

Virtual Performance: Making a Guide Track



- 1. Get a copy of the song that you want to perform with your students
- Use an internet search to find the tempo of the song ("<Name of Song> BPM" should get you what you need.
- 3. Open up a new project in a Digital Audio Workspace ("DAW") such as Garageband, Soundtrap, or Logic
- 4. Change the tempo of the project to the tempo of your song
- 5. Start a new MIDI track. Change the instrument to a drumset
- 6. Add 12 quarter note drum sounds such as a hi hat, rim shot, or woodblock to the project. Quantize them to ensure they're right on the beat.
- 7. Drag and drop your song into the project. Align the beginning of the song with measure 13, right when the clicks stop. Be mindful that some song files may have silence at the beginning and some songs don't start on beat 1. Adjust your project and count accordingly
- 8. Add a new audio track. Record yourself counting along with the beat before the song comes in. This will be the guide for the performers to count themselves in with.
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- 9. Export your project and share it with your students.



Virtual Performance: Make Instructions



- 1. Send the recording to your students. Create instructions either with a video or written. The students should keep the following things in mind.
- 2. Be in a quiet place to record
- 3. Have the song on one device and record your video with another
- 4. Use headphones so the recorder picks up only your instrument or voice
- 5. Hold the camera specifically vertically or horizontally (whichever you as the teacher decide is best)
- 6. Press RECORD on the video first, then press play on the song.
- 7. Count yourself in OUT LOUD with the recording ("1, 2, 3, 4!")
- 8. Record the whole song from start to finish, even if you only play during some parts.
- 9. Submit your recording to your teacher to be used in the video



Virtual Performance: Download, Convert, Organize



- 1. Download all your students" videos.
- 2. As a means of saving digital space and making the editing process quicker, you can convert and compress your students' videos using a piece of software such as **Handbrake** or **MiroVideoConverter**
- 3. Rename your students projects so they're easier to keep track of in your video editor, such as "<Instrument> <Student Name>"
- 4. Add all the files to a single folder, along with the guide track you created.



Virtual Performance: Start a Video Project and Sync



- 1. Open Final Cut Pro and start a new library (File -> New -> Library), name it appropriately.
- 2. Within that library, start a new project.
- 3. Drag the guide track into the project.
- 4. Add the student videos to the project by dragging and dropping them into the workspace.
- 5. Sync the student videos to the guide track using the count in as a guide.
- 6. if you need to, you can silence videos by clicking them and hitting the V key. To ungray them, just click V again.





Virtual Performance: Mixing the Audio



- 1. Decide which tracks you'd like the be most prominent in the mix (likely the melody or a solo instrument)
- 2. Click that track and turn the volume up until the audio starts to peak. When the waveform turns red, that means the audio will distort. Turn it down until there is no red. You can adjust the audio with the volume bar on the file, or by adjusting the Volume in the file elements window to the right.
- 3. After the most prominent track is set, mute and unmute other instruments to adjust their level accordingly. If a track is overpowering the melody, turn it down. If it's not loud enough, turn that video's volume up. Use the melody as a guide for whether something is too loud or too quiet.
- 4. Repeat this process until you have a rough mix of all your student videos.
- 5. You can adjust this more later, so don't worry if your mix isn't perfect yet!
- 6. When you're done mixing your audio, highlight all track, right click, and select "Detact Audio". The videos audio will appear below the guide track.





Virtual Performance: Featuring Artists



- 1. The video files in Final Cut Pro can be thought of as layers. A video that is physically above another in the project will block anything that is behind (below) it.
- 2. To feature an artist, mute (by clicking V) any video that is above it.
- 3. To feature a new artist, split and regions you need to by clicking the video, dragging the playhead where you want to split it, and hitting Command + B (Split at Playhead). This allows you to grey out just some sections of the video.
- 4. Find the moments in the song where you want to change to different performers and split and grey/ungrey the videos accordingly.





Virtual Performance: Featuring Multiple Artists



- 1. Ungrey the videos you want to feature. But sure no videos are covering them up from above
- 2. Split the regions (Highlight, Command + B) at the beginning AND end of the section you want to rearrange them
- 3. Use TRANSFORM to change the size or location of the videos
- 4. Use CROP the trim the edges of the edges of the videos if need be



