Subject: listening material.....
Posted by thesandbox1 on Tue, 29 Nov 2011 18:17:00 GMT
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I always like to hear what people are working on so here are a couple of working files into the first true metal album I have worked on. Just got all the instruments finally finished last weekend so here are a couple of those.

File Attachments

1) nothing inst only mix A.mp3, downloaded 266 times
2) this time instr mix 1.mp3, downloaded 214 times

Subject: Re: listening material.....
Posted by Wayne on Thu, 01 Dec 2011 23:37:00 GMT
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Nice

Subject: Re: listening material.....
Posted by thesandbox1 on Sun, 18 Dec 2011 17:49:11 GMT
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a few more on the opposite end of the spectrum from this week from singer/songwriter Ken Englert....a couple instrumental and a couple songs he wrote for each of his daughters weddings....

File Attachments

1) 04 Kilbuck Creek.mp3, downloaded 243 times
2) 02 Journey of Faith.mp3, downloaded 198 times
3) 01 Untitled #1.mp3, downloaded 255 times
4) 03 One Heart.mp3, downloaded 327 times

Subject: Re: listening material.....
Posted by Wayne on Wed, 21 Dec 2011 22:31:55 GMT
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Really nice. 1 and 4 have extremely nice tonal and presence. And your playing is sweet, calm and passionate.

What did you do to get that short delay to fills out the stereo field so nicely? And what was the acoustic you played? Sounds like a Taylor but could be a Gibson or even a Martin. Is it an internal pickup or did you mic it?

Great work. Everybody should take a listen.

Wayne

Subject: Re: listening material.....
Posted by thesandbox1 on Thu, 22 Dec 2011 02:51:53 GMT
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Thanks Wayne....wasn't me playing...just capturing

I usually double track guitars whether in a full mix or by themselves and also stereo mics. The guitar was a Yamaha and I really need to ask the guy what model because it is one of the best sounding guitars going in that I can remember. I used an x/y stereo setup about 18 inches in front of the guitar with a MXL V69(with modded tube) towards the sound hole and a AKG 451EB facing the fretboard. Also used just a touch of Peluso 2247 room mic and a touch of direct from his pickup to get a bit of the attack which helped place the image. I think I used an API 512 on one mic and a BAE 1023 on the other just slightly 4:1 compressed with a distressor on one and 1176 on the other.
So....with the stereo mics and the parts doubled and some good steady playing I was able to get what I did. Just got all the vocals done on about half of that metal album too this weekend and was pleased with it so might post more of that soon and the I start after the first of the year with a female artist that we are going to try and go towards a jazz/funk/rb sound.....should be fun!

Subject: Re: listening material.....
Posted by Wayne on Thu, 22 Dec 2011 17:59:13 GMT
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Hi Matt,

Thanks, I appreciate the info. Hope you have a wonderful "Christmas and a joyous new year. Then back to work . . .

Wayne

Subject: Re: listening material.....
Posted by Mike Bloomer on Tue, 27 Dec 2011 20:43:36 GMT
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Nice job on all! The acoustic guitar was clear on the high end while still being warm. The metal stuff has a nice big sound. And it all sounded good on my crappy computer speakers!

Subject: Re: listening material.....
Posted by thesandbox1 on Thu, 01 Mar 2012 00:05:36 GMT

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Songwriter Demo
Here is good before and after example when a local songwriter decided to record her first song this week. Link to her song before production...
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ev-BJDT3Y1E&feature=relmf u

Myself-
Drums done with Supperior Drummer
Bass via keyboard patch
keys/strings/organ

Songwriter-
acoustic and vocals

Other player-
Elec Guitars

File Attachments

1) One More Chance MASTER E mp3.mp3, downloaded 208 times

Subject: Re: listening material.....
Posted by thesandbox1 on Thu, 01 Mar 2012 18:23:49 GMT
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okay.....for anyone who listened I have a question for you and for others about dealing with rookies. She loved the song and today I get a call saying she wants to add more pizazz as her husband can't put a pin on it but thinks it sounds like Lawrence Welk. So how do I politely tell her...after doing so before we started...that you can only do so much with a slow country ballad that is serious and deals with regret and she wants a snappy Shania Twain meets Amy Grant. She is really a beginner and I think I gave her more than anyone else ever would but she has eyes wider than her vocal range let alone chords she even knows. And yes...the old saying about polishing a turd comes to mind.

Subject: Re: listening material.....
Posted by Ted Gerber on Thu, 01 Mar 2012 20:02:25 GMT
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Well, leaving completely aside the issues of budget and your time, if they can point you to a song with similar tempo, instrumentation, key chord types and content that sounds more the way they like it, that would be where I would go.

If they can, then it would have been good to sort that out from the get go.

If they can't, then the point is made for them.

Ted

Subject: Re: listening material.....
Posted by Ted Gerber on Thu, 01 Mar 2012 20:05:48 GMT
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Specifically about more pizzazz, some sibilance on the vocals is good; shorten up the attack of the rhythm parts with compression (quick release times) or with SPL Transient Designer, and also shortening reverbs to tail off within quarter notes might help.

This after only a quick listen, which is all I could do at this time...

Ted

Subject: Re: listening material.....
Posted by thesandbox1 on Thu, 01 Mar 2012 20:09:32 GMT
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"Well, leaving completely aside the issues of budget and your time, if they can point you to a song with similar tempo, instrumentation, key chord types and content that sounds more the way they like it, that would be where I would go.

If they can, then it would have been good to sort that out from the get go.

If they can't, then the point is made for them."

BINGO! and please listen to her original as that really is the extent of her ability and talent. She played 5 songs for me and wanted to do this one first even after suggesting one or two of the others. Gave her a $300 budget per song as I felt songwriter demo is as far as it was worth taking.

Subject: Re: listening material.....
Posted by Ted Gerber on Thu, 01 Mar 2012 20:18:12 GMT
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OK I just had another quick listen on cheap speakers, which is sometimes really helpful.

To reduce the Lawrence effect, I would drop the pads and piano and replace that space with more

drums.

The mix is great, but if they're complaining it's too middle-of-the-road, I would beef up the drive of the rhythm. Normally on a tune like this, the lead vox would be loudest with the snare next in line, as loud as you can without obscuring words that are sung on the same beat as the snare hit.

Then the bass would balance with the kick, and the keys/pads etc would rest just at or below the bass...

At least that's what I've seen from some really good engineers, far beyond my experience.

Ted

Subject: Re: listening material.....
Posted by thesandbox1 on Thu, 01 Mar 2012 20:18:55 GMT
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and here is one other song of hers I found posted to get an idea of where we are coming from....

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xqNGc_WOL9w&feature=relmf u

Really want to try and help and encourage her but have a feeling it is time to be a little blunt. Her 12 year old daughter says she plays all her songs the same.

Subject: Re: listening material.....
Posted by Wayne on Thu, 01 Mar 2012 20:23:31 GMT
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Excellent idea Ted.

Listening to both (youtube and your mp3) I'd say you did an outstanding job. Your rhythm section and strings really do the song justice.

It's a long song, yet your kept it from going bla. Hat's off.

Wayne

Subject: Re: listening material.....
Posted by Mike Bloomer on Fri, 02 Mar 2012 18:16:44 GMT

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Nice tune. I would second beefing up the drums a bit. The strings could come back a bit. One of the things I do when balancing a mix is to gradually roll back the volume in the control room and listen to the order in which the instruments disappear as the volume goes below a whisper. The last ones to disappear are the loudest. On my computer speakers the last thing to go away is the strings and piano. The crucial point here is that on a ballad like this the last thing left should be the vocal... Not trying to criticize just trying to help.

Subject: Re: listening material.....
Posted by thesandbox1 on Fri, 02 Mar 2012 23:28:46 GMT
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Thanks for comments you guys...still like this site for a bit of personalized opinions. I usually do listen to stuff at different volumes but I like your suggestion Mike, about going all the way down to hear what goes away last...will give it a try but I am sure you will always end up with things in the upper freqs there as they require less dbs to hear interesting idea though. Not sure how much more I would bring her vocal up as it is if it does more than sit in the mix its not something you want to focus on. It was a comping nightmare after about 6 takes and still found auto tune to be my friend on this one. I think her husband just wanted his wife to come out sounding like an upbeat, sparkling, modern country star. I am going to have her sit on this awhile and let her hear some opinions other than her husband as
i got other stuff to catch up on. Just always want to make sure I am not missing something obvious. Thanks guys!

Subject: Re: listening material.....
Posted by thesandbox1 on Tue, 26 Jun 2012 23:44:47 GMT
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Haven't posted much in while but here are a couple songs that a local band did this week in between other projects...

"Rejoice" is an original of theirs.

"How He Loves" is a cover of one previously recorded by David Crowder....mix C is for them...mix A is just one I played around with some strings on that is a bit more "commercial"

Hope everyone is doing well and should have some more stuff soon of another Romania artist I am working on an album with.

File Attachments
1) how he loves mix C mp3.mp3, downloaded 207 times
2) how he loves master A.mp3, downloaded 149 times
3) rejoice mix B mp3.mp3, downloaded 312 times

Subject: Re: listening material.....
Posted by imajon on Wed, 11 Jul 2012 08:35:50 GMT
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Subject: Re: listening material.....
Posted by thesandbox1 on Wed, 29 Aug 2012 02:20:05 GMT
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Here's a few from an upcoming Romanian album I am trying to finish up...kind of an organic, jazzy, brit vibe...hopefully

File Attachments

1) pian 3 mix A mp3.mp3, downloaded 289 times
2) fa ceva mix A mp3.mp3, downloaded 201 times
3) un colt de rai mix A.mp3, downloaded 270 times
4) inviere premix.mp3, downloaded 195 times
5) jar sub mine mix A.mp3, downloaded 195 times
6) Frant mix B2.mp3, downloaded 175 times
7) sol mix A.mp3, downloaded 161 times