

# BEATS BY GIRLS LESSON 3

## Today's Lesson – Teacher Overview:

Start adding structure and form to the end product. Like a story, you want their beats to have a beginning, middle and end. We'll be building upon the same workflow as the last two lessons

## Introduction to Form

- Ask them what they think the different sections of a song are. Write them down on a white board as they call them out
- Highlight and explain the dynamic build of the 'traditional form' they're already familiar with INTRO, VERSE, CHORUS, OUTRO. Each part tells a part of the story and contrasts from the other parts
- Choose a song (there might have been a class favorite from the first day) and listen to it and have them call out when each new section of the song comes in
- Ask them about what made the sections different from each other. How did you know the chorus was the chorus? Why do you like this song? What's the part you remember the most or sing to yourself when the song isn't playing?

## Let's Make a Beat

Collaborate on a group beat and then perform/global record an INTRO/VERSE/CHORUS/OUTRO form – add everyone RENAMING their MIDI channels as their name

- Start by making a drum loop together and layering as per the first two lessons. COMPOSE->RECORD->QUANTIZE->DUPLICATE – one square/sound per person
- Choose or create another MIDI channel, select a sound and continue to build the composition. Encourage them to create contrast. If the first person did something fast, what could you do that's different than that? If one person programmed in something that's very high pitched, what could you do to create contrast? Does the melody stay on one note? Did their melody go down? So on and so forth. Ask them questions to get them thinking about what they're doing and critically listening.
- Enter session mode
- STOP ALL CLIPS by pushing SHIFT->STOP on Push
- Walk them through the SHARING YOUR SONG emphasizing how you're making decisions based on which section of the song you're building. Create sectional contrast.

## Optional Teacher Freestyle

Depending on the dynamic you may have a group that doesn't talk much, and other times you will experience the complete opposite. By doing a freestyle you're saying 'it's okay to be silly and have fun' which is the type of mind frame you want them in at this point. Making Music = FUN!

- Press playback on the arrangement and freestyle the lyrics of a song which are about the different sections of a song as they progress along the timeline. Ex: 'This is the verse of the song, this is the verse of the song, I made this beat and it can't be beat, this is the verse of the song... now we're in the chorus, everyone join us, cause this is the chorus chorus chorus.'
- Add in a section where you repeat the same line and get everyone to clap along before heading into the OUTRO
- The idea is to be silly and not take it too seriously – lighten the mood and drive the concept home with some improvisation.

## **Independent Work**

- Participants move to their own computer and make their own beats. Before they begin remind them that the point of the lesson is that their final/exported beat tells a story which has a beginning, middle and end – so they need to write each section with those things in mind
- At this point their own unique workflow should be developing. It's up to you and your teaching assistants to help them troubleshoot quickly and also suggest different ways of doing things that will help them advance. You want them to be feeling creative and technical, but not get bogged down on the technical side of things
- 5 minutes before moving on to Global Record –
  - Headphones down,
  - Stop playback,
  - Turn off metronome,
  - Listen to where everyone is at by monitoring
  - Applause!!

## **Sharing Your Song**

- In the last 20 minutes of class pass out the Sharing Your Song appendix A.
- Last reminder that everyone's song needs a INTRO/VERSE/CHORUS/OUTRO
- Walk them through the steps by having them follow along to your clicks/monitor/visual
- Export to the desktop

Have each participant fill out the DISTRIBUTION FORM so that you can email them their beat!!

## **Youtube focus on Georgia Anne Muldrow**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GN0xjynaPRQ>

## **Shut Down**

- Have them save their sessions one last time
- Shut down the software
- Put the Computer to sleep
- Place headphones and chair back at the station in the right place

## **Teacher Wrap up**

Send them their beats

File Management