Cambridge Music Technology

The 5 Most Common Project-studio Recording Mistakes

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Snare Mic Choices



Absorption & Reflection For Tonal Change



A Drum-miking Template...

• <u>Snare:</u> use cardioid dynamic mic with presence peak (Shure SM57/58); use proximity effect for fuller sound and presence peak for attack; place mic 2cm from rim and 2-4cm above; angle mic across head.

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- <u>Cymbals</u>: use two overhead mics for stereo; place mics 1m above outside edges of cymbals on either side; use good cardioid condensers with flat and extended HF response; place mics for even cymbal pickup.

Snare Miking Distance – Audio Examples



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Snare Miking Angle – Audio Examples



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High Overhead Mics: A Case Study



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'Recording Secrets' Library Of Mic Positions

Featuring more than 450 comparison files across 20 different instruments



www.cambridge-mt.com/rs-Imp.htm

Spotlighting

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- Insufficient rejection null

Figure-eight Mics: Using The Rejection Null



- Spotlighting
- Proximity effect
- Inferior low-frequency response
- Prone to handling noise & plosive popping
- Off-axis coloration
- Insufficient rejection null
- Only one tonal option

Polar Patterns & Frequency Response: Neumann M49



One-room Band Recording: Case Study #1



One-room Band Recording: Case Study #2



One-room Band Recording: Case Study #3



Fence-sitting Masterpiece: Multi-miked Guitar



1) Ignoring the source.

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- 2) Clinging to miking templates.

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- 3) The cardioid reflex.
- 4) Spillphobia.
- 5) Deferring decisions.

'Recording Mistakes' Supporting Resources Site: <u>www.cambridge-mt.com/aes141-RecordingMistakes.htm</u>

- Download my seminar audio examples and slideshow.
- Remix the featured raw multitracks for yourself.
- Check out the Library of Mic Positions, plus lots of related further reading from Sound On Sound's free online article archive.



Project Studio Expo 2016 (AES 141st Convention) Supporting Resources For Download!

This page contains various additional resources to support my Project Studio Expo seminar 'The Five Most Common Project-studio Recording Mistakes' at the 141st AES convention in Los Angeles in September 2016. This site also hosts a huge range of free mixing and recording resources relating to my books, including the 'Mixing Secrets' Free Multitrack Download Library and the 'Recording Secrets' Library Of Microphone Positions. To stay up to date with the latest uploads to this site, sign up for my monthly 'Small-studio Secrets News' mail-out -- and if you have any follow-up questions about the seminar or these resources, don't hesitate to drop me a line!

