Project #3
Sequencing

Due: Wed., Dec. 8, 11:59 pm

CHOOSE ONE of the following project options to execute:

1. Create a Reason+ sequence
2. Create a Ableton Live sequence
3. Create a Logic Pro sequence
4. With instructor permission, create a sequence using another tool; e.g., FL Studio, Reaper, etc.

Guidelines

Compose, *transcribe*, or *arrange* a 1-3 minute composition using a sequencer such as Reason+ (Mac/Win), Ableton Live (Mac/Win), or Logic Pro (Mac). The use of imported MIDI data, or step sequencing, is encouraged for students who are new to sequencing. Submit a "paper" (2-3 pages, typed, double-spaced, bullet-point style)[1] that provides a detailed explanation of the *technical* (i.e., your approach to instrumentation, effects, controller info., mixing, etc.) and *artistic choices* you made and why you made them.

Project requirements
1. Use <u>at least 4 different *instruments*</u> (e.g., piano, guitar, bass, drums).
2. Edit key velocity (maximize, humanize, etc.) values to create realistic-sounding instruments.
3. <u>Tweak instrument settings to taste</u>; i.e., do NOT use default settings.[2]
4. Add *effects* (e.g., delay, echo, compression, processing, etc.) to instruments and *reverb*.
5. Try to create a <u>professional-sounding audio image</u> using some of the techniques we discussed in class. (Pay particular attention to your master signal levels when you *bounce* the final mix.) Check the final bounce in Audacity (to make sure it has good L/R signal levels) and export it to a MP3 file.
6. You may use *loops* and *audio files*, but the project will ideally be focused on *MIDI editing*.
   Be sure to *quantize* and *humanize* MIDI data as appropriate.

Submission Guidelines

Paper
Write an informal 2-3 page(s) (typed, .docx, double spaced, bullet-point style) that describes your artistic and technical choices. Technical choices will, of course, vary from sequencer to sequencer. <u>Your sequence must have a *title*</u>. At the beginning of your paper, introduce your sequence by explaining what the *title* means and describing your *stylistic influences*.

Required File Submissions
Upload your .docx paper and a mp3 file of your final mix into the Blackboard assignment by the deadline.

Grading

- Followed project guidelines– 50%

- Supporting paper – 25%

- Creativity/Technique – 25%
  - Accomplished musical goals
  - Professional-sounding audio image (stereo image, use of pan, well-balanced mixing, full signal, no clipping, etc.)

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[1] Your paper may use a bullet-point approach.
[2] Advanced students will want to explore the use of *automation* of controller information to add *expressivity* to their work.)