



THE INTERSECTION OF IMPROVISATION,
GLOBAL RHYTHMS AND MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

RAVISH MOMIN

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF CREATIVE MUSICIANS (1965—PRESENT)



THE AACM'S MOTTO IS "GREAT BLACK MUSIC, ANCIENT TO THE FUTURE,"

THEY'VE BEEN "NURTURING, PERFORMING, AND RECORDING SERIOUS, ORIGINAL MUSIC" EVER SINCE.

THE SELF-HELP COLLECTIVE, WHICH CONVERGED THROUGH MULTIPLE ENSEMBLE CONFIGURATIONS INCLUDING THE ART ENSEMBLE OF CHICAGO, WAS FORMED TO PROVIDE AVANT-GARDE COMPOSERS AND PERFORMERS A PLATFORM TO ELEVATE THEIR WORK WITHIN A POWER STRUCTURE HOSTILE TO BLACK EXPERIMENTAL MUSICIANS.

SIDE PROJECTS

KALAPARUSH & THE LIGHT (2000–2006)

KALAPARUSH (1936–2013) WAS AN EARLY MEMBER OF THE AACM.

HIS TRIO WITH MOMIN AND DULMAN, KNOWN AS THE LIGHT, WAS ACTIVE BETWEEN 2000–2006.

THEY PERFORMED AT MAJOR FESTIVALS ACROSS THE US, CANADA AND EUROPE.

THEY ALSO RECORDED FOR THE PRESTIGIOUS DELMARK RECORDS LABEL AMONGST OTHERS.



AS A LEADER

TARANA (QUARTET/ TRIO/ DUO) 2003–2016

FORMED IN 2003

SHAPE-SHIFTING ENSEMBLE WHICH RAN IN SIZE FROM A DUO TO A QUARTET.

FOCUS ON EAST-ASIAN RHYTHMS (INCLUDING INDIAN, JAPANESE, AFGHANI), MIDDLE-EASTERN AND NORTH AFRICAN RHYTHMS AS THE FOUNDATION FOR A NEW CREATIVE MUSICAL EXPERIENCE.

INSTRUMENTS: VIOLIN, VIOLA, OUD, CELLO, ALTO SAXOPHONE, BASS AND TROMBONE OVER ITS 13 YEAR HISTORY.



AS A LEADER (2017- 2022)

TURNING JEWELS INTO WATER

DUO WITH WITH HAITIAN-AMERICAN ELECTRONIC MUSIC PIONEER VAL JEANTY

TOGETHER WE EXPLORED THE CAPABILITIES OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES TO CREATE A LIVE DANCE-MUSIC WITH A SEAMLESS BLEND OF MULTIPLE ELECTRONIC AND ACOUSTIC INSTRUMENTS THAT WERE ROOTED IN OUR RESPECTIVE RHYTHMIC TRADITIONS.



AS A COLLABORATOR (2023- PRESENT)

SUNKEN CAGES X FARAWAY GHOST

COLLABORATION WITH IRANIAN VOCALIST
KAMYAR ARSANI

TOGETHER WE CREATE OUR OWN BRAND OF DIGITAL FOLK MUSIC THAT DRAWS ON SUFI MYSTICISM, TRADITIONAL PERSIAN MUSIC, STREET RHYTHMS FROM MUMBAI AND CONTEMPORARY ELECTRONIC MUSIC AT ONCE. MOMIN ACCOMPANIES ARSANI'S VOCALS AND DAF (FRAME-DRUM) WITH A MASTERFUL BLEND OF ELECTRONIC AND ACOUSTIC PERCUSSION, INCLUDING LIVE-LOOPING VIA HIS UNIQUE DRUM-LOOP PERFORMANCE SYSTEM.



AS A COLLABORATOR (2022- PRESENT)

SUNKEN CAGES X DRAGONCHILD

COLLABORATION WITH ETHIO-SAXOPHONIST
D.A. MEKONNEN

TOGETHER WE CREATE AN EXCITING NEW GLOBAL MUSIC
THAT SEEKS TO DECOLONIZE EXPERIMENTAL MUSIC, WHILE
DRAWING ON OUR RESPECTIVE CULTURES AS WELL
AS CONTEMPORARY ELECTRONIC MUSIC.



dragonchild
x Sunken Cages

LE
GUESS
WHO
?

9-12 November 2023
Utrecht, The Netherlands
leguesswho.com



BIG EARS March 21-24, 2024
Knoxville, TN / USA

PASSES



DONATE



FESTIVAL
EXPLORE
SUPPORT
ABOUT

FRIDAY LINEUP




FULL LINEUP | THURSDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY

Friday, March 22

- LAURIE ANDERSON: *LET X=X* · RHIANNON GIDDENS · JOHN PAUL JONES · CHRISTIAN MCBRIDE · BRAD MEHLDAU
- JASON MORAN AND THE HARLEM HELLFIGHTERS · HENRY THREADGILL'S ZOOID · MOLLY TUTTLE & GOLDEN HIGHWAY · CHOCOLATE GENIUS, INC.
- TREVOR DUNN'S TRIO-CONVULSANT AVEC FOLIE À QUATRE · DARCY JAMES ARGUE'S SECRET SOCIETY · FRED FRITH & IKUE MORI
- HERMANOS GUTIÉRREZ · KRISTIN HERSH · MAVI · CHRISTIAN MCBRIDE & EDGAR MEYER · TOMIKA REID QUARTET · TRIO MEDIÆVAL
- SAM AMIDON · BITCHIN BAJAS · DRAGONCHILD X SUNKEN CAGES · FAUN FABLES · MYRIAM GENDRON · HELEN GILLET · JANA HORN
- WAYNE HORVITZ GRAVITAS QUARTET · HURRAY FOR THE RIFF RAFF · EYVIND KANG & JESSIKA KENNEY · PAUL LAZAR: CAGE SHUFFLE
- MOLLY LEWIS · MR. SUN · RESAVOIR · RINGDOWN (CAROLINE SHAW & DANNI LEE) · BRANDON ROSS PHANTOM STATION · CLAIRE ROUSAY
- JOAN SHELLEY · SLAUSON MALONE 1 · SON ROMPE PERA · JOANNA STERNBERG · TITAN TO TACHYONS · TREDICI BACCI






Single
My Favourite Stranger (Remixes)
Depeche Mode • 2023 • 5 songs, 25 min 40 sec

Play, Repeat, Checkmark, Download, More options, List


#	Title	Plays	🕒
1	My Favourite Stranger - Boris Brejcha Remix Depeche Mode, Boris Brejcha	488,689	7:06
2	My Favourite Stranger - Ela Minus Remix Depeche Mode, Ela Minus	503,462	3:48
3	My Favourite Stranger - Long Island Sound Re... Depeche Mode, Long Island Sound	74,191	4:46
4	My Favourite Stranger - Sunken Cages Remix Depeche Mode, Sunken Cages	49,605	4:20
5	My Favourite Stranger - Al Wootton Remix Depeche Mode, Al Wootton	39,013	5:38



Sunken Cages Remix ✓

Depeche Mode, Sunken Cages

About the artist



Depeche Mode
13,024,860 monthly listeners
Unfollow

Pioneering English band Depeche Mode took the underground electronic club sounds of the early '80s and expanded them to...

ONE-OFF

SHAKIRA (2009)

TOURED WITH SHAKIRA IN 2009

&

MADE TELEVISED APPEARANCES ON:

GOOD MORNING AMERICA

LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN

THE VIEW

RACHEL RAY



WHY ELECTRONIC DRUMS ?

- ▶ MESHES BETTER WITH ELECTRONIC DESIGN ELEMENTS
- ▶ PROVIDES ABILITY TO TRIGGER DRUM SOUNDS, MELODIC NOTES AND SAMPLES
- ▶ ALLOWS FOR ACCURATE CREATION OF LIVE LOOPS
- ▶ FOR FURTHER MANIPULATION OF SOUNDS (EFX)
- ▶ PORTABLE



DRUM TRIGGERS

A TRIGGER IS AN ELECTRONIC TRANSDUCER THAT CAN BE ATTACHED TO A DRUM, CYMBAL OR OTHER INSTRUMENT TO ENABLE IT TO CONTROL AN ELECTRONIC DRUM UNIT OR SIMILAR DEVICE.



HIT THE PAD

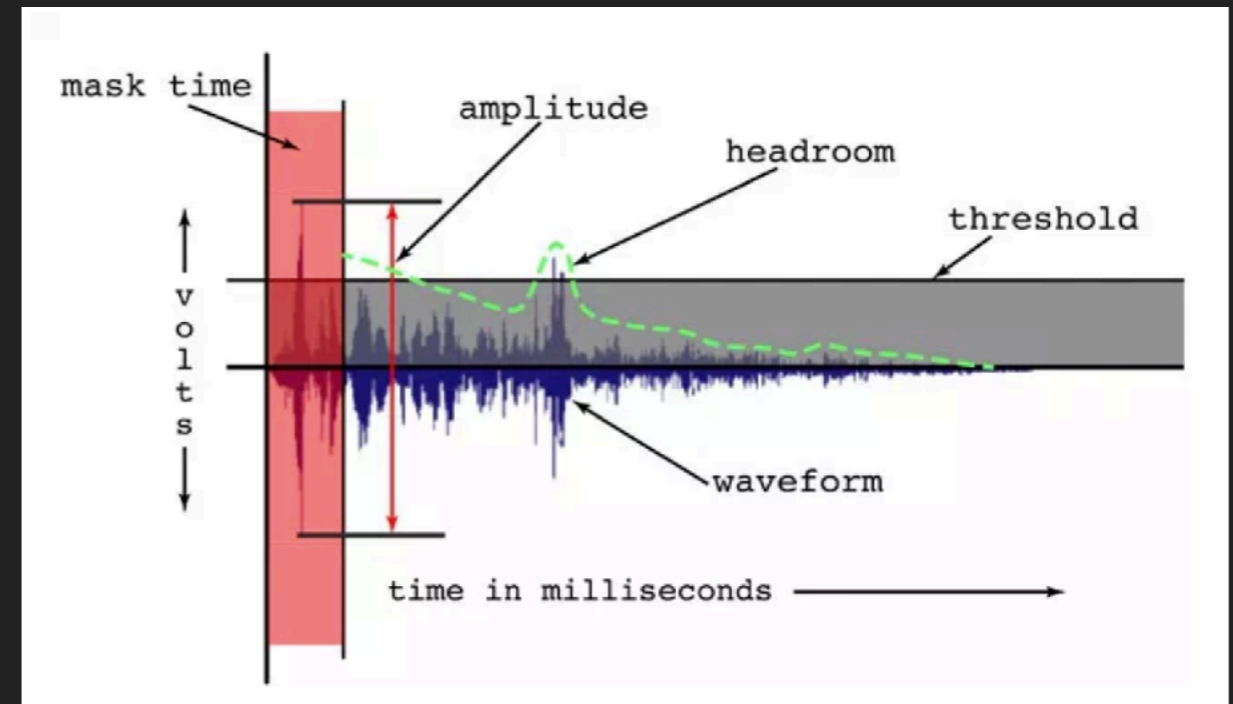
DRUM MODULE TRIGGER INPUT READS THE TRIGGER WAVEFORM

DRUM MODULE INTERPRETS THE TRIGGER WAVEFORM AND SENDS ASSIGNED SOUND TO AUDIO INPUT(S)

PIEZO VS FSR TRIGGERS

PIEZO TRIGGERS

PIEZO IS A CRYSTAL THAT HAS THE PROPERTY OF PRODUCING VOLTAGE WHEN IT'S PUT IN MOTION BY STRIKING SOMETHING TO WHICH IT IS ATTACHED



FSR TRIGGERS (FORCE-SENSING RESISTANCE)

FSR DETECTS PRESSURE, NOT VIBRATION LIKE A PIEZO, AND IS USED ON THE RIM OF THE PAD

CURRENT PERFORMANCE SETUP



ELECTRO-ACOUSTIC SET-UPS

- ▶ RUNNING GUITAR THROUGH MIDI PICK-UP
- ▶ RUNNING GUITAR THROUGH AN AUDIO INTERFACE
- ▶ PIEZO/CONTACT MIC ATTACHMENTS
- ▶ RUNNING A VOCAL MIC THROUGH ANALOG EFFECTS OR AN AUDIO INTERFACE
- ▶ MIC ATTACHED TO ACOUSTIC INSTRUMENT (TROMBONE/SAX/CLARINET) RUNNING INTO ANALOG EFFECTS OR AUDIO INTERFACE

RECORDING



- ▶ STACKING MIDI DRUMS
- ▶ CONVERTING MIDI DRUMS TO SYNTHS, PADS, BASS AND OTHER TEXTURES
- ▶ MORE FLEXIBILITY WITH EDITING DRUM PARTS

ABLETON LIVE

DIGITAL AUDIO WORKSTATION (DAW) [SESSION VIEW]

The screenshot displays the Ableton Live Session View interface. At the top, the title bar reads "TJW-recording-DarkWaters2 [TJIW]". The transport controls show a tempo of 184.00 BPM and a time signature of 4/4. The main arrangement area contains 13 tracks: BASS 1, BASS 2, BASS SUBS, Melody 1, Melody 2, Melody 3, Melody 3a, Melody 4, Melody 5, DRUM 1, DRUM 2, PERC 1, and VAL 1. Each track has a mixer section with volume faders, pan knobs, and send controls. The right side of the interface features a "Drop Files and Devices Here" area with a list of tracks including "Desert Fire 6/8 130 BPM" and "TORPOR 4/4 140 BPM". Below the tracks, there are two "A A Bit War" and "B MONITOR" tracks, and a "Master" track. The bottom of the interface shows a "Clip Slot" panel with a "Kit-Core Mt Dill" sample set and a "Kick 1 Slice" clip. The clip slot includes a waveform, a filter, and various controls like gain, filter, and volume.

Clip Slot

Each Session View slot can hold one clip to be played live. Create clips by dragging files from the Browser or from other windows into open slots. Dragging can also be used to move clips between slots, or to copy clips in from the Arrangement.

Kit-Core Mt Dill

Clave 808 Cymbal 808 VA90 Clap Slice Hihat Beat Slice
Hihat Pedal Noise Slice Hihat Open 808 Rim 2 Slice
Snare 2 Slice Kick 2 Slice Hihat Closed Kick 3 Slice
Kick 1 Slice Rim 1 Slice Snare 1 Slice Clap 808

Kick 1 Slice

Gain 0.0 dB TRIGGER GATE SNAP
Filter 12 MS2 22.0 kHz 0.0 % 3.00 dB
Preserve Mute Env VARP 88 1 Beat
Transients 90 Beats
Fade In 0.10 ms Fade Out 35.9 ms Transp 0 st Vol ~ Vel 35 % Volume -5.00 dB

Drop an Instrument or Sample Here

ABLETON LIVE

[SESSION VIEW WITH GROUPS]

COMPOSITE-SunkenCages [RavishMomin-SunkenCages-]

Follow Ext Tap 137.00 4 / 4 1 Bar

1. 1. 1 1. 1. 1 1. 0. 0

Key MIDI OFF

Master

Track Name	Start	End	Time	Signature
Seqota	264	120.00	6 / 8	
Seqota	265	120.00	6 / 8	
Seqota	266	120.00	6 / 8	
Seqota	267	120.00	6 / 8	
Session 16	268	130.00	4 / 4	
Session 16	269	130.00	4 / 4	
Session 16	270	130.00	4 / 4	
Session 16	271	130.00	4 / 4	
Session 16	272	130.00	4 / 4	
Session 16	273	130.00	4 / 4	
Session 16	274	130.00	4 / 4	
Session 16	275	130.00	4 / 4	
Session 16	276	130.00	4 / 4	
Session 16	277	130.00	4 / 4	
Session 16	278	130.00	4 / 4	
Session 16	279	130.00	4 / 4	
Session 16	280	130.00	4 / 4	
KOMBU (DRUM 13)	281	120.00	4 / 4	
KOMBU	282	120.00	4 / 4	

Cue Out 3/4

Master Out 1/2

Sends Post

Sends Post

Mixer Drop Area

You can create new tracks by dropping devices into the empty space to the right of the Session View mixer and below the Arrangement View mixer:

- Drop MIDI effects and instruments to create MIDI tracks.
- Drop audio effects to create audio tracks.

Turnado

Control 1 0.00 Control 5 0.00

Control 2 0.00 Control 6 0.00

Control 3 0.00 Control 7 0.00

Control 4 0.00 Control 8 0.00

2 Bar Phrase-1

BPM: - Length: empty [MIDI] Drag me!

Record 2 bars then +

Speed 0.00 Feedback 100%

Quantization None Input + Output Always

Turnado

Control 1 0.00 Control 5 0.00

Control 2 0.00 Control 6 0.00

Control 3 0.00 Control 7 0.00

Control 4 0.00 Control 8 0.00

Big Room

Input Filter Lo Cut 4.33 kHz Hi Cut 4.04

Early Reflections Amount 20.92 Rate 0.15 Hz Shape 0.75

Diffusion Network High 3.17 kHz 0.40 Diffusion 75% Scale 100%

Chorus Amount 0.02 Rate 0.02 Hz

Reflect -2.5 dB Diffuse -0.0 dB

Predelay 11.2 ms Smooth None Size 3.00 Decay 1.00 s Freeze Flat Cut

Stereo 100.00 Density Mid Dry/Wet 8.7%

Ratio 1:1.15 Attack 0.22 ms Release 100 ms Auto

The audio engine is off. Please click here to choose an audio device from Live's Audio Preferences.

DRUMS (4)

ABLETON LIVE

[SESSION VIEW WITH DRUM GROUP EXPANDED]

The screenshot displays the Ableton Live software interface in Session View. The main workspace is a grid of tracks, with the Drum Group expanded to show individual drum tracks (DRUM 9-14) and a Percussion track (PERC 5). The tracks are color-coded: BASS (1) in blue, VOX (2) in orange, MELODY (3) in pink, DRUMS (4) in green, and SAMPLES (6) in cyan. The Drum tracks (DRUM 9-14) are currently muted. The Percussion track (PERC 5) is active and has a blue clip slot. The bottom of the interface shows the Clip Slot, Macro controls for the Jive Kit, and the Jive Kit instrument controls. The Jive Kit controls include FX Perc LoFill, Stick, Tom, Hihat, Wind FX, Bass Stab, A#1, HANDDH OLO1, Cowbell Loose Lo, Boom Stab, F#1, Crash Kindified, Amount Kick, Toybox MachineC, Snare, and Bullhorn. The Jive Kit instrument is currently set to the Tom track. The right side of the interface shows the Master Out section, including the Master Out volume control and the Cue Out section. The top of the interface shows the menu bar (Live, File, Edit, Create, View, Options, Help) and the title bar (COMPOSITE-SunkenCages [RavishMomin-SunkenCages-]). The bottom right corner shows the system tray with the date and time (Thu Aug 31 4:16 PM).

COMPOSITE-SunkenCages [RavishMomin-SunkenCages-]

Follow Ext Tap 137.00 4 / 4 1 Bar 1. 1. 1 1. 1. 1 1. 0. 0

Master

Track Name	Start	End	Time	Tempo	Signature
Seqota	264	120.00	6 / 8		
Seqota	265	120.00	6 / 8		
Seqota	266	120.00	6 / 8		
Seqota	267	120.00	6 / 8		
Session 16	268	130.00	4 / 4		
Session 16	269	130.00	4 / 4		
Session 16	270	130.00	4 / 4		
Session 16	271	130.00	4 / 4		
Session 16	272	130.00	4 / 4		
Session 16	273	130.00	4 / 4		
Session 16	274	130.00	4 / 4		
Session 16	275	130.00	4 / 4		
Session 16	276	130.00	4 / 4		
Session 16	277	130.00	4 / 4		
Session 16	278	130.00	4 / 4		
Session 16	279	130.00	4 / 4		
Session 16	280	130.00	4 / 4		
KOMBU (DRUM 13)	281	120.00	4 / 4		

Cue Out 3/4 Master Out 1/2

Post Sends Post

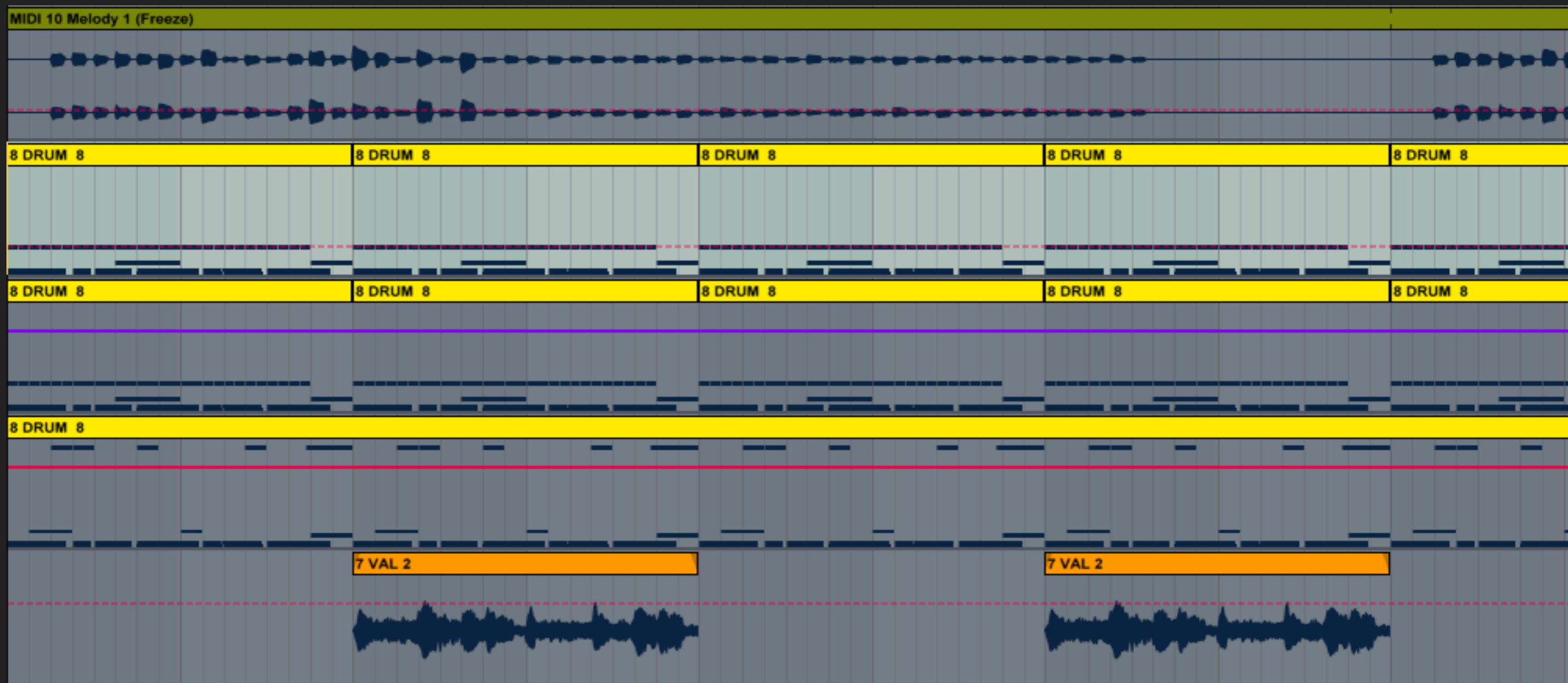
Gain -10 dB TRIGGER GATE SNAP WARP as 1 Beat Re-Pitch :2 *2

Filter Frequency Res LFO Hz f Fade In 0.00 ms Fade Out 0.10 ms Transp 0 st Vol < Vel 45 % Volume -12.0 dB

Drop an Instrument or Sample Here

ABLETON LIVE

[ARRANGEMENT VIEW]



MULTI-FACETED APPROACH TO MAKING A CAREER

- ▶ Playing different styles of music genres
- ▶ Basic understanding of all aspects of the industry- performing, writing music, recording, group playing, touring, tour management, budgeting, contracts, publicity (PR, social-media, etc), licensing
- ▶ Skills: writing, notation software, DAWs, spreadsheets, basic video-editing

ROLES A MUSICIAN MAY PLAY

- ▶ Performer
- ▶ Band Leader/Composer
- ▶ Tour Booker
- ▶ Band Manager
- ▶ Grant-writer
- ▶ Recording/Mix Engineer
- ▶ Social Media Manager
- ▶ Video Editor