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ENT 4499 - Culmination Project

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Culmination Project Proposal

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Project Description

      As I wrap up my degree in Entertainment Technology at City Tech, I have often thought about how much I have grown as an individual. The result of all the wisdom and passion from the ENT faculty has prepared me to join an industry that is growing and changing in many ways. In order to showcase the progress and development I have made, I decided to create a version of NPR's Tiny Desk Concert for my culmination project. In collaboration with the Stagecraft Club at City Tech, we have gathered students to help put on a performance and act as the technicians operating the equipment. My role is to be the performer while also showcasing my skills and abilities as a technician by designing the sound, lighting, and video for the entire production. I will manage several components such as microphone placements, recording, audio system, lighting, video recording, and post production.

Required resources

1. Access to ENT Department equipment

2. Classroom/Lab V-119 to set up and perform

3. Crew

4. Technical Advisement

Methods

The methods used to put this all together range from a combination of creating challenging

system diagrams to communication and delegation of tasks with crew members. The gear we

plan on using includes audio, lighting, and video equipment. These will include ENT

department's own in-house gear as well as my own which will be appropriate for the kind of

production we are doing. These include guitar amplifiers, sound mixers, cameras, and more.

Sound: The guitar I'm using is an Epiphone Casino combined with a Fender Champion

and Boss Katana. The output of the amps will be captured with an SM-58 and an AT-2020 using

different recording techniques. Alignment and placement of microphones will result in different

tonalities. For example, I will be placing the SM-58, a dynamic microphone, halfway between

the center and edge of the speaker cone on the Fender Champion. The tip of the mic faces

perpendicular to the cone, creating a bright and clear sound. On the Boss Katana, I will use the

AT-2020 cardioid condenser mic, placing it farther from the cone of the speaker to give it more

low end frequencies. Rather than having the tip of the AT-2020 be perfectly aligned with the

cone, I will use a 45 degree angle to cut down on the higher frequencies and give the sound more

body and low end. Furthermore, I'll have 2 additional SM-58's set up so that I can introduce

myself in the beginning, and the other so that I can capture the natural acoustic sound of the

guitar. I am using my DI Box so that I can send a clean signal to the mixer while also sending

another signal to the amps. I'll have to add a delay so that the DI and Amp signals are equal so that they don't create any phasing issues. The Yamaha O1V-96 will be used to mix levels well as send audio out into the cameras and into my DAW (Logic) to record.

Lighting: Since we are recording in V-119 Lighting Lab, we won't need to use the portable lighting kit. Instead, we will use the ETC Ion console to patch in and record scenes to use for each song. I will be compiling a list of the fixtures we used as well as their patching.

Video: We will be borrowing the JVC GY HM200 cameras. Although they are pro-sumer, they capture 4K video and will have audio coming from the mixers. TV Studio cameras are overkill for the scale of the production. Once we finish recording, I will enter into post production and edit all the footage with the best takes. This final cut will be uploaded to YouTube for everyone to see.

Project Deliverables

1. Equipment list

2. Crew list

3. Sound: System & Stage Diagrams

4. Lighting: System diagram, patch list

5. Video: Camera stage diagram

6. YouTube video of finished production

7. Poster

Schedule/Calendar (Subject to Change)

1/26 – 2/09: Topic research

2/09: Progress Report 2

2/20 – 2/23: Project proposal and agreement

2/27 - 3/2: Pre- Production (Set-list)

3/6 – 3/9: Crew Sign up and role assignment

3/13 – 3/31: Sound, lighting, video plots/diagrams. Meetings with faculty and revisions to projects.

4/19 – Record Date - V-119

4/22 - Post-Production Editing - Upload Final Cut

4/27 – Progress Report 3

5/4 – 5/11: Presentations

5/18 – Poster Session

Conclusion

This project is a way to express myself creatively and challenge myself technically. With everything that I have learned from my time at City Tech, I am confident that the project will be a valuable learning experience and something that I can proudly add to my portfolio. I have immense gratitude for the Stagecraft Club and crew members who have helped me put on a production that will hopefully be seen years from now as the beginning of a journey.