Subject: Reminder to Check all your cab's speakers when micing! Posted by Neil on Sat, 06 May 2006 16:43:29 GMT

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I'm recording a demo for this band called Lhasa Vector, and we started setting up & getting tones last night... kinda interesting the way we're doing the drums, but I'll get into that in a minute. Anyway, so we're setting up the primary guitarist's rig, and we're trying a Marshall 4x12 cabinet, and also a Mesa 4x12 cabinet... I have no idea of the speaker models in each, but he says he likes certain characteristics of both, so can we try a/b-ing them? I say sure, no prob... he has a Mesa triple rectumfryer head that has two speaker outs, so he can play through both cabs at the same time & we'll use the same kind of signal chain on each one to record a couple test files so he can hear the difference between the two cabinets.

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So, as we're playing back each track & I'm going back & forth between them: "Here's the Mesa... here's the Marshall... here's both... 'both' sounds pretty good.", I'm noticing that the Marshall speaker sounds really "soft" or "loose" - not just compared to the Mesa cab, but in it's own right. Now, he likes the way this is sounding, and he's saying he prefers it to the Mesa... like I said, it's a little softer in tone, a little less tight, and definitely "fuzzier" (though not "ready to be re-coned kinda fuzzy".

Anyway, I say: "Let's, just for grins, try something, OK?, I want to see what another speaker in that Marshall cab sounds like... so I take the mic off the Mesa, put it on the speaker right next to the one we're micing in the Marshall cab, and have him play again... lo & behold, the other speaker sounds different... not necessarily better, but definitely somewhat different. I asked him if he'd had to replace any of the speakers, or had any of the speakers re-coned lately & he said: "no, never"... bought the cabinet new, has had it for a few years, and has never had to have it worked on.

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Just thought I'd mention the drum thing too, because I recall a few months back someone had posted a question about had anyone done something like this & how did it work out, etc.

Neil

Subject: Re: Reminder to Check all your cab's speakers when micing! Posted by Bill Lorentzen on Sat, 06 May 2006 17:42:41 GMT

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Hmm, Bill

"Neil" <OIUOIU@OIU.com> wrote in message news:445cd231\$1@linux...

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Subject: Re: Reminder to Check all your cab's speakers when micing! Posted by neil[1] on Sat, 06 May 2006 17:57:17 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

I think it's just to get more of that even lower-end rumble & those groin-pounding frequencies than they could get if they didn't detune. You get the bass player using a 5-string & the guitars detuned to D or even C in some cases, and you just get this massive "THUD" when they do those chunky, muted things on the lower notes. And yeah, they use heavier strings for the most part... the lightest I've seen guys who play this style use are: 10 to 46 but some use hybrid sets with a 10-top/heavy bottom, and some just simply go a bit heavier all the way across; so it varies.

Neil

"Bill Lorentzen" <bill@lorentzen.ws> wrote:

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Subject: Re: Reminder to Check all your cab's speakers when micing! Posted by Don Nafe on Sat, 06 May 2006 19:13:48 GMT

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I really thought you were going to say the Marshall cab wasn't working and the mic was picking up bleed from the boogie...now that would have been funny

DOn

"Neil" <OIUOIU@OIU.com> wrote in message news:445cd231\$1@linux...

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Subject: Re: Reminder to Check all your cab's speakers when micing! Posted by neil[1] on Sat, 06 May 2006 20:23:33 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Oh, forgot to mention another reason... if they use a drop-D tuning, or a drop-C (tune the whole guitar down to D, except the lowest string, which is tuned to C), then you have a power chord fifth, just by laying one finger across the two lowest strings... makes it easy to do those really fast power chord riffs just on the two low strings.

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Subject: Re: Reminder to Check all your cab's speakers when micing! Posted by Nil on Sat, 06 May 2006 20:25:48 GMT

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Subject: Re: Reminder to Check all your cab's speakers when micing! Posted by Don Nafe on Sat, 06 May 2006 22:10:51 GMT

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Tighten down all the screws, put the cabs up on milk crates turn the amps to 11 and get the lead vocalist to tweak the mic placement...it'll be three days before his hearing comes back and in between then and now you might actually get some useable vocal takes

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Subject: Re: Reminder to Check all your cab's speakers when micing! Posted by jef knight[1] on Sun, 07 May 2006 16:14:01 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

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------010600010704040600020106

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1; format=flowed

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lol...I thought *I* invented that trick Don....

j

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This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

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<br>
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<blockquote cite="mid445d1e12$1@linux" type="cite">
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class="moz-txt-link-freetext" href="news:445d064c$1@linux">news:445d064c$1@linux</a>...
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class="moz-txt-link-freetext" href="news:445cd231$1@linux">news:445cd231$1@linux</a>...
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Subject: Re: Reminder to Check all your cab's speakers when micing! Posted by Don Nafe on Sun, 07 May 2006 18:35:50 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

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This is a multi-part message in MIME format.
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charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
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I'll steal...oops...I mean borrow from anybody, I'm not proud

Don

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"jef knight" <thestudio@allknightmusic.com> wrote in message =
news:445e1bee@linux...
 lol...I thought *I* invented that trick Don....
 Don Nafe wrote:=20
Tighten down all the screws, put the cabs up on milk crates turn the =
amps to=20
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11 and get the lead vocalist to tweak the mic placement...it'll be three =

days before his hearing comes back and in between then and now you might =

actually get some useable vocal takes

heehehehehe

Don

"Neil" <IUOIU@OIU.com> wrote in message news:445d064c\$1@linux...
That would've been a LOT of bleed! But possible, I s'pose.

Anyway, these guys are getting ready to head over shortly, so I'd better go get set up for some more low-end riffage. lol

Neil

"Don Nafe" <dnafe@magma.ca> wrote:

I really thought you were going to say the Marshall cab wasn't = working and

the mic was picking up bleed from the boogie...now that would have = been

funny

DOn

"Neil" <OIUOIU@OIU.com> wrote in message news:445cd231\$1@linux...

I'm recording a demo for this band called Lhasa Vector, and we started setting up & getting tones last night... kinda interesting the way we're doing the drums, but I'll get into that in a minute. Anyway, so we're setting up the primary guitarist's rig, and we're trying a Marshall 4x12 cabinet, and also a Mesa 4x12 cabinet... I have no idea of the speaker models in each, but he says he likes certain characteristics of both, so can we try a/b-ing them? I say sure, no prob... he has a Mesa triple rectumfryer head that has two speaker outs, so he can play through both cabs at the same time & we'll use the same kind of signal chain on each one to record a couple test files so he can hear the difference between the two cabinets.

So, we record him playing a bit, each cabinet mic'ed with an Audix i5 going through a channel on the Focusrite Red-8... the Mesa cab is definitely somewhat louder than the Marshall - not by tons, but it's apparent. It's also brighter & tighter. So, as we're playing back each track & I'm going back & forth between them: "Here's the Mesa... here's the Marshall... here's both... 'both' sounds pretty good.", I'm noticing that the

Marshall speaker sounds really "soft" or "loose" - not just compared to the Mesa cab, but in it's own right. Now, he likes the way this is sounding, and he's saying he prefers it to the Mesa... like I said, it's a little softer in tone, a little less tight, and definitely "fuzzier" (though not "ready to be re-coned kinda fuzzy".

Anyway, I say: "Let's, just for grins, try something, OK?, I want to see what another speaker in that Marshall cab sounds like... so I take the mic off the Mesa, put it on the speaker right next to the one we're micing in the Marshall cab, and have him play again... lo & behold, the other speaker sounds different... not necessarily better, but definitely somewhat different. I asked him if he'd had to replace any of the speakers, or had any of the speakers re-coned lately & he said: "no, never"... bought the cabinet new, has had it for a few years, and has never had to have it worked on.

Bottom line, the other speaker is a little bit tighter-sounding & less "fuzzy" than the first one - there is absolutely no perceiveable difference in volume between them, and the waveforms are right at the same levels; and in fact, when I threw one mic out of phase for a second while he was playing, they nulled to the point where I couldn't hear it at all, but there's definitely a difference in tone.

In any event, he likes the sound of the combination of the two speakers, so that's what we're going with, but my point is: CHECK ALL THE SPEAKERS! I know there's been times when I've done this, and also times when I've mic'ed up a cab, said: "He-EEYYY that sounds pretty good right there!" and gone with it... I wonder if I had checked all the speakers in any of those events, we might have ended up saying: "DAAAAAMN, that's even BETTER!"

My only regret at this stage is that the other guitar player really liked that i5/Mucusrite Red combination he was hearing, but unfortunately, I only have two i5's, and two channels of "red". We didn't dial in his sounds last night because at first he said he wanted to do his parts as overdubs once the first guitar was laid down, but as we were wrapping up for the evening, he changed his mind & now wants to do them at the same time. I have other mics & pres, of course, but I dunno if we're gonna get something he's happy with now that he's heard that particular combination... the saving grace might be that although he's got the same kind of amp head as the first guy, he'll be using the Mesa cab, and he says his overall tone is different from the first guy's too... he's trying to fit into

the frequency range between the bass & the first guitar. Since these guys de-tune a step & a half, that's gonna be a pretty low tonal range... I'm thinking maybe I wish I had another TLM-103 at this point, too LOL if he's going that low I might need something like that for his tone, just so it's not a big, muddy, mess! I guess we'll find out today (fingers crossed).

Anyway, I said I'd mention the drum thing 'cause it's kinda different... the drummer loves his Roland E-kit, which he incorporates with some live cymbals, as well. So we're using 3 live cymbals, plus live hi-hats, 3 e-kit cymbals, and the ekit for kick, snare, and 4 toms (one tom pad plugged into the hi-hat trigger port, with the brain reprogrammed to strike a floor tom MIDI note instead of a hi-hat MIDI note). We're micing the hat with an Earthworks TC-30 (tried a Rode NT-5 too, but the Earthworks won out by a large margin due to being less midrangey, having a ton more "air"; and also being an omni, and as a result, picking up more room ambience). OH's are TLM-103's, and no, you can't hear the "thwack" on the pads at all once you get the audio from the e-kit going. The downside to all this is that the e-kit only has stereo outs, so we're tracking the MIDI output as well so we can go back & re-trigger individual tracks for kick, snare, etc for mixing purposes. So, the stereo outs that are being recorded for the time being could be considered "scratch" drums, I guess. lol

Just thought I'd mention the drum thing too, because I recall a few months back someone had posted a question about had anyone done something like this & how did it work out, etc.

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anybody, I'm=20
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<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2>Don</FONT></DIV>
<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2></FONT>&nbsp;</DIV>
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 wrote in message <A=20
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thought *I*=20
 invented that trick Don....<br/>
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href=3D"mailto:IUOIU@OIU.com"><IUOIU@OIU.com&gt;</A> wrote in message =
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href=3D"news:445d064c$1@linux">news:445d064c$1@linux</A>...
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