

## Chapter 4 Notes

### The Mixing Engineer's Handbook

#### The Overall Approach

- Determine the direction of the song
- Develop the Groove
- Find the Most Important Element and emphasize it

#### Mixing in Three Dimensions

- Tall - Balancing the frequencies
- Deep - ambient noises, reverbs, delays.
- Wide - panning and placement in the aural field

#### Signs of an Amateur Mix

- Mix has no contrast
- Wandering focal point (holes between vocal where nothing is brought forward)
- Noisy (clicks, hum, pops etc)
- Lacking clarity and punch
- Distant and devoid of intimacy
- Inconsistent levels
- Dull and uninteresting sounds.

#### Six elements of a mix

1. Balance. The volume level relationship between the instruments
2. Frequency Range. Having all audible frequencies properly represented
3. Panorama. Placing a musical element in the soundfield
4. Dimension. Adding ambience to a musical element
5. Dynamics. Controlling the volume envelope of an individual track of the entire mix.
6. Interest. Making the mix special.