

A black and white photograph of a man with a beard, wearing a jacket, looking intently at a mixing console in a recording studio. The background is slightly blurred, showing studio equipment.

MUSICAL ALCHEMY TOWARDS PRODUCTION MASTERY

ALI MCLEOD

Musical Alchemy: Towards Production Mastery

A creative project combining research, practical application of production skills and business planning, where my role was a producer of other artists.

- What does a great producer do?
- For what reason do artists seek the services of a producer?
- What are the skills required of a great producer?
- How does a great producer take a song or a piece of music and ‘turn it into gold’?



OBJECTIVE

Develop and enhance the skills I require to be a sought-after music producer.

PLAN OF ACTION

THE SONGS

- ★ Northbound Train - Nan MacMillan 
- ★ Greener Country - Nan MacMillan
- ★ Everybody Loves My Baby - Peter Gun & Paper Hats 
- ★ Crazy People - Peter Gun & Paper Hats 
- ★ My Future Just Passed - Peter Gun & Paper Hats 
- ★ Georgia On My Mind - Cristy Alover
- ★ We Should Stick Together - Sarah Martinson
- ★ Bluebirds - Sarah Martinson
- ★ Just Friends - Gracie Laboy
- ★ Ladybird - Gracie Laboy
- ★ Howl - Naomi Westwater
- ★ Aires De Pontevedra - Dan Caton

A photograph of a railway track stretching into the distance, flanked by fields and trees. The tracks are made of steel rails on a bed of gravel, leading the eye towards a vanishing point in the distance. The surrounding landscape includes dry, yellowish-brown fields and bare trees, suggesting a late autumn or winter setting. The sky is overcast.

NORTHBOUND TRAIN

NAN MACMILLAN





CRAZY PEOPLE

PETER GUN & PAPER HATS

SINCERELY,
WOMEN

GEORGIA ON MY MIND

CRISTY ALOVER



GEORGIA ON MY MIND

(GOSPEL SHUFFLE)

♩ = 140

HOAGY CHARMICHAEL

ARR. ALI MCLEOD & BEN BURRELL

INTRO

Dmaj7 F#m7(b13) G7(SUS4) G7(SUS4)

5

Bb7 Bb7 A7

7 (A1)

D7 F#7 Bm Bm/A E/G# A7(SUS4)

15

D7 B7 G7(SUS4) A7(SUS4) C7(SUS4) A7(SUS4) D7

23

C7 Db7 D7

27

Em7 F#m7 Gmaj7 E/G# A7(SUS4) D7(SUS4)

31 (B1)

Gmaj7 F#7ALT Bm7 E7 Gmaj7 F#7 Bm7 E7

39

Bm Bm/A# Bm/A G#m7(b5) F#m7 Bm7 Em7 F#m7 Gmaj7 E/G# A7(SUS4)

47 (A2)

D7 F#7 Bm Bm/A E/G# A7(SUS4)

2

F#m7 B7 Em7 F#m7 Gmaj7 Em7

58

Dmaj7 F#m7(b13) G7(SUS4) G7(SUS4)

62

E7(SUS4) G#m7(b13) A7(SUS4)

66 (A3)

E7 G#7 C#m C#m/B F#/A# B7(SUS4)

74

E7 C#7 A7(SUS4) B7(SUS4) D7(SUS4) B7(SUS4)

82

E7

86

F#m7 G#m7 Amaj7 F#/A# B7(SUS4) E7(SUS4)

90 (B2)

Amaj7 G#7ALT C#m7 F#7 Amaj7 G#7 C#m7 F#7

98

C#m C#m/B# C#m/B A#m7(b5) G#m7 C#m7 F#m7 B7(SUS4) C7(SUS4)

106 (A4) VOCALS BACK IN

F7 A7 Dm Dm/C G/B C7(SUS4)

GEORGIA ON MY MIND

HORNS

HOAGY CHARMICHAEL

ARR. ALI MCLEOD & BEN BURRELL



♩ = 140

INTRO

TRUMPET

ALTO SAX

TENOR SAX

TROMBONE

8

Dmaj7 F#m7(b13) G7(SUS4)

13

Dmaj7 F#m7(b13) G7(SUS4) Bb7 A7

(A1)

10 2

19-28 29-30

1. C7(SUS4) A7(SUS4)

2

35 D7

2.

39 Em7 F#m7 Gmaj7 E/G# A7(SUS4) D7(SUS4)

(B1)

43 Gmaj7 F#7ALT. Bm7 E7 Gmaj7 F#7 Bm7 E7



**WE SHOULD STICK
TOGETHER**

SARAH MARTINSON



JUST FRIENDS

GRACIE LABOY

JUST FRIENDS

(16TH FUNKY SLOW-JAM)

♩ = 75

JOHN KLENNER

ARR. BEN BURRELL & ALI MCLEOD

INTRO

F F# Eb F F# Eb F F# Eb F

5 (A) Bbmaj7 Eb7(SUS4) Fmaj7 Abm7 Db7

9 C7(SUS4) C7 Am7 Dm7 Bbmaj7 Am7(b13) B7ALT.

13 (B) Bbmaj7 Eb7(SUS4) Fmaj7 Abm7

17 Gm7 D7(SUS4) Ebmaj7 Ebmaj7(#11) Ebmaj7 Ebmaj7(#11)

To CODA

21 Fmaj7 F#maj7 Ebmaj9 Fmaj7 F#maj7 Ebmaj9

D.S. AL CODA

25 Fmaj7 F#maj7 Am7(b13) Bbmaj7 Am7(b13) Ab7 Dbmaj7

SOLOS

29 Gm7 C7(SUS4) Fmaj7 F#maj7

OUTRO

33 Am7(b13) Bbmaj7 Am7(b13) Ab7 Dbmaj7 Gm7 C7(SUS4) B7(#11)

2 37 Bbmaj7 C Bb/D Em9 Bb6 Am7(b13) Ab7 Gm7 C7(SUS4)

41 F F# Eb F F# Eb F F# Eb F

45 (A) Bbmaj7 Eb7(SUS4) Fmaj7 Abm7 Db7

49 C7(SUS4) C7 Am7 Dm7 Bbmaj7 Am7(b13) B7ALT.

53 (B) Bbmaj7 Eb7(SUS4) Fmaj7 Abm7

57 Gm7 D7(SUS4) C7(SUS4) D7(SUS4) Ebmaj7 Ebmaj7(#11) Ebmaj7 Ebmaj7(#11)

61 Fmaj7 F#maj7 Ebmaj9 Fmaj7 F#maj7 Ebmaj9

(Ebmaj9/G) - LAST X ONLY

VAMP TILL CUE

RIT. LAST X

65 Cmaj7

FINE

JUST FRIENDS

(16TH FUNKY SLOW-JAM)

♩ = 75

JOHN KLENNER

ARR. BEN BURRELL & ALI McLEOD

INTRO

F F# Eb F F# Eb F F# Eb F

5

F F# Eb F F# Eb F F# Eb F

(A1)

9

Bbmaj7 Eb7(SUS4) Fmaj7 Abm7 Db7

6

I-LOUDE

F F# Eb F F# Eb F F# Eb F

(A3)

65

Bbmaj7 Eb7(SUS4) Fmaj7 Abm7 Db7

69

C7(SUS4) C7 Am7 Dm7 Bbmaj7 Am7(b13) B7ALT.



HOWL

NAOMI WESTWATER

HOWL

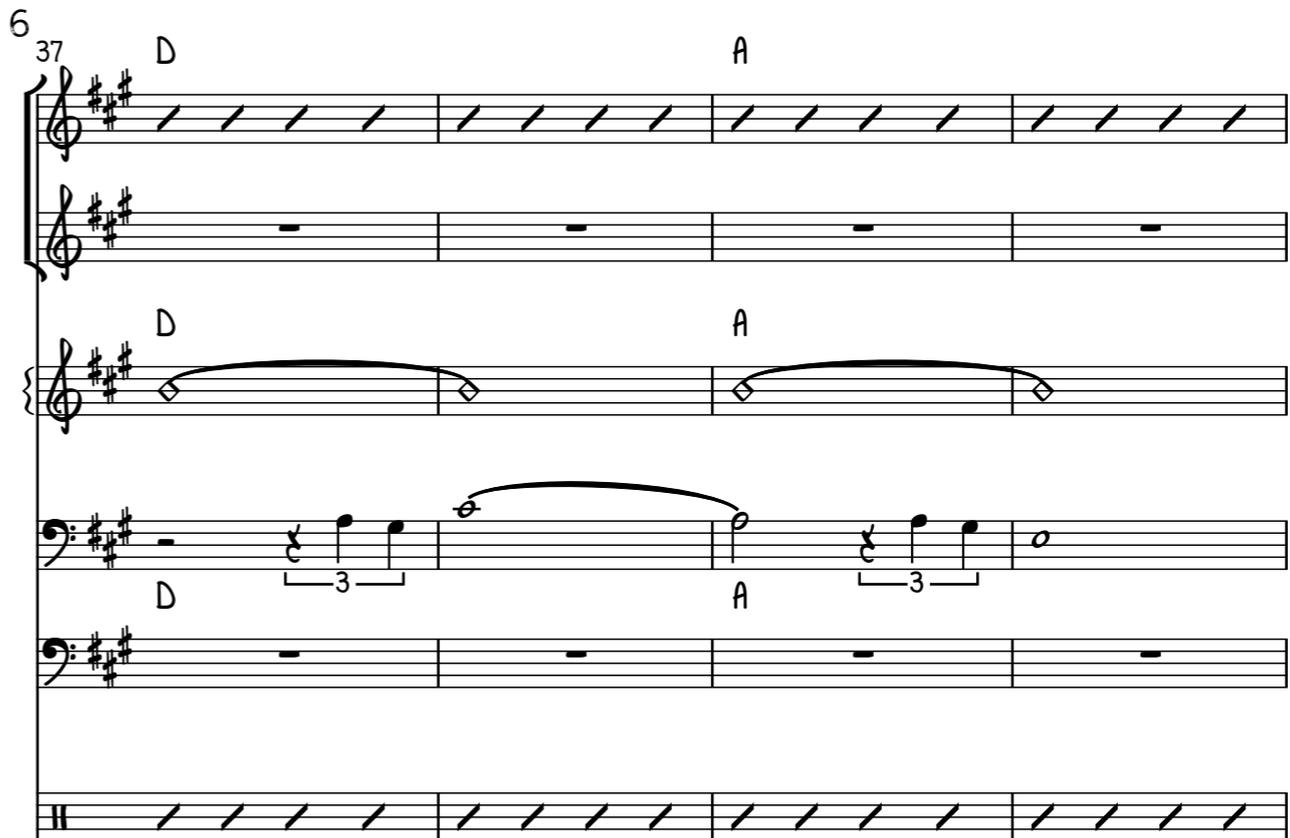
NAOMI WESTWATER

INTRO

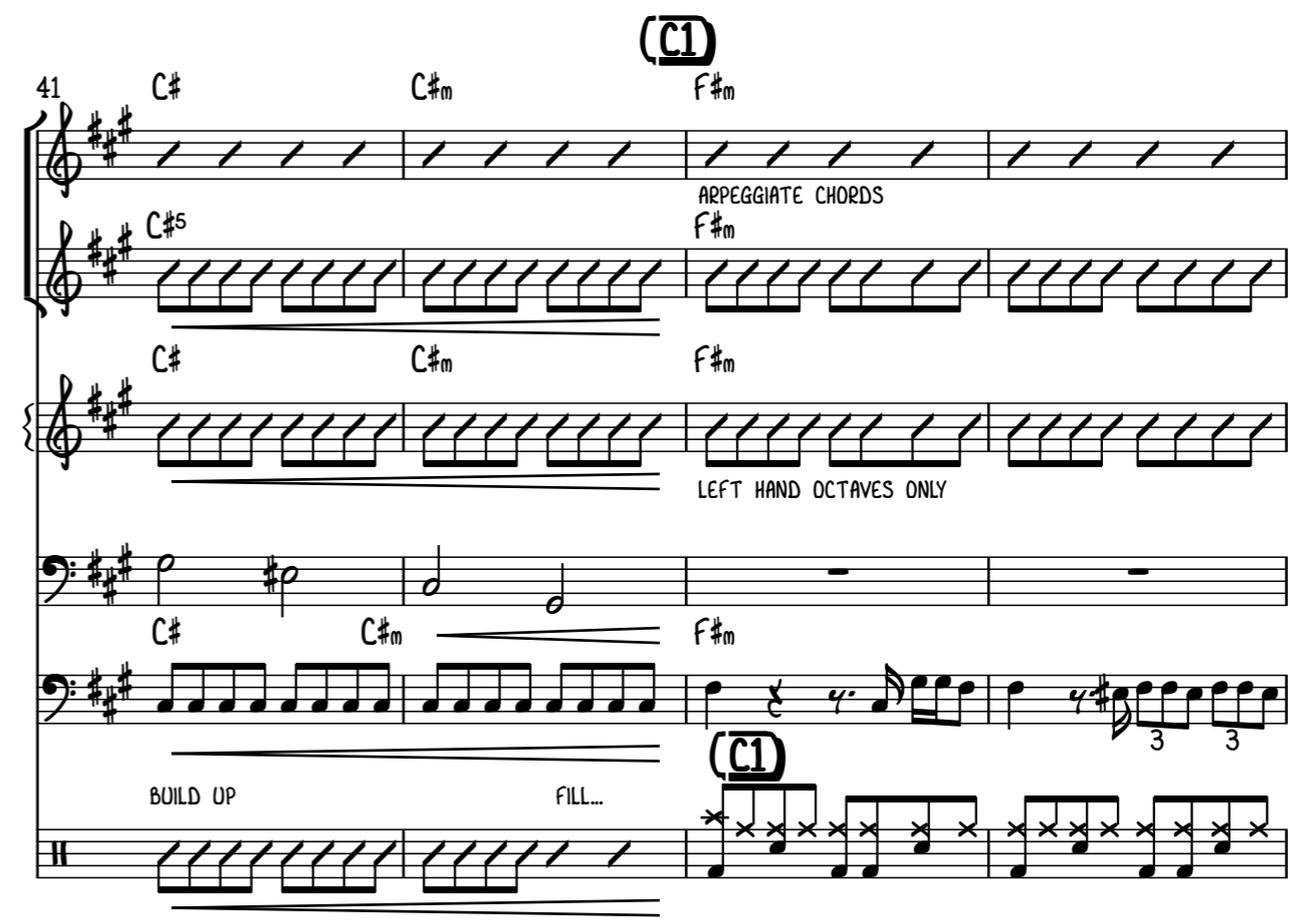

♩ = 80



6 37



41



WHAT DID I LEARN?

“...a great artist makes a song better; a great producer makes an artist better; and a great artist makes a producer better”.

Nile Rogers

TOTAL NO. OF HOURS SPENT ON EACH PROJECT

	ARTIST MEETINGS	ARRANGING & CHARTING	REHEARSALS	STUDIO SESSIONS	EDITING / COMPING MIXING / MASTERING	
NORTHBOUND TRAIN	7	7	2	21	25.5	62.5
GREENER COUNTRY	2	0	0	10	4	16
PETER GUN & PAPER HATS (ELMB, CP & MFJP)	2	0	2	8	27	39
GEORGIA ON MY MIND	2	7.5	3.5	18	23	54
WE SHOULD STICK TOGETHER	4	0	1	27	52.5	84.5
BLUEBIRDS	0	0	0	18	36	54
GRACIE LABOY (JF & LB)	2	9	2.5	16	25	54.5
HOWL	3	4	2	11	21	41
AIRES DE PONTEVEDRA	3	0	0	7	3.5	13.5
TOTAL (HOURS)	25	27.5	13	136	217.5	419
TOTAL (%)	6	6.5	3	32.5	52	

**DID I ACCOMPLISH MY
OBJECTIVES?**

WHAT'S NEXT?

.....

THANK YOU

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REFERENCES

- SLIDE 1 PHOTO - Credit: Karla Leoro
- SLIDE 3 PHOTO - Credit: <https://www.pexels.com/photo/macro-shot-audio-equalizer-744318/>
- SLIDE 6 PHOTO - Credit: <https://www.pexels.com/photo/path-railroad-rails-straight-1425/>
- SLIDE 7 VIDEO - Credit: Shaudi Vahdat, Nan MacMillan, John Forsyth
- SLIDE 8 PHOTO - Credit: Lili Del Sol Atehortúa
- SLIDE 9 CHART - Credit: Peter Gun & Paper Hats
- SLIDE 10 PHOTO - Credit: Disrupción Records
- SLIDE 13 PHOTO - Credit: <https://www.pexels.com/photo/ball-close-up-colors-dark-593467/>
- SLIDE 14 PHOTO - Credit: <https://www.pexels.com/photo/black-and-white-black-and-white-close-up-ivory-586415/>
- SLIDE 17 PHOTO - Credit: <https://www.pexels.com/photo/animal-cold-color-fog-416118/>
- SLIDE 10 QUOTE - Credit: Massey, M. (2000) Behind the Glass: Top Record Producers Tell How They Craft the Hits. San Francisco, CA: Miller Freeman Books.