Planning Documentation

Through the year we are to run different projects that cover a vary of different skills within the umbrella of Sound Production, the first being a recording session. In groups of no more than 5 people we are to record a musician/band/ or ourselves performing either a cover or an original song. We are to work together over the different tasks involved, before then mixing and submitting independently. During the project we understand it is important to get critique of our work (and others) in order to provide a track to the best of our ability. During the actual process of recording and the components to the recording, we are to have MIDI within the track which has to be implemented through Ableton cross Pro Tools Re-wire.

The timescale of the Project is roughly 4 weeks from the date of being given this brief. This generally is enough time to plan, implement, mix and finalize the project before submission.

In the proper recording, everyone will play something whether it’s live recorded over or done after the initial recording, and overdubbed Midi or audio recording. In the group 3 people will be playing guitar/bass (Electric, Acoustic guitar and Bass), another will be keeping the base rhythm of the track with a Cajón, and lastly strings will be overdubbed on a MIDI format onto the track.

After booking a possible 8 hour period in the studio (9am-5pm), the group will take the time leading up to our booking to rehearse and make ourselves knowledgeable of how the song plays out/ how other people may perform it, and anyway to possibly add our own twist to the initial layout of the song – if we see fit.

Due to the timing and planning of how the project will play out depending solely on the time we can book the studio, we need to be aware of what we need to do in the 4 week timescale. The initial planning before recording, the recording itself, post production and then submission – along with making sure we have the necessary documentation. Preferably having the studio booked in the 2nd or 3rd week of the project would be perfect as we have enough time to plan beforehand, to make sure we know everything we need to know and makes the time within the studio more productive and spent well. During the recording we feel most things would be overdubbed as it makes it much easier for the people performing to see how each part plans out, and plays out. However given the time we have to record in the studio, the option to all play together and then possibly re-record anything that needed to be fixed through overdubbing is a possibility. On the recording of specifically the electrical equipment, we plan to send the flat signal through to be recorded from the D.I. box as well as a recorded output from an Aux track that holds a plugin called guitar rig.

The general recording of the session can run through the live room and the control room if we feel we want to change the Guitar and Bass on a D.I. as line inputs through the control room as opposed to the live room.

Due to the recording we plan to do, there are some limitations to putting out this track. If we had planned on recording an original song we would be fine to promote and share independently and be fine for earnings if that were the case, however since this is a previously recorded track and we just plan on doing a cover; all rights go to the original artist. If we were to promote this as our own song, and not just a cover of a song, as well as possibly earning off of the track – we would be breaching the conduct of Copyright and could be sued by the original label or artist if they were to find that work. If we state the song is solely a cover and is not being used for anything other than entertainment, and educational purposes – then sharing the track around should come at no concern or cost – obviously crediting the original performer.

Due to the scattering of timing that is likely to happen, if we were in a professional studio, there would be a cost incurred in the overall recording, and mixing of the track. Calculating this over the 4 week deadline (if counting the days we are available inside college as a base), and for £100 per hour starting from our initial recording date within the studio. It would come to around £2000 depending on how that time is spaced out. If it’s calculated by just the studio recording time it would be roughly £800 at the £100/h rate.

In terms of mixing, I’m unsure on what plugins and what take I’ll approach within the initial mix, as it depends solely on how the recording tracks out and sounds itself. If any component of the session sounds fine itself, a small bit of EQ might need to be added or nothing at all (possibly just levels set and a little automation). So it seems hard to explain and describe how the mixing will be set out at this planning stage. I do know for sure mixing and building the session up, testing it out in an edit suite and mixing at a reasonable level is a key factor into being cautious of damage to your ears, so that’s important.

At the end of the mixing and bounce (to WAV) I then would upload to Soundcloud and ready to present onto my WIX page along with any relevant paperwork.