

Chapter 5: Disabling Soundwriting: Sonic Rhetorics Meet Disability Pedagogy

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2. “Welcome to OSU” by Joe Matts

Joe Matts similarly explores tools for music creation, setting a different mood and exploring diverse ways to caption those sounds.

Transcript

There are obviously no words in this project so I thought that I would share a little bit of the technical side of what’s going on here.

All of the sounds here are part of the Logic program produced through the use of an onscreen keyboard connected to my laptop’s keyboard. I also used my mouse to edit and add flourishes to the MIDI files.

0:00-0:20: The soundscape that you hear is called breathless space following a simple D maj chord. The synth piano comes in with the riff that this song is built around, it is accented with a marimba.

0:21-1:06: This features a simple drum pattern with the Socal drum kit, and the introduction of the Synced Arpeggiator. An arpeggiator is basically a program that cycles through a chord to create a pattern.

1:07-1:55: This section is a compliment to the beginning, it features a harp, grand piano, and a different drum pattern. There is also a riff with a jazz organ and a choir synth layered over the piano.

1:55-2:05: This end cuts everything but the harp and the drums, which have been simplified.

Joe Matts’s Artist Statement

This piece is called “Welcome to OSU” because I intended it to be a backdrop for my commute to class every morning. It is meant to capture the feeling of riding my board on a cold autumn morning. The instruments should soothe you as you feel the cold penetrate your outer layers and chill you to the bone. They should make you sympathetic to the others around you as they face the same walk. They should bring a calm sense of tranquility as you face yet another day on a path to success. These are the goals of my sound project and I hope that it can convey these messages.

Creating this was also a very therapeutic endeavor. Being able to just fool around with my keyboard and a ton of midi instruments was a lot of fun. I think that anyone, even those with almost zero musical background like myself, should take some time in a music program to have fun. You would be surprised at what you can create.