Recording Project 2

For the second ‘monthly’ projects, as new groups we are to record a new track between ourselves or bring an external band/musician in, however we are to record a track in a specific genre; including key attributes to the genre in terms of instrumentation and producing techniques.

As a group we decided to record between ourselves once again to save time, and we decided on a song under the Grunge umbrella. We are set to record ‘Smells Like Teen Spirit’ by Nirvana as it seems a defining song under that genre. Although the way we plan to record includes instrumentation that wouldn’t necessarily be considered under the genre of ‘grunge’ as the aspects to the musical traits are very heavy and dirty; guitars heavily distorted with fuzz, very reliant on general instrumentation such as Guitar, Bass, Drums and Guitar (whether the instrumentation is electric or acoustic doesn’t come as a concern, as ‘Grunge’ bands may happen to perform acoustic songs on the off-chance). Our song includes two different sounding guitars, drums, bass and a synth – the bass may be done through the synth/drum machine which isn’t would then have to be considered a twist on the grunge genre. However this is yet to be decided at the current point.

During the recording we need to produce the instrumentation and general feel for the original song to reflect the aspects of the band and specific genre. We plan on using a 9-5 session to take care of most, if not all, of the parts that need to be recorded. Thus saying that, plans can change and we may need to come back into the studio at some point if we run out of time, or come back to parts and don’t think they fit – or they could be better. This obviously is subject to opinion during the mixing stage to come. Taking into account the factor that we could be recording in a professional studio – implementing recording fee of £100 p/h – our general 9-5 recording session would be under the cost of roughly £800.

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Due to the feel of the track we’re recording, the implementation of Rewire in this project wouldn’t suit – however the whole group has an understanding of how to setup and use Ableton as Rewire controller for Pro Tools efficiently. Similarly, we are to use a hardware effect during the mixing stage and ‘print’ the output (recording the output of the specific hardware we use). As a group we plan to use a compressor in one of the studios after recording to compress any part of the track that we deem needs it – although collectively we feel the drums may be a factor into that.