



Lesson: Orchestration Station

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Resources: Studio One DAW

NAfME Standards:

4. Composing and arranging music within specified guidelines.
7. Evaluating music and music performances.

Objectives: Students will learn to orchestrate musical arrangements.

Procedure:

1. Discuss the principles of orchestration and instrument selection using appropriate listening examples. Try comparing the piano solo version of Modest Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition" to Ravel's orchestrated version.
2. Discuss MIDI and collect files from the web. Public Domain MIDI files can be downloaded for free on many websites, including:
<http://www.kunsterfuge.com>.
3. Create a new song in Studio One. In the "files" tab of the browse menu, select the midi file and drag into Studio One. The files will automatically render in multiple tracks, depending on how many MIDI channels are used in the original file.
4. Solo each track to hear the musical line and decide what the best instrument would be for the part. Select "Instruments" in the browse menu. Select an appropriate instrument sound and drag and drop to apply the sound to each track.
5. Share performances with the class and compare orchestrations.