Lesson: Transcription
Author: John Mlynczak

Level: Intermediate/Advanced

Resources: Studio One® DAW

NAfME Standards:
5. Reading and notating music
6. Listening to, analyzing, and describing music.

Objectives: Students will use the timestretch and transpose features in Studio One to aid in transcribing music.

Procedure:
1. Discuss transcription guidelines and identify a section of a tune for the assignment.
2. Create a new song in Studio One, and use the browse menu to select the audio file. Drag the file into the main window to create a new track.
3. Open the “Inspector” menu and set the file tempo to the tempo of the track. Set the metronome tempo to the file tempo as well.
4. In the “Inspector” menu, set the “Tempo” field to “Timestretch”. Now the track tempo will change with the metronome. The track can also be transposed by entering the desired number of half steps in the “Transpose” field.
5. Highlight a selection of audio for transcription and create a loop.
6. Transcribe the selection of audio and adjust the loop, tempo, and key as needed.
7. Follow up by adjusting the difficulty of the passage, or have students recreate songs using virtual instruments in Studio One.