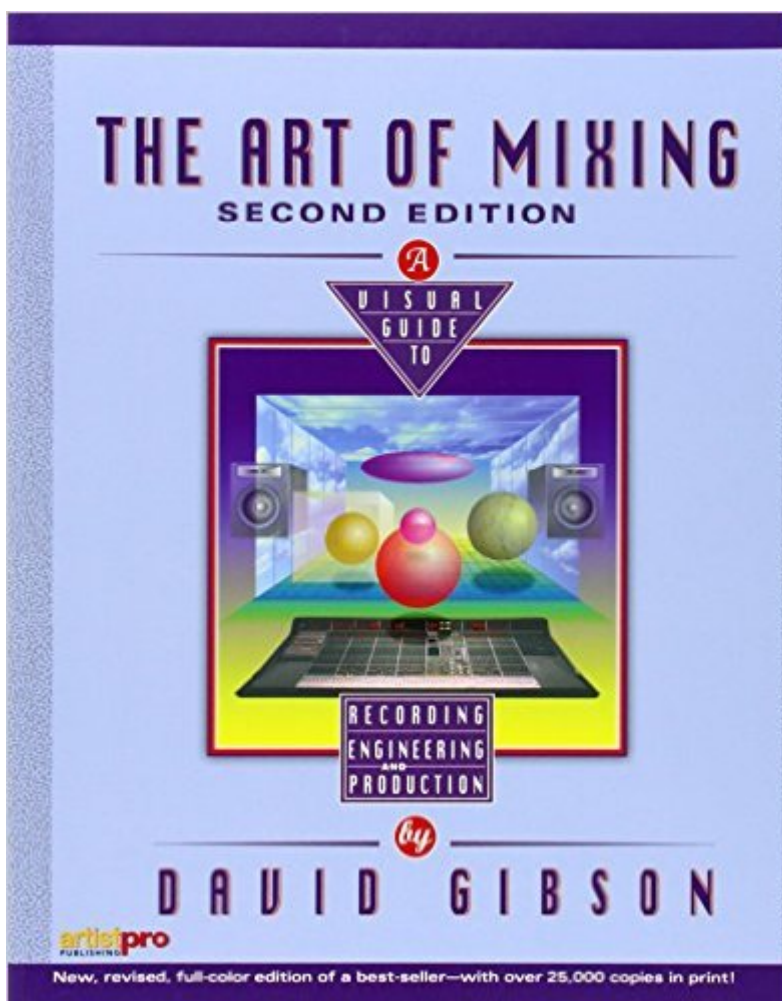# The Art Of Mixing: A Visual Guide To Recording, Engineering, And Production

Synopsis

Get ready for an in-depth exploration into the aesthetics of what makes a great mix! David Gibson's unique approach to mixing gives you a visual representation of the dynamics of the sounds involved in creating a musical mix. Through this three-dimensional, colorful explanation, you are introduced to a framework that will help you understand everything that an engineer does-- enabling you to not only recognize what you like, but how to achieve it in your studio. Expand your recording techniques by learning what your recording equipment does and how it all works together in a simple, visual manner. From bluegrass to big band, new age to heavy metal, classical to hip-hop, jazz to rap, and alternative rock to techno, Gibson has mapped out everything that can be done to create various effects in all standard mixes. Once you have a perspective on what can be done, you have the power to be truly creative on your own: to make art out of technology.

Book Information

Paperback: 344 pages

Publisher: Cengage Learning; 2 edition (March 28, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1931140456

ISBN-13: 978-1931140454

Product Dimensions: 1 x 8.2 x 10.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 ststarsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (58 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #262,496 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)   #48 inÂ Books > Computers & Technology > Digital Audio, Video & Photography > Digital Audio Production   #166 inÂ Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Recording & Sound   #309 inÂ Books > Reference > Encyclopedias & Subject Guides > Music

Customer Reviews

For the pros and home-musicians alike, this book gives a surprisingly clear view of virtually all aspects of recording and mixing in the studio. For me, having read the book, I suddenly understood why my mixes were only so-so and certainly not good enough for record companies (especially the section on compression is great!). This book provides highly valuable insight, which means that you still have to practice a lot to really improve your skills, but that practicing becomes much more pleasurable having read this book.

I will agree with most of the reviews that this book's images helped in conveying stereo field information, however, I have two problems with this book:1) The images are exremely redundant and take up half of the already slim 124 pages (where does the publisher get 144 from?)2) The book's content does not justify the price.Contrary to someone elses comment, I found the book to be exremely lacking in the area of compression. On the other hand, it did have some useful info on equalization settings.

When I recieved the book I began to glance through the pages. Four hours later, I finally put it down, complete with highlighting items I thought were important. That night, I mixed and mastered my latest composition and compared it to a previous mix I "thought" was good. Day and night. This book has no pork...only the necessary items to raise your mixing abilities to a semi-pro level. And it does so in a wonderful graphical form unlike the countless "engineering" books I've poured through (and I've got an engineering degree). Make no mistake, you need to know the numbers, but the perspective Gibson provides is worth every penny!

I am a recording engineer in Atlanta and I have worked at a couple of up scale studios. The studios always had interns come in from AIM (Atlanta Institute of music) so they could get some experience in the real world. I bought this book off the shelf because of all the simple to understand graphix inside. For instance, using the different colored and varying size balloons to explain how to place the instruments in a 3-d field in the stereo relm was amazing.I still have an intern from time to time and I make it required reading. The students always have a much more practicle understanding about the mix process. This is the best book I have found for this task.

First a bit of praise. Gibson does make a few good points and the visual diagrams used to illustrate mix density are very enlightening indeed. On the down side, the material covered is repetitive and somewhat basic. My biggest gripe is the price tag, the book is worth maybe half the price. Beginner to Intermediate level. For a more intermediate to experienced level book, I would recommend 'Sound Advice' by Wadhams.

I'm about halfway through this book and I can already understand why my mixes so far have sounded crowded and muddy. The visual presentation of the material makes the concepts crystal clear right away.

gibson's book is kind of a one trick pony. you instantly get what he's going for and, to be fair, it's a neat idea to visualize music this way. but, if you're serious at all about mixing or even listening to music, you immediately realize that you knew all of this already. my advice would be read this in a bookstore for about 3 minutes and then get Bobby Owsinski's book Mixing Engineers Handbook for some truly useful info.

This answered many questions for me about mixing. How to eq guitars, drums, vocals, bass; how to use compression, etc. The visualizations are cool, and a quick way to identify with the way you might want to mix different song. The pictures show panning positions, volumes, etc. It is genious because the only other way to explain it is to sit right here by me and listen through my monitors at something I've recorded. It's still up to you to train your ear and try some things. If you don't have monitors, none of this will make sense to you, but is still a good reference with specific examples and settings. This is really everything you need if you have been recording and want to get better mixes than you have been. Whether you use Cakewalk, or multitrack and rack/stomp box effects you can learn how to do it the right way from this. It's saved me a bunch of money because I found that I have everything I need and don't need maximizers and other expensive equipment and plug ins that do simple things you could do if you knew how to use what you have.

The Art of Mixing: A Visual Guide to Recording, Engineering, and Production Pro Tools 11: Music Production, Recording, Editing, and Mixing Pro Tools 9: Music Production, Recording, Editing, and Mixing Color Mixing Bible: All You'll Ever Need to Know About Mixing Pigments in Oil, Acrylic, Watercolor, Gouache, Soft Pastel, Pencil, and Ink Color Mixing Recipes for Landscapes: Mixing recipes for more than 500 color combinations Color Mixing Recipes for Oil & Acrylic: Mixing recipes for more than 450 color combinations Macro-Mixing for the Small Recording Studio: Produce better mixes, faster than ever using simple techniques that actually work Recording Unhinged: Creative and Unconventional Music Recording Techniques Bk/online media (Music Pro Guides) Recording Culture: Powwow Music and the Aboriginal Recording Industry on the Northern Plains (Refiguring American Music) Practical Recording Techniques: The Step- by- Step Approach to Professional Audio Recording Modern Recording Techniques (Audio Engineering Society Presents) Sound FX: Unlocking the Creative Potential of Recording Studio Effects (Audio Engineering Society Presents) Lean Production Simplified, Third Edition: A Plain-Language Guide to the World's Most Powerful Production System Lean Production Simplified: A Plain-Language Guide to the World's Most Powerful Production System Lean Production Simplified, Second Edition: A Plain-Language Guide

to the World's Most Powerful Production System Visual Population Codes: Toward a Common Multivariate Framework for Cell Recording and Functional Imaging (Computational Neuroscience Series) Television Production Handbook (Wadsworth Series in Broadcast and Production) The Production Manager's Toolkit: Successful Production Management in Theatre and Performing Arts (The Focal Press Toolkit Series) Decision Systems for Inventory Management and Production Planning (Wiley Series in Production/Operations Management) Transplant Production Systems: Proceedings of the International Symposium on Transplant Production Systems, Yokohama, Japan, 21-26 July 1992