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2/6/2019

Culmination Proposal: Foley Project

**Description**

My time in the Entertainment Technology program and NYC College of Technology has been a great learning experience - taking a range of classes from intro up to capstone courses. Audio and scenery were the focus tracks during this time, however sound was more my passion.

Sound for Multimedia was a class that I took several semesters ago where I was introduced to the art of foley acting and recording. It was fascinating but brief and was never afforded any time to experiment with it. There was a project that we conducted where we had to take sounds from a prerecorded library and add them to a silent video but it was not foley. So for my culmination project, I would like to create the opportunity to study, practice, and apply different methods of foley acting and recording to a silent film (“Maniac Chase”, 1904). Rather than pulling sounds from a library of recordings, the sounds would be interpreted and created from scratch making myself not only the actor, editor, and engineer but the sound designer as well.

This is definitely an ambitious, but achievable project. It will be a learning experience with bumps along the way I’m sure.

**Methods**

The starting phase will be to study the movie clip in order to identify all of the sounds that are needed second by second. Roughly 2-3 days will likely be needed to ensure all areas of the film are being examined. After identifying all sounds (or as many sounds as possible), research into different foley methods to replicate them. Materials will have to be gathered and trial and error processes will have to be conducted. Once recording sessions have commenced and editing begins a range of different headphones and speakers (i.e. in-earbuds, over the ear headphones, laptop speakers, professional speakers) will have to be utilized. This is to ensure that all sounds are being edited properly and that everything is coming out clear on all mediums.

**Project Deliverables**

* Sound Sheet
* Research notes
* Video recordings of foley process
* Photo archive of process
* Poster
* Presentation
* OpenLab Portfolio

**Required Resources**

Some of the resources I will need include wood, running water, a bathtub, a few different types of shoes or boots among other things. Different environments will need to be recorded as well since there is some running on dirt paths, walking over wooden planks, and a portion where the actors in the film seems to be in a type of jail cell. I am also hoping to utilize some of City Tech’s sound equipment. That will be determined upon meeting with an advisor.

A past City Tech student – Daniel Hui - has also been recruited to help with the sound and accompanying film that will need to take place.

**Budget**

The budget is tough to determine. It will definitely include a subscription to Pro Tools ($29.99/month). Beyond that it really is difficult to determine how much will be spent, however, it should be no more than $100.

**Expected Results**

By the end of the project I will be able to display the skills I have already learned as a student at City Tech. I also believe that I will have developed my sound skills. This will be a challenge for me but could start a whole new wave of creativity for myself.

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