn. What do the people learn from  
> watching me tune and slide and copy and paste their tracks these days?  
> They learn that they can screw up and I'll fix it.  
>  
> Remember the old Protools joke where the producer gets on the talkback and  
> says "It sucked! Come on in!" It's not so funny any more!  
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> Gantt  
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Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [Neil](#) on Wed, 12 Mar 2008 16:59:14 GMT  
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"Gantt Kushner" <ganttmann@comcast.net> wrote:  
>  
>a hole in your spiritual stomach...

You're in the music biz, you don't have one of those already?

LOL!

Neil

---

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Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [Neil](#) on Wed, 12 Mar 2008 17:00:02 GMT  
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---

ROFL! that's great... especially the "yo" part.

Neil

Jamie K <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote:

>  
>I can imagine the sessions:  
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>"Hal, we need you to strum a chord"  
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>"Just one chord?"  
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>"Uh, what chord?"  
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>"Doesn't matter."  
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>"Like this?"  
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>"Great, thanks."  
>  
>"OK, here I go..."  
>  
>"No, we're done, Hal. You can leave now."  
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>"Uh, really? OK, see you next time."  
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>>  
>> Neil wrote:  
>>> Just like with the very first version of Auto-Tune, the genie  
>>> is now out of the bottle... may as well plan to buy this new thing at  
  
>>> some point, because if it CAN be done, clients will  
>>> EXPECT it to be done.  
>>>  
>>> I notice this sort of attitude all the way down to the simplest  
>>> things, such as:  
>>>  
>>> 1.) A project I did a couple years ago, wherein I instructed the  
>>> drummer to get new heads before we started tracking... he didn't - he  
  
>>> said "they sound fine" (IMO, they didn't - they were "useable" sounds,  
  
>>> but they could've been a helluva lot  
>>> better), as I was pointing this out during mixdown, he said  
>>> "yeah, but you can fix that, right?"  
>>>  
>>> 2.) Another project I did awhile after that one where I told  
>>> the guitar player & bass player to change strings the night before we  
  
>>> started tracking - the guitar player did, the bass

>>> player didn't... ended up having to re-amp & process the hell out of  
>>> his bass track in order to overcome the deadness of the  
>>> strings.  
>>>  
>>> 3.) On the project I just started, when getting kick tones,  
>>> we nailed a great one on the first try at mic placement  
>>> (which I kinda have a good method for, but still, it's nice to nail it  
>>> right away, regardless!), and the drummer was very pleased on playback  
>>> of the test track, but nonetheless he happened to mention: "yeah, but  
>>> still, all you really need is an impact of some kind, right?",  
>>> indicating his belief that anything can be done once you have that....  
>>> which is not too far off, really.  
>>>  
>>> It USED to be that a musician would complain if they didn't hear  
>>> "their sound" coming through the monitors - now it's as if they  
>>> don't care what it sounds like coming through the monitors, they  
>>> expect you to be able to make it that way after the fact. Likewise,  
>>> I've recorded singers that were VERY particular about  
>>> how their tracks sounded and WANTED to re-do a line because their  
>>> pitch was off (not usually the case with me at the board, because I'd  
>>> have them re-do it while they were still on the other side of the  
>>> glass if it was clear they missed it) or they didn't like a certain  
>>> phrasing or dynamic, now it's pretty much: "You can fix that,  
>>> right?" lol  
>>>  
>>> Yes I can... and soon i'll be doing every part on your entire  
>>> album for you, too - you just go mix yourself a drink or grab a beer;  
>>> the bar's over there in the corner.  
>>>  
>>> lol  
>>>  
>>> Neil  
>>>  
>>>  
>>>  
>>> "Mr. Simplicity" <noway@jose.net> wrote:>I think it will eventually to  
>>> break  
>>> entire mixes into spectral/timbral blobs  
>>>> and we will be able to use it as a mastering tool.  
>>>>

>>>> The world, as we know it is coming to an end. I was gonna start  
>>>> intensifying  
>>>  
>>>  
>>>> my practicing on guitar but now I don't even need to.  
>>>>  
>>>>  
>>>> "Rod Lincoln" <rlincoln@nospam.kc.rr.com> wrote in message  
>>>> news:47d7449b\$1@linux...  
>>>>  
>>>>> For me, the biggest question....will it work on group sing harmonies  
  
>>>>> (where  
>>>>> everyone was recorded at the same time) this is one of the biggest  
  
>>>>> things  
>>>>> I have noticed around here, singers just aren't used to nailing group  
>>>  
>>>  
>>>>> vocals  
>>>>> anymore.  
>>>>> Come to think of it...I really don't want to be able to fix that sort  
>>>  
>>> of  
>>>  
>>>>> stuff. Just do it right. It IS something I've noticed in the last few  
>>>  
>>>  
>>>>> years  
>>>>> though.  
>>>>> Rod  
>>>>> "Mr. Simplicity" <noway@jose.net> wrote:  
>>>>>  
>>>>>> This is unbelievably cool on one level and sorta'  
>>>>>> .....errrrrr.....I'm not really sure....scary maybe???.....on  
>>>>>> another level. It is however, very amazing and I will have to have  
it  
>>>  
>>> or  
>>>  
>>>>> I  
>>>>>  
>>>>>> will die. I believe this will be a part of the every mix engineer's  
  
>>>>>> toolkit,  
>>>>>  
>>>>>> since the impossible is now possible, and we will be required to  
>>>>>> fix entire



>>>>  
>>>>> clambeds.....at no extra charge of course. Is overdubbing now dead?  
>>>>>  
>>>>> "Steve Helm" <shelm@radford.edu> wrote in message  
>>>>> news:47d7319a\$1@linux...  
>>>>>  
>>>>>> This is truly amazing!  
>>>>>>  
>>>>>> http://www.celemony.com/cms/index.php?id=dna  
>>>>>>  
>>>>>> Direct Note Access is a technology that makes the impossible  
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>>>>>>  
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>>>

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Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [Neil](#) on Wed, 12 Mar 2008 17:10:31 GMT  
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Dedric Terry <dterry@keyofd.net> wrote:  
>I think the technology of Melodyne is cool for what it is, and could be  
a  
>creative tool for creating new sounds that can't be played, but it could  
>also be a massive time-waster. Getting the right performance should be  
done  
>by the performer, not the engineer.

I did a project a few months back wherein I used Melodyne to  
build a harmony backing vocal track on a couple sections of the  
chorus... the guy can sing, he just can't do harmonies. So, the  
alternatives were:

- 1.) Find someone else to sing it
- 2.) Live without a harmony track
- 3.) Use Melodyne to build one

Simple choice in this case... took me maybe 20 minutes, max. Cloned the track, let Melodyne generate it's little files, adjusted the pitch on each one, nudged 'em forward or backward a teensy bit here & there so it sounded like a natural double instead of a cloned one, then tweaked the formant up a little bit for the same reason, and... done!

In the end, the song became the beneficiary of the technology - taking the view of "if the performer can't do it right, it's not going to be done" would have cheated the song out of a better end result.

Neil

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Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [Gantt Kushner](#) on Wed, 12 Mar 2008 17:37:24 GMT

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Well, I've read all the other posts to date. I share many of your thoughts and concerns about having this kind of technological power at our disposal and, even worse, having clients KNOW that we have these powerful tools available.

I originally bought AutoTune for a project that involved a singer who couldn't sing in tune to save her life. It was in the good old ADAT days and tuning would have involved transferring tracks into Digital Performer, tuning the bad notes, then transferring back to ADAT for mixing. I thanked God when that project went elsewhere and I owned AutoTune for another two years before I actually began using it. I have had people ask up front if I have AutoTune.

If I had said "no" they would have definitely gone elsewhere. I've gotten pretty darned good at tuning vocals without making them sound like they're been tuned. I have also had vocal tracks that were so consistantly flat that I had to dump them into Protools so I could run the Waves Soundshifter plugin on them to bring them up 12 or 14 cents. Then I could import them back into Paris and use AutoTune on them.

My concern for myself is that much of the joy of recording music is gone.

I'm grateful that I get to record a fair amount of "straight ahead" jazz that doesn't get overly processed but for other kinds of projects I find myself more and more being the one who makes bad stuff sound better and OK stuff good. I actually don't mind making really good stuff sound great.

To my mind that's the most valid use of AutoTune or digital editing - to take a killer track with a couple of small flaws and make it just right.

The projects that call for massive manipulation just eat at me. And since

I do do this for a living, I can't afford to be anything but a Miracle Worker.  
In fact, it's what brings me business at this level. The good news and the bad news all rolled in one.

My concern for the musicians is that they aren't going to learn anything from a session in which they can screw up every which way and still go home with a CD that makes them sound like a bunch of LA session players (more or less!). It's taken me 44 years to get to my current level of skill playing the guitar. When the very first cassette machines came out the keyboard player I traveled with and I invested in one and we began recording every set, every night and every night after the gig we listened to it all. Every night. Six nights a week. You learn a lot about your playing doing that. And learning to play in the studio was a similar process. Record, listen, record, listen, record, listen... and learn. What do the people learn from watching me tune and slide and copy and paste their tracks these days? They learn that they can screw up and I'll fix it.

Remember the old Protools joke where the producer gets on the talkback and says "It sucked! Come on in!" It's not so funny any more!

Gantt

"Steve Helm" <shelm@radford.edu> wrote:

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>This is truly amazing!

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><http://www.celemony.com/cms/index.php?id=dna>

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>to pitch, timing, note lengths and other parameters of melodic notes will now also be afforded to individual notes within chords.

---

Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [EK Sound](#) on Wed, 12 Mar 2008 17:45:37 GMT

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---

Most of the people I know around here in similar situations are all working at music stores...

David.

Gantt Kushner wrote:

> That's why I've actually been looking for a day job. Problem is - I'm not  
> qualified to do anything but record and play music!

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> Gantt  
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> EK Sound <ask\_me@nospam.net> wrote:  
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Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [Gantt Kushner](#) on Wed, 12 Mar 2008 18:25:39 GMT  
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Gantt

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>>  
>> Remember the old Protools joke where the producer gets on the talkback

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>>

>> Gantt

>>

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Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [excelav](#) on Wed, 12 Mar 2008 20:21:29 GMT

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Don't worry guys, there will always be great musicians. There are ten year olds that are great. Thank god, for god given talent.

The whole down slide of musicianship has been going on for about 20 years now, this is nothing new. I'll blame the idiots that got in to the record industry. They blamed big hair rock, and I've got to say bands like Poison did ruin it for rock by going too far over the top, and the industry over played them. I believe a much bigger contributing factor was Yo MTV RAPS! Turning knobs and record scratching may be art and music to some, but it's not true musicianship, and it doesn't appeal to everybody!

Another damaging factor was the other direction the industry went, produced, contrived Bubble Gum like Britney Spears. The record industry made a lot of money for a while on studio produced music, but they kind of turned their backs on musicianship. In the end they poison the well they all drink from.

The rebellious angry rock they are trying to push is not going to go anywhere either. They killed the super group, but the funny thing is, that's exactly what they need. The record industry needs great song writers and great musicianship to save it. The industry would like to blame napster or the MP3 for hard times, but the truth is, the industry is mismanaged. The wrong people are running the show. Randy Jackson use to always say to me, A&R guys are sheep with egos. Of course, he was also talking about himself.

Like I was saying, there are still great musicians out there to record. There will always be good musicians. We should encourage good musicianship and try to develop young talent. It will all comeback around.

"Gantt Kushner" <[ganttmann@comcast.net](mailto:ganttmann@comcast.net)> wrote:

>

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>

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>

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Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Thu, 13 Mar 2008 00:01:04 GMT

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This is why I'm very thankful to be outside music as a living now. A steady paycheck and health insurance with a retirement plan is GOOD thing in my view, and one I wondered for years if I'd have. For sure touring and playing offers no such long term benefits, and living on the road gets expensive. Taxes on contract musicians can be devastating. Today's shelf life on bands is so short that one can lose the game easily. I know there's not much 'cool' in the day gig, but it sure beats bein' cool and hungry/broke/divorced/homeless/addicted, as so many of my peers and friends have become.

Besides, working at a music store would only append debts for me :)  
Gannt, take something you have learned along the way and apply it to another field. Look through hotjobs.com and the such, look at the descriptions and see what fits or is close to a fit. You are smart and capable, moreso than you're giving yourself credit for here.

AA

"EK Sound" <ask\_me@nospam.net> wrote in message news:47d819c7\$1@linux...

> Most of the people I know around here in similar situations are all  
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>  
> David.

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Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Thu, 13 Mar 2008 00:58:28 GMT  
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2 things for sure. Computers and government jobs aren't going anywhere. If I could step backwards about 5 years, I'd have gone into high end networking I think, and become a network architect for someone like CISCO or NORTEL - they get stupid money. And it is artistic - you design and see the future of the business client and stroke the brush on how they'll expand and use it. The art is today's design with the future in mind.

Some insights: \*everything\* is going to be about networks in the future where business is concerned. Video Security, visual entertainment, audio/audio control, data, phones, fire alarms, smoke detectors, remote users.... it's all network capable these days. With the advances in storage, CPU power and 10Gbit network speeds here today, it will only get bigger and the cool thing is that the fiber in the ground is still good as speeds push upwards for some time. IMO that means switches/fiber equipment is gonna be the demand, and labor on how to design it/impliment it.

OS and computer type are a fading memory, it's all gonna be about (wired and wireless) internet/intranet. Believe me on this. Take that CLWMC or GC gig if you need to but study at night. If it's about networking, learn the 7 OSI layers, understand the IP / Subnet mask relationship, learn the ins and outs for secured network structure especially in the wireless field.

<http://www.braindumps.com/>

<http://www.brainbench.com/>

<http://www.proprofs.com/>

AA

"Gantt Kushner" <ganttmann@comcast.net> wrote in message  
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Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [Gantt Kushner](#) on Thu, 13 Mar 2008 01:32:46 GMT  
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>"EK Sound" <ask\_me@nospam.net> wrote in message news:47d819c7\$1@linux...  
>> Most of the people I know around here in similar situations are all  
>> working at music stores...

>>  
>> David.  
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>> Gantt Kushner wrote:  
>>> That's why I've actually been looking for a day job. Problem is - I'm  
  
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---

---

Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [Gantt Kushner](#) on Thu, 13 Mar 2008 02:21:15 GMT  
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---

I have a friend (also a musician) who's a CISCO network engineer. He's been encouraging me to look into it. MAYbe I'll do some research...

Gantt

"Aaron Allen" <know-spam@not\_here.dude> wrote:  
>2 things for sure. Computers and government jobs aren't going anywhere.  
If I  
>could step backwards about 5 years, I'd have gone into high end networking  
I  
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>they get stupid money. And it is artistic - you design and see the future

of  
>the business client and stroke the brush on how they'll expand and use it.

>The art is today's design with the future in mind.

>

>Some insights: \*everything\* is going to be about networks in the future

>where business is concerned. Video Security, visual entertainment,  
>audio/audio control, data, phones, fire alarms, smoke detectors, remote

>users.... it's all network capable these days. With the advances in storage,

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>the cool thing is that the fiber in the ground is still good as speeds push

>upwards for some time. IMO that means switches/fiber equipment is gonna  
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>OS and computer type are a fading memory, it's all gonna be about (wired  
and

>wireless) internet/intranet. Believe me on this. Take that CLWMC or GC gig

>if you need to but study at night. If it's about networking, learn the 7  
OSI

>layers, understand the IP / Subnet mask relationship, learn the ins and  
outs

>for secured network structure especially in the wireless field.

>

><http://www.braindumps.com/>

>

><http://www.brainbench.com/>

>

><http://www.proprofs.com/>

>

>AA

>

>

>"Gantt Kushner" <ganttmann@comcast.net> wrote in message  
>news:47d8762e\$1@linux...

>>

>> Hi Aaron,

>>

>> God bless you for having so much more faith in me than I have in myself!

>> I actually checked out a job at Chuck Levin's Washington Music Center,  
our

>> big local store (if you don't count The Guitar Center as local, which

I  
>> don't!).  
>> The pro sound manager spent a long time telling me about the good and bad  
>> points of the job. Mostly, it sounded like the internet and has totally  
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>> making \$50K - \$60K after 7 or 8 years on the job. Doesn't sound like  
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---

Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne



Gantt,

I made the jump about 15 years ago and then stayed in it (Tech) when I was thinking about bailing a few years back (thank God for the medical insurance when the medical bills piled up on my son the following year).

Went from being a frontline geek to a Director of Technology to now havine a consuting practice for small business and technology. Along the way I've been able to hire a half dozen of my musicians friends who are still in the tech industry and play some on weekends. It doesn't meet our original dreams of playing for a living, our skills sometimes really wane, but when we play, it's play! And any one of us makes more than we all did with our dead end jobs and gigs combined.

Family wise we've chosen to move a little further out where property and cost of living is much less, consulting lets me do much work remotely and go to "the city" once a week. My kids know who I am, my wife couldn't be happier, and it looks like within the next year I'll be putting up a new "toy barn" for the studio to reside in once again. My son has started writing song lyrics and is learning to put them to music, and dad is there to help along the way.

Your skills will translate. If you can handle pro studio patch bays and tracking the traffic, modern and not so modern DAWS and their eccentricities, then setting up the average business with their Windoz boxes (or linux in deference to Thad), setting up office, connecting them to the internet and secruing it is well within your grasp...just a new vocabulary to learn.

Long winded, but just another one saying "GO for it".

Jeff

Kushner wrote:

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> encouraging me to look into it. MAYbe I'll do some research...

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> Gantt

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>>>>AA  
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>>>>"EK Sound" <ask\_me@nospam.net> wrote in message news:47d819c7\$1@linux...



"Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:47d7f7e4@linux...

>

> I can imagine the sessions:

>

> "Hal, we need you to strum a chord"

>

> "Just one chord?"

>

> "Just one chord, Hal, that's right."

>

> "Uh, what chord?"

>

> "Doesn't matter."

>

> "Like this?"

>

> "Great, thanks."

>

> "OK, here I go..."

>

> "No, we're done, Hal. You can leave now."

>

> "Uh, really? OK, see you next time."

>

> "We won't be needing you any more Hal, we have the chord to work with."

>

> "wha...?"

>

> "Hal, please clear the studio, we have the bass note to record, the horn  
> section stab, and then we need the rest of the week to work with your  
> chord."

>

> "But I blocked out four hours..."

>

> "Sorry Hal, we're only paying you for thirty seconds. But listen, if you  
> play that same chord on the piano on your way out we'll double your pay  
> and give you a soda. Which is like tripling your pay!"

>

> "Yo man, you're a real jerk!"

>

> "Nice, we can use the 'yo.' Thanks Hal."

>

> "Mother#\*&@ ass\*#&#(#^!"

>

> "Thank you. goodbye Hal."

>

> Cheers,

> -Jamie  
> www.JamieKruz.com  
>  
>  
>  
> EK Sound wrote:  
>> Ah yes, but just think of all the billable hours it would add to a  
>> project to mess with all that crap!  
>>  
>> One more reason to work on an hourly basis... "sure, I can fix it, but  
>> it's gonna cost ya" ;-)  
>>  
>> David.  
>>  
>> Neil wrote:  
>>> Just like with the very first version of Auto-Tune, the genie  
>>> is now out of the bottle... may as well plan to buy this new thing at  
>>> some point, because if it CAN be done, clients will  
>>> EXPECT it to be done.  
>>>  
>>> I notice this sort of attitude all the way down to the simplest  
>>> things, such as:  
>>>  
>>> 1.) A project I did a couple years ago, wherein I instructed the drummer  
>>> to get new heads before we started tracking... he didn't - he said "they  
>>> sound fine" (IMO, they didn't - they were "useable" sounds, but they  
>>> could've been a helluva lot  
>>> better), as I was pointing this out during mixdown, he said  
>>> "yeah, but you can fix that, right?"  
>>>  
>>> 2.) Another project I did awhile after that one where I told  
>>> the guitar player & bass player to change strings the night before we  
>>> started tracking - the guitar player did, the bass  
>>> player didn't... ended up having to re-amp & process the hell out of his  
>>> bass track in order to overcome the deadness of the  
>>> strings.  
>>>  
>>> 3.) On the project I just started, when getting kick tones,  
>>> we nailed a great one on the first try at mic placement  
>>> (which I kinda have a good method for, but still, it's nice to nail it  
>>> right away, regardless!), and the drummer was very pleased on playback  
>>> of the test track, but nonetheless he happened to mention: "yeah, but  
>>> still, all you really need is an impact of some kind, right?",  
>>> indicating his belief that anything can be done once you have that...  
>>> which is not too far off, really.  
>>>  
>>> It USED to be that a musician would complain if they didn't hear  
>>> "their sound" coming through the monitors - now it's as if they

>>> don't care what it sounds like coming through the monitors, they  
>>> expect you to be able to make it that way after the fact. Likewise, I've  
>>> recorded singers that were VERY particular about  
>>> how their tracks sounded and WANTED to re-do a line because their pitch  
>>> was off (not usually the case with me at the board, because I'd have  
>>> them re-do it while they were still on the other side of the glass if it  
>>> was clear they missed it) or they didn't like a certain phrasing or  
>>> dynamic, now it's pretty much: "You can fix that, right?" lol  
>>>  
>>> Yes I can... and soon i'll be doing every part on your entire  
>>> album for you, too - you just go mix yourself a drink or grab a beer;  
>>> the bar's over there in the corner.  
>>>  
>>> lol  
>>>  
>>> Neil  
>>>  
>>>  
>>>  
>>> "Mr. Simplicity" <noway@jose.net> wrote:>I think it will eventually to  
>>> break  
>>> entire mixes into spectral/timbral blobs  
>>>> and we will be able to use it as a mastering tool.  
>>>>  
>>>> The world, as we know it is coming to an end. I was gonna start  
>>>> intensifying  
>>>  
>>>  
>>>> my practicing on guitar but now I don't even need to.  
>>>>  
>>>>  
>>>> "Rod Lincoln" <rlincoln@nospam.kc.rr.com> wrote in message  
>>>> news:47d7449b\$1@linux...  
>>>>  
>>>>> For me, the biggest question....will it work on group sing harmonies  
>>>>> (where  
>>>>> everyone was recorded at the same time) this is one of the biggest  
>>>>> things  
>>>>> I have noticed around here, singers just aren't used to nailing group  
>>>  
>>>  
>>>>> vocals  
>>>>> anymore.  
>>>>> Come to think of it...I really don't want to be able to fix that sort  
>>>  
>>> of  
>>>  
>>>>> stuff. Just do it right. It IS something I've noticed in the last few



>>>  
>>>  
>>>>> years  
>>>>> though.  
>>>>> Rod  
>>>>> "Mr. Simplicity" <noway@jose.net> wrote:  
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>>>>>> "Steve Helm" <shelm@radford.edu> wrote in message  
>>>>>> news:47d7319a\$1@linux...  
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>>>>>>> This is truly amazing!  
>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>> <http://www.celemony.com/cms/index.php?id=dna>  
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>>>>>>> Direct Note Access is a technology that makes the impossible  
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>>>>>>>  
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>>>>>>>> notes within polyphonic audio material. The unique access that  
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>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>>>

>>>>  
>>>

---

Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [Deej \[5\]](#) on Thu, 13 Mar 2008 23:50:43 GMT

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---

"Andy Pow" <digitalwavestudios@hotmail.com> wrote in message  
news:47d7d9f8\$1@linux...

>  
> I've always wondered what the guys who come up with this kinda stuff look  
> like....  
> Just as I expected! : )

and for years, I thought Jerry Garcia dead.

---

Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [Chris Latham](#) on Fri, 14 Mar 2008 00:12:24 GMT

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---

"NO EXTRA CHARGE"?

I work by the hour. Even if it's possible, that kind of editing sure is  
tedious.

CL

"Mr. Simplicity" <noway@jose.net> wrote in message news:47d73aa9@linux...

> This is unbelievably cool on one level and sorta'  
> .....errrrrr.....I'm not really sure....scary maybe???.....on  
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Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [erlilo](#) on Fri, 14 Mar 2008 07:10:20 GMT

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---

Yeahhhhhhhhhhh, know it too well after "too much" Melodyne work to help  
clients out of problems for some years now;-)

Erling

"Gantt Kushner" <[ganttmann@comcast.net](mailto:ganttmann@comcast.net)> skrev i en meddelelse  
news:47d7fc77\$1@linux...

>  
> Yeah, but all those billable hours add up to a stiff neck, a case of  
> carpal  
> tunnel syndrome and a hole in your spiritual stomach...  
>  
> Gantt

---

---

Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [rick](#) on Fri, 14 Mar 2008 09:30:50 GMT

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---

can't be, i heard him playing on the radio yesterday followed by  
elvis.

On Thu, 13 Mar 2008 17:50:43 -0600, "Mr. Simplicity" <[noway@jose.net](mailto:noway@jose.net)>  
wrote:

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>"Andy Pow" <[digitalwavestudios@hotmail.com](mailto:digitalwavestudios@hotmail.com)> wrote in message  
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Subject: Re: Direct Note Access: Check out this amazing video from Melodyne  
Posted by [AlexPlasko](#) on Sun, 16 Mar 2008 00:40:02 GMT

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---

why the release in October? looks ready now to me.

"Dedric Terry" <dterry@keyofd.net> wrote in message  
news:C3FCBBE9.12E73%dterry@keyofd.net...

> Wow. That's pretty cool. Remixing just took on a new meaning....

>

> "yeah, you want the Vladimir Horowitz performance of a Mozart Piano Sonata  
> in C major converted to Hungarian minor? no prob..."

>

> On 3/11/08 7:53 PM, in article 47d73aa9@linux, "Mr. Simplicity"

> <noway@jose.net> wrote:

>

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