Chapter 5: Disabling Soundwriting: Sonic Rhetorics Meet Disability Pedagogy

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1. Untitled Project by Courtney Anderson

In this first example, Courtney Anderson explores creating music and creatively captioning her produced sounds.

Transcript

[*Relaxing, cheerful musical piece tangling together drums to hold the beat, soothing picking guitar, and spacey electronics layering.*]

- 0:00 [Rigid Disco Drum Beat begins]
- 0:04 [Solid Structure Drum Beat layered]
- 0:09 [Soft Next Wave Beat layered]
- 0:09 [Soothing, Soft Guitar Picking layered]
- 0:17 [Spacey Mirror Electronics layered]
- 0:30 [Rigid Disco Drum Beat begins fade]
- 0:30 [Solid Structure Drum Beat begins fade]
- 0:30 [Soft Next Wave Beat begins fade]
- 0:35 [Spacey Mirror Electronics begins fade]
- 0:39 [Silence]

Courtney Anderson's Artist's Statement

I was inspired by several tracks that I had recently listened to on Spotify, "Slip" by Elliot Moss and "Trndsttr" by Black Coast, for their relaxing melodies and their tangled, intricate sounds. I enjoy listening to calming music—the kind of music that eases your mind and urges you to put a smile on your face.

While creating my piece, I wanted to create a lively, yet calming sound that would open the listener's mind and allow them to drift into a happy place. The piece was created using various pre-loaded sounds in the GarageBand suite. The piece starts with Disco Beat tempoed at 8 beats and layers two more drum beats tempoed at 8 beats—the Solid Structure Beat and the Next Wave beat. These beats form the foundation of the piece—the heartbeat. Next a loop guitar followed by Dusty Mirrors Layering, emitting a surreal sound, enters the piece. This overlay provides a loosening tone that livens the piece.

The combination of sounds creates a soothing melody that hopefully will disassociate the listener from his or her current environment and transport them in a calming setting.