

CHICAGO TRANSIT (AUDIO) AUTHORITY

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Our final audio project is an interpretation of the sounds one hears when travelling around Chicago on the CTA. Familiar and distinguishable noises such as the announcing of station names and bells as the doors close are juxtaposed with synthesized piano tones to provide a dynamic composition that is reminiscent of the experience one has during the daily bustle of living in the city. Each sound is randomly triggered in the project so that you can't experience the same overall composition twice.

The technical features for this project include the following sections in MAX: Chorus section, reverb for synth tones, synth tone pan, synth tone generator, timer, reverb for short sounds, library of short sounds, and a library of background sounds. The synthesizer tone generator changes the root key of each selection which plays the major scale by default. The overall pitch of each sound depends on which key you're on. The short sounds go through a reverberation process which also goes through the time section, making the sounds triggered randomly in 30 second intervals. It is a similar process for the background sounds which go through the time section.

Alex Sommerville recorded and manipulated the sounds in Ableton. Morgan Osborn developed the Max Patch to create the overall composition. Joseph Kim recorded vocal samples and typed the write-up.