# MY SUMMER WORK

Music Production

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NSCG NEWCASTLE AND STAFFORD COLLEGES GROUP

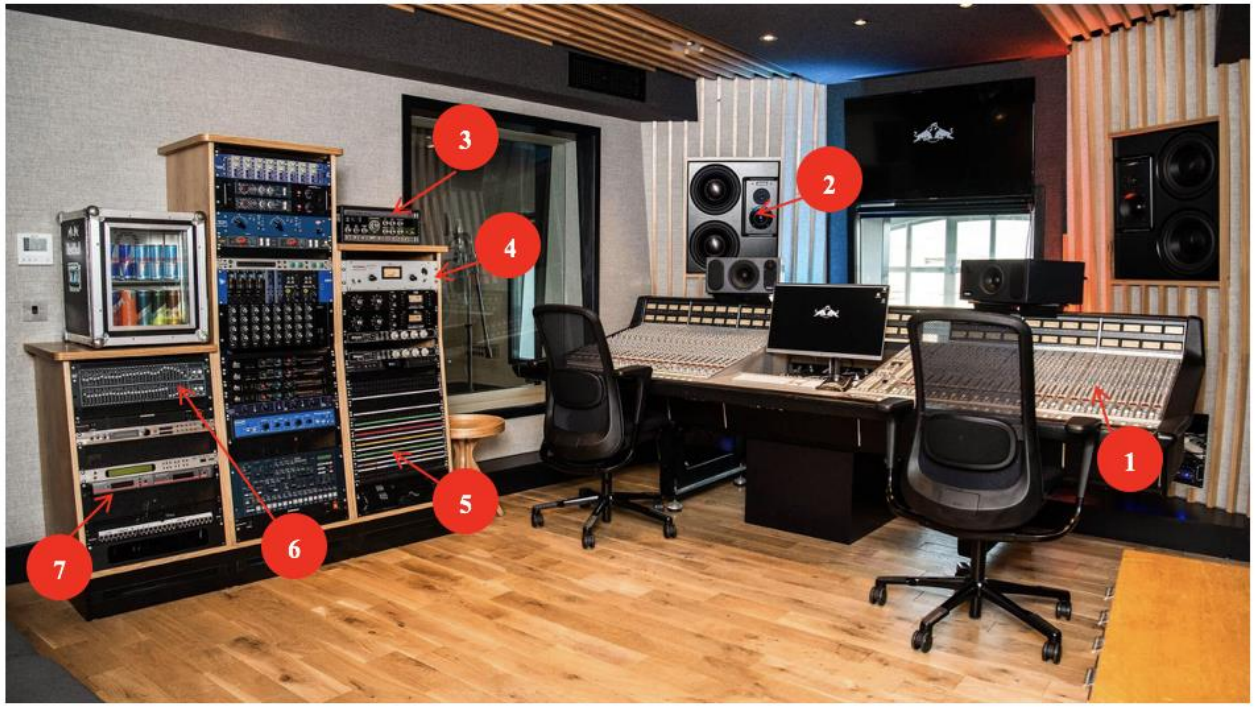
# TASK

**Studio Recording and Production:**

When working as a recording engineer or music producer it is vital to have an excellent knowledge of the pieces of equipment that are found in recording studios. Before you start your course, we would like to know about the pieces of recording equipment you may have heard of in the past.

Opposite is a picture of a control room at Red Bull Studios in London. Some of the equipment in the studio has been numbered, can you match up each number with the equipment listed in the box and then give a brief description of its function?

A table for you to download and complete is available by clicking HERE



# TASK

**Work Experience**

It is currently a requirement, that every student will need to complete at least 3 days of work experience.

Gaining meaningful work experience is very important, especially in the music industry where your network of contacts can be crucial to you gaining future employment.

**Your task is to explore potential opportunities to organise works experience for next year. You could research using google, Facebook, Instagram etc.**

You could look for potential opportunities in the following areas:

- Local recording studios
- Performers/sessions musicians/songwriters/composers
- Music venues
- Community groups - workshops
- Radio stations - Signal 1/Hit mix/6 towns
- Music shops and Instrument/equipment manufacturers

TOP TIP

You could collate your findings using a table, such as the example which can be downloaded by clicking HERE

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# TASK

**Music Industry**

Below is a task related to music journalism that we have designed for you to develop your writing skills and give you an insight into one specific career related to the music industry before you start with us.

- You are the newest addition to the TotalSound Magazine team, a brand-new online magazine focussing on the cutting edge of modern music.
- For your first task, the bosses are asking for a review of an album you have listened to or concert/gig that you have attended (or watched online) this can be in any genre but must focus on some of the techniques used by the artist, some context to the album/concert and your opinion on the album/concert.

Do not forget we are a magazine so keep it short and sweet, focus on your quality of writing rather than quantity!

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# USEFUL LINKS & RESOURCES

If you need some tips, here are some links from some of our friends in the industry – use them to shape and form your review.

Writers & Artists – How to Write an Album Review

Side-Line – The Ultimate Guide on How to Write the Perfect Music Review

Silent Radio – Hints & Tips on Constructing a Gig Review

# TASK

**Music Production**

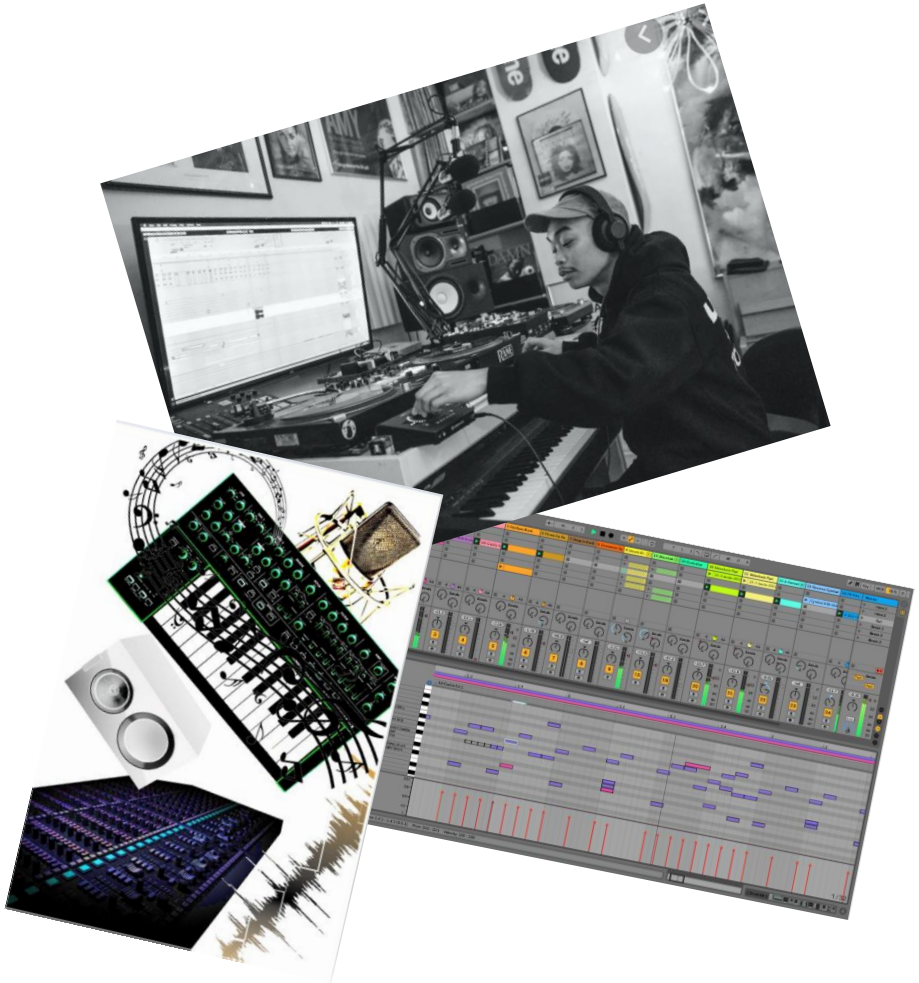
Being able to produce your own music is a really important skill; within the industry it is often expected that musicians already have an established fan base, and to do that, they need to be able to produce and record their own music. Hiring studios is great, but can be expensive, especially for musicians just starting out in their career.

Below, you will find a link to Ableton's 'Making Music' resources which you should work through and experiment with.

Take some screen shots of your progress, summarising your development and be prepared to discuss the activities in your Music Production and Composition lessons!

You can experiment and work through the activities in your browser; you do not need to download any additional software.

https://learningmusic.ableton.com/index.html



# USEFUL LINKS & RESOURCES

To summarise you should compile the following evidence:

- Completed Studio worksheet identifying equipment
- Work Experience research
- Album/Concert Review
- Experimentation with Ableton's "Learning Music" online course (screen shots of key points and review of the skills/techniques you have developed)

**We have also included an extension task using an online Digital Audio Workstation on the following pages; feel free to experiment with Soundtrap and challenge yourself to share your tracks using SoundCloud!**

# EXTENSION TASK

## Music Composition, Arrangement and Production

The COVID-19 pandemic impacted the way in which music is produced around the globe.

We have been really keen to explore ways in which up and coming producers, beat makers and musicians can create work away from College.

One of the most successful platforms we have used is Soundtrap, which allows you to create music, beats, record instruments, make podcasts and collaborate with others within an internet browser (or app) –it is basically a Digital Audio Workstation that you can access on your computer, tablet or phone!

It is free to join and tutorials can be found at the following address: https://www.soundtrap.com/tutorials?lang=en

Sign up for a “personal use” free account at https://www.soundtrap.com

We’d love to hear what you have created; why not create a SoundCloud page and share your material with us?

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# USEFUL LINKS & RESOURCES

- Soundtrap Tutorials: https://www.soundtrap.com/tutorials?lang=en
- Get Started with Soundtrap: https://youtu.be/QNQlCyYEbQE
- Create a SoundCloud account: https://help.soundcloud.com/hc/en-us/articles/115003569608-Creating-an-account-on-SoundCloud
- Uploading tracks to SoundCloud: https://help.soundcloud.com/hc/en-us/articles/115003450667-How-do-I-upload-a-track-to-SoundCloud-

# GET IN TOUCH

FOR ANY HELP OR COURSE INFORMATION PLEASE EMAIL:

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