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Subject: Tomorrow Should be Interesting  
Posted by [Neil](#) on Sat, 04 Nov 2006 03:22:49 GMT  
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Recording a small demo project for a female singer, just a couple of songs with acoustic piano & voice. Since I don't have an acoustic piano, I'll do the mix here, but we're going to be doing it out at my friend's studio in this room:

<http://www.sonicranch.com/sta4tracktoproom.html>

Probably going to use 414's on the Piano & my Earthworks TC-30 Omnis for room mics, but the most interesting part will be a/b-ing the following mics on vocals:

- 1.) A Stephen Paul-modded U-67 with the submicron diaphragm
- 2.) A Soundelux 251-C
- 3.) A Mojave MA-200
- 4.) A pure vintage c-12 if I can get them to break one out

If I can get a few worthwhile lines on each mic, I'll post some clips & signal chain details.

Neil

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Subject: Re: Tomorrow Should be Interesting  
Posted by [Robert Arsenault](#) on Sat, 04 Nov 2006 03:39:41 GMT  
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Wow, what a place man....!!!

> <http://www.sonicranch.com/sta4tracktoproom.html>

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Subject: Re: Tomorrow Should be Interesting  
Posted by [AlexPlasko](#) on Sat, 04 Nov 2006 04:26:35 GMT  
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I wonder what that complex cost. I want one!maybe if i win powerball.....

"Robert Arsenault" <studiomanitou@gmail.com> wrote in message news:454c08f3\$1@linux...

> Wow, what a place man....!!!

>

>> <http://www.sonicranch.com/sta4tracktoproom.html>

>

>

---

Subject: Re: Tomorrow Should be Interesting  
Posted by [animix](#) on Sat, 04 Nov 2006 05:56:29 GMT  
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.....so you're going to have a day of disgusting sluttage, it seems.

Do they have any vintage cowbells there?

;o)

"Neil" <OIUOIU@OIU.com> wrote in message news:454bf979\$1@linux...

>

> Recording a small demo project for a female singer, just a  
> couple of songs with acoustic piano & voice. Since I don't have  
> an acoustic piano, I'll do the mix here, but we're going to be  
> doing it out at my friend's studio in this room:

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>

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> Neil

---

Subject: Re: Tomorrow Should be Interesting  
Posted by [Don Nafe](#) on Sat, 04 Nov 2006 16:26:39 GMT  
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---

Very cool studio...I am jealous

Don

"Neil" <OIUOIU@OIU.com> wrote in message news:454cb412\$1@linux...

>  
> "alex plasko" <alex.plasko@snet.net> wrote:  
>  
>>I wonder what that complex cost. I want one!maybe if i win  
>>powerball.....  
>  
> Man you don't wanna know how much, I'm sure... he's added to it  
> over the years. It started out as a bomb shelter back in the  
> cold-war (most of the rooms are partially underground) with  
> just the space that's now this room:  
>  
> <http://www.sonicranch.com/sta5trackmainroom.html>  
>  
> ...and also what's now this room:  
>  
> <http://www.sonicranch.com/sta1controlroom.html>  
>  
> Then at various times it was a wine cellar & chinchilla  
> hatchery (hence when anything used to mysteriously go wrong  
> during a session we'd refer to it as "the spirit of the  
> chinchillas" causing it to happen). Then when Tony converted it  
> into a studio it was just the control room, the main room &  
> that upper room where the piano is. Later, when I was still  
> working there, is when he added the back room, that you can see  
> through the main room in the pictures on the first link, above  
> and also in a wider shot, here:  
>  
> <http://www.sonicranch.com/sta7trackbackroom.html>  
>  
> Then, maybe about five years ago, IIRC, he added this room:  
>  
> <http://www.sonicranch.com/sta6trackstoneroom.html>  
>  
> Then, in another building on the complex, added these areas:  
>  
> <http://www.sonicranch.com/stb1cntrlroom.html>  
>  
> <http://www.sonicranch.com/stb2trackingroom.html>  
>  
> Then finally 2-3 years ago, started building this space:  
>  
> <http://www.sonicranch.com/bigtrackingroom1.html>  
>  
> Which kinda sat fully-constructed, but unfinished inside for  
> awhile - although they still used it for tracking an occasional  
> large thing or two, like a choir once, that I'm aware of, &  
> various other stuff if they needed a supplemental space (they  
> fed the signals into the main control room, since that area

> didn't have one of it's own 'til recently). Then finally, a few  
> months ago, he finished off the control room for that space,  
> which is this:  
>  
> <http://www.sonicranch.com/neve1console.html>  
>  
> <http://www.sonicranch.com/neve2monitoring.html>  
>  
> <http://www.sonicranch.com/neve3outboarde.html>  
>  
> <http://www.sonicranch.com/neve4controlroom.html>  
>  
> <http://www.sonicranch.com/neve4controlroom2.html>  
>  
>  
> Not bad for a little studio out in the middle of nowhere, huh?  
>  
> Neil

---

---

Subject: Re: Tomorrow Should be Interesting  
Posted by [Neil](#) on Sat, 04 Nov 2006 16:38:58 GMT  
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---

"alex plasko" <[alex.plasko@snet.net](mailto:alex.plasko@snet.net)> wrote:

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<http://www.sonicranch.com/sta5trackmainroom.html>

....and also what's now this room:

<http://www.sonicranch.com/sta1controlroom.html>

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<http://www.sonicranch.com/stb2trackingroom.html>

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<http://www.sonicranch.com/neve2monitoring.html>

<http://www.sonicranch.com/neve3outboarde.html>

<http://www.sonicranch.com/neve4controlroom.html>

<http://www.sonicranch.com/neve4controlroom2.html>

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---

Subject: Re: Tomorrow Should be Interesting  
Posted by [AlexPlasko](#) on Sat, 04 Nov 2006 16:44:43 GMT  
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is the 1700 acre parcel his too?man it must be nice having rich freinds

"Neil" <OIUOIU@OIU.com> wrote in message news:454cb412\$1@linux...

>

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>

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>>powerball.....

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>

> <http://www.sonicranch.com/neve4controlroom.html>

>

> <http://www.sonicranch.com/neve4controlroom2.html>

>

>

> Not bad for a little studio out in the middle of nowhere, huh?

>

> Neil

---

Subject: Re: Tomorrow Should be Interesting  
Posted by [neil\[1\]](#) on Sat, 04 Nov 2006 17:54:31 GMT

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"alex plasko" <[alex.plasko@snet.net](mailto:alex.plasko@snet.net)> wrote:

>is the 1700 acre parcel his too?man it must be nice having rich freinds

Hey now, it's not like I get to use this place for free - he cuts me a little break, yeah, but it's a business, you know? And I gotta give him credit, he keeps the place booked.. when I was asking about any weekend times coming up that might be available, it was: "Well, we have this coming weekend, and then nothing 'til February". How many studios can say that? So yeah, he's got a few bucks, but it's not like this studio is just a giant toybox for him, either.

Neil

---

Subject: Re: Tomorrow Should be Interesting  
Posted by [Tom Bruhl](#) on Mon, 06 Nov 2006 07:49:56 GMT

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This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

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Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Neil,  
So how did it go?  
Tom

"Neil" <IOUOIU@OIU.com> wrote in message news:454cc5c7\$1@linux...

"alex plasko" <alex.plasko@snet.net> wrote:  
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freinds

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Neil

I choose Polesoft Lockspam to fight spam, and you?

<http://www.polesoft.com/refer.html>

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charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

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<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2>So how did it go?</FONT></DIV>
<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2>Tom</FONT></DIV>
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Subject: Re: Tomorrow Should be Interesting  
Posted by [Neil](#) on Mon, 06 Nov 2006 15:22:30 GMT  
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---

Tom, it went pretty well, thanks! I do have a few clips of some a/b comparisons on the various mics, but before I post them I want to let this lady hear them & ask her if she minds if I do so... she was just kind of warming up still when we did the test takes of a few lines each, but she was "in-voice" enough to be able to tell which worked best on her voice.

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great balance between the lo & hi strings; so that was nice not having to futz around repositioning things. We used 4 mics on the piano itself: we stuck a stereo bar on each of 2 mic stands & used a 414B-ULS & a B.L.U.E. Bluebird (I picked up a couple of these recently) next to each other on each stereo bar, and my Earthworks TC-30 Omnis in an ORTF pattern for room/ambient mics... not too far away - about 5 or 6 feet back from the end of the piano and slightly off to the left, not quite 45 degrees, I'd say. ISA-110's on all of them, just tracked flat with no EQ. Sounds really nice with all 6 channels just running at equal levels.

I was able to get them to break out one of the C-12's, another was being used by the guys from this band, who are finishing up their first CD out there now:

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Anyway, we ended up being able to a/b the Stephen Paul-modded U-67, my Mojave MA-200 (which DID sound a lot like the -67, except with less proximity effect), the C-12, and a Soundelux E251-C that I snagged a great demo deal on just this past week (still a lot of freakin' money though - not sure if I'm \$2,100 worth of "thrilled" on this mic yet).

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When we got the next song, though, that mic was not working at ALL - different key, different inflections... had her sing a couple of lines again into the 251-C & the C-12; the 251-C was working better on her voice than on the first song, but the C-12 through a 1073 was better still - that nice, silky-just-short-of-zingy high end is what did it for that tune.

Will definitely post some clips of the test files if she doesn't mind.

Neil

"Tom Bruhl" <arpeggio@comcast.net> wrote:

>  
>  
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>Tom  
>  
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>  
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><META content=3D"MSHTML 6.00.2800.1400" name=3DGENERATOR>  
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> =  
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>x=20  
> plasko" <<A =  
>href=3D"mailto:alex.plasko@snet.net">alex.plasko@snet.net</A>>=20  
> wrote:<BR>>is the 1700 acre parcel his too?man it must be nice =  
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>href=3D"http://www.polesoft.com/refer.html">http://www.polesoft.com/refer=  
  
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Posted by [Tom Bruhl](#) on Mon, 06 Nov 2006 16:46:39 GMT  
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This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

-----=\_NextPart\_000\_0107\_01C70199.387BA5C0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Neil,

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>
>I choose Polesoft Lockspam to fight spam, and you?
>http://www.polesoft.com/refer.html =20
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><DIV><FONT face=3D3DArial size=3D3D2>So how did it go?</FONT></DIV>
><DIV><FONT face=3D3DArial size=3D3D2>Tom</FONT></DIV>
><DIV><FONT face=3D3DArial size=3D3D2></FONT> </DIV>
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> in message <A=3D20
> =3D
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>href=3D3D"news:454cc5c7$1 @linux">news:454cc5c7$1 @linux</A>...</DIV><BR>="=
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>x=3D20
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> wrote:<BR>>is the 1700 acre parcel his too?man it must be nice =3D
>having rich=3D20
> freinds<BR><BR>Hey now, it's not like I get to use this place for =
free
=3D
>-=3D20
> he<BR>cuts me a little break, yeah, but it's a business, you =3D
>know?<BR>And I=3D20
> gotta give him credit, he keeps the place booked.. when I<BR>was =
=3D
>asking about=3D20
> any weekend times coming up that might be<BR>available, it was: =
"Well,
=3D
>we have=3D20
> this coming weekend, and then<BR>nothing 'til February". How many =

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=3D
>studios can=3D20
> say that? So yeah,<BR>he's got a few bucks, but it's not like this =
=3D
>studio is=3D20
> just a<BR>giant toybox for him, either.<BR><BR>Neil</BLOCKQUOTE>
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>and=3D20
>you?<BR><A=3D20
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</HEAD>
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```
<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2>Neil,</FONT></DIV>
```

```
<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2>Good stuff!&nbsp; I'll be =
waiting.</FONT></DIV>
```

```
<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2>Tom</FONT></DIV>
```

```
<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2></FONT>&nbsp;</DIV>
```

```
<DIV>&nbsp;</DIV>
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<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2></FONT>&nbsp;</DIV>
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in message <A=20
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=
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href=3D"news:454f4526$1@linux">news:454f4526$1@linux</A>...</DIV><BR>Tom,=
it=20
```

```
went pretty well, thanks! I do have a few clips of<BR>some a/b =
```

comparisons on=20  
the various mics, but before I post<BR>them I want to let this lady =  
hear them=20  
& ask her if she<BR>minds if I do so... she was just kind of =  
warming up=20  
still when<BR>we did the test takes of a few lines each, but =  
she<BR>was=20  
"in-voice" enough to be able to tell which worked best on<BR>her=20  
voice.<BR><BR>Piano-wise, we got lucky & nailed it first time as =  
far=20  
as<BR>placement goes... no phasing problems or anything like =  
that,<BR>great=20  
balance between the lo & hi strings; so that was nice =  
not<BR>having to=20  
futz around repositioning things. We used 4 mics on<BR>the piano =  
itself: we=20  
stuck a stereo bar on each of 2 mic<BR>stands & used a 414B-ULS =  
& a=20  
B.L.U.E. Bluebird (I picked up a<BR>couple of these recently) next to =  
each=20  
other on each stereo<BR>bar, and my Earthworks TC-30 Omnis in an ORTF =  
pattern=20  
for<BR>room/ambient mics... not too far away - about 5 or 6 feet =  
back<BR>from=20  
the end of the piano and slightly off to the left, not<BR>quite 45 =  
degrees,=20  
I'd say. ISA-110's on all of them, just<BR>tracked flat with no EQ. =  
Sounds=20  
really nice with all 6 channels<BR>just running at equal =  
levels.<BR><BR>I was=20  
able to get them to break out one of the C-12's, another<BR>was being =  
used by=20  
the guys from this band, who are finishing up<BR>their first CD out =  
there=20  
now:<BR><BR><A=20  
=  
href=3D"http://www.myspace.com/thisworldfair">http://www.myspace.com/this=  
worldfair</A><BR><BR>Anyway,=20  
we ended up being able to a/b the Stephen Paul-modded<BR>U-67, my =  
Mojave=20  
MA-200 (which DID sound a lot like the -67,<BR>except with less =  
proximity=20  
effect), the C-12, and a Soundelux<BR>E251-C that I snagged a great =  
demo deal=20  
on just this past week<BR>(still a lot of freakin' money though - not =  
sure if=20  
I'm \$2,100<BR>worth of "thrilled" on this mic yet).<BR><BR>For =  
consistency's=20

sake, we used Neve 1073's on all of them for<BR>the comparison tests, =  
and for=20  
the key & style in which she was<BR>singing the test takes, the =  
S.P. U-67=20  
was the best (mainly for<BR>the warmth factor - the C-12 didn't have =  
enough=20  
"body", the<BR>Soundelux emphasized the midrange too much, and the =  
MA-200=20  
was<BR>actually a close second, but the difference between that one=20  
&<BR>the S.P. -67 was that the promiximity effect won out in=20  
this<BR>case). Interestingly enough, however, when we got into =  
the<BR>first=20  
song itself (they ended up doing two) when she got to<BR>some loud =  
parts, it=20  
was sounding a little ragged on the<BR>high's... not fizzy, just some =  
kind of=20  
"something not right",<BR>kind of ragged up there so we switched =  
preamps to my=20  
Neve<BR>Portico & that smoothed it out. <BR><BR>When we got the =  
next song,=20  
though, that mic was not working at<BR>ALL - different key, different=20  
inflections... had her sing a<BR>couple of lines again into the 251-C =  
&=20  
the C-12; the 251-C was<BR>working better on her voice than on the =  
first song,=20  
but the<BR>C-12 through a 1073 was better still - that nice,=20  
silky-just-<BR>short-of-zingy high end is what did it for that=20  
tune.<BR><BR>Will definitely post some clips of the test files if=20  
she<BR>doesn't mind.<BR><BR>Neil<BR><BR><BR><BR>"Tom Bruhl" &<A=20  
href=3D"mailto:arpeggio@comcast.net">arpeggio@comcast.net</A>&=20  
wrote:<BR>&<BR>&<BR>&Neil,<BR>&<BR>&So how did it=20  
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Subject: Re: Tomorrow Should be Interesting  
Posted by [volthause](#) on Wed, 08 Nov 2006 23:37:29 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

I think I've just found the location I want to die in. Holy crap that's a nice place.

-scott v.

"Neil" <OIUOIU@OIU.com> wrote in news:454bf979\$1@linux:

> <http://www.sonicranch.com/sta4tracktoproom.html>

> Neil

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