



RSCDS-SF Music players, Apps, and Amplifiers

ARMIN BUSSE

01/20/2018 TEACHERS' COMMITTEE MEETING

Overview

- Music players
- Electronic Music Player Software
- Electronic Music Player Features
- Amplifiers
- Summary

Analog Music Players (Records, Tapes, CDs)

RECORD PLAYER

- Heavy (player, records)
- Easy preparation for class (more delicate transport)
- Easy and fast access of music tracks
- Variable speed easy and direct
- Annual maintenance

CD AND TAPE PLAYER

- Player can be light
combined amplifier can be heavy
- Easy preparation for class
- Easy and fast access of music tracks (tapes need a self wind to track)
- Variable speed (with aftermarket speed control)
- Annual maintenance

Digital Music Players (MP3s, M4a)

COMPUTER (WINDOWS/APPLE)

- Medium weight and setup
- Installed music player software
- Source to file translation (create playable electronic files & archive)
- Easy class preparation & fast access (archive preparation work)
- Variable speed => software
- Frequent updates and "features"

MP3 PLAYER (GEN. MP3, IPOD+..)

- Player usually very light and small
- Challenging source to file translation
- Easy preparation for class
- Easy class preparation & fast access (archive preparation work)
- Variable speed => software
- Little to no updates (maintenance)

Electronic Music Player Software

- Apple vs. Windows Computer vs. Android
 - iTunes
 - Steady, solid, but no speed control
 - Amazing SlowDowner (Apple/Win)
 - Commercial (nominal cost, \$15/\$50)
 - Can use playlists
 - Excellent speed control and features
- Media Player (Windows)
 - Free with Windows
 - Has crackling problems with some tracks
 - Playlists?
- PlayMaetion (Android)

Electronic Music Player Features

- Considering remote control via Bluetooth
 - Nintendo Wii console controller
 - iPod+
 - iTunes Remote (iTunes, last reviews reported issues...)
 - Other..?
- Pitch control (Musicians)
 - Amazing SlowDowner

Amplifiers

- Room/dance area size
- Sound quality in room (e.g. concrete walls, curtains, floor, outdoor)
- Risk of loss of signal (cable vs. Bluetooth)
- Dancers only or audience
- This leads to:
 - Amplification power needed (size, portability)
 - Power outlet availability and placement of control (...also desk for teaching material)
 - Single vs. multiple speakers and placement
 - Choice of control location (fixed in room or with teacher)

Summary

- Interesting to look back and evaluate “old” features (e.g. direct track access)
- Electronic players offer a potential size and expansion advantage
- Tryout software and if interested in specific software ask RSCDS-SF reflector
- Additional amplification is needed with most players

- Let's talk and share...