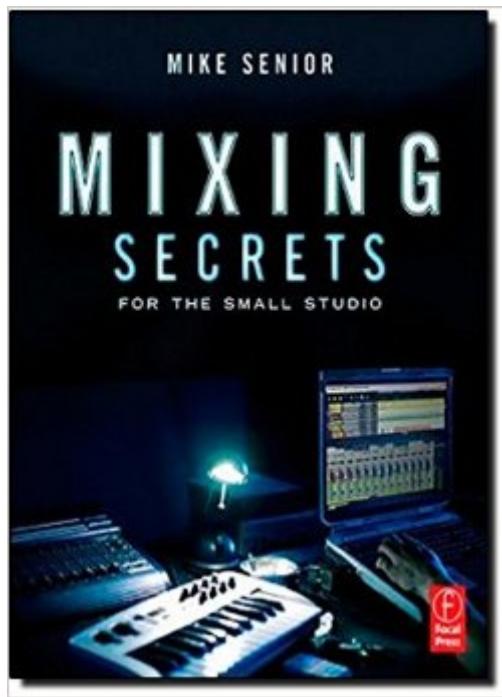


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# Mixing Secrets For The Small Studio



## **Synopsis**

Discover how to achieve release-quality mixes even in the smallest studios by applying power-user techniques from the world's most successful producers. *Mixing Secrets for the Small Studio* is a down-to-earth primer for small-studio enthusiasts who want chart-ready sonics in a hurry. Drawing on the back-room strategies of more than 100 famous names, this entertaining guide leads you step-by-step through the entire mixing process. On the way, you'll unravel the mysteries of every type of mix processing, from simple EQ and compression through to advanced spectral dynamics and "fairy dust" effects. User-friendly explanations introduce technical concepts on a strictly need-to-know basis, while chapter summaries and assignments are perfect for school and college use. Learn the subtle editing, arrangement, and monitoring tactics which give industry insiders their competitive edge, and master the psychological tricks which protect you from all the biggest rookie mistakes. Find out where you don't need to spend money, as well as how to make a limited budget really count. Pick up tricks and tips from leading-edge engineers working on today's multi-platinum hits, including Michael Brauer, Serban Ghenea, the Lord-Alge brothers, Tony Maserati, Manny Marroquin, Dave "Hard Drive" Pensado, Jack Joseph Puig, Mark "Spike" Stent, Phil Tan, Andy Wallace, and many, many more . . .

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 352 pages

Publisher: Focal Press; 1 edition (February 25, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0240815807

ISBN-13: 978-0240815800

Product Dimensions: 7.5 x 0.8 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (404 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #16,349 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #3 inÂ  Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Recording & Sound #3 inÂ  Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Civil & Environmental > Acoustics #13 inÂ  Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Ideologies & Doctrines > Communism & Socialism

## **Customer Reviews**

About Mike Senior: Mike Senior has written many articles in Sound on Sound magazine, including the famous Mix Rescue articles (go to [...] for more great articles from Mike). I have always been

very impressed with his knowledge of the audio world, so I expected a lot from this book, thankfully I was not disappointed. If I was going to sum up the book in one word, it would be this - Brilliant! This book is for the home studio owner who is starting out, who has some studio experience, and those like me who have over 20 years experience when not working my day job. I have read recording books before that talked about the basics and though helpful, they lacked meat. In the Mixing Secrets book, thankfully we don't have that problem. He talks about near field monitors, clears up a lot of misconceptions we hear on the recording forums, gets into building the raw balance, compression, and EQ. He does not just explain what compression and EQ is, but how to use them properly. He also discusses side chains, reverb, and stereo enhancements. He even offers you more information on his web site [...]. The next question you ask is, how is his writing style, is this a dry book that is hard to follow? The answer is no. I think with having written so many articles in Sound on Sound magazine, has helped him develop a style that keeps your attention and leaving you with wanting more. Another great feature is each chapter ends with a summary section (Cut to the chase) and even an assignment. Is there anything I did not like in the book? No not really. It would have been nice to have color photos in the book (which cost more for the pub company), but the blue highlights help the book look better than just the black wording.

I've been recording my own music for a long time, at home and in studios both professional and otherwise. It was always fun...until it got to the mixing. Even professional engineers got it wrong sometimes. Why? Not because they didn't know what they were doing, but because I didn't. Reverb? Sure. Uh, what kind? Blend, size, tone, sustain, or spread? Artificial or convolution? You can use some, all, or none. ("I didn't know that!") Delay? Sure. Uh, what kind? Blend, size, etc., etc.... ("I didn't know that!") Balancing? Room treatments? Monitoring? I'd go into the million-dollar studios and they've got these teeny, cheesy, awful-sounding speakers right on top of the console. Right where everybody can see! Do I want to hear my mix through those...things?! Hell, no, put it through those \$50K jobs I see up on the wall! Auratones! What the hell's going on with that? (..."Oh! I didn't know that!") In fact, just about every page of this relatively (300 pages of text) modest tome demanded that I stop reading, go into my studio, and find out just what the heck this guy is talking about. ("So that's what a gate's for. I didn't know that!") And this is WAY before you get to the incredible -- and usually unique -- solutions detailed in every Mix Rescue on his SoundOnSound magazine page. (A massive archive that stands on its own, I might add.) Watch out, though. Mike is a big fan of freeware -- and there's a LOT of it out there. (I counted almost 100 compressors in my VST folder last week -- most of them free or nearly so. Mike uses a lot of them. And that's just

compressors. I say again: there's a LOT of stuff out there, most of which you don't even have to look very hard for. EQ's, delays, reverbs, synths (a LOT of synths). Again, free. Then you get to the audio mangling.

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