

Adam Cooper
Miller Arts Scholars
Fall 2019 Mini Grant Outcome Report

Project Title: Experimental Music Project (The Cello and Beyond), a continuation

I would like to first thank the Miller Arts Scholars program for allowing me to explore a new area of music that would have never been possible without this financial support. The opportunity to explore electronic music with a range of equipment has allowed this musical project to significantly shape my time as a musician at UVa. I have always wanted to explore the full capacity of the cello, and utilizing both this mini grant and the third-year award has allowed me to create new music that I never knew was possible. This report will be structured by explaining how each piece of equipment from the mini grant has allowed me to expand my experimental cello project and will follow with a summary.

USB adapters: These adapters have allowed me to use my DDJ-SB controller and my Ableton Push simultaneously, allowing me to fuse mixes with production sounds. I can also access a wider range of synthetic sounds that I can incorporate into live sets.

Bose Headphones: Words fall far too short to describe just how incredible these headphones have been. Good quality headphones are crucial to understand the music production process, and these headphones have been absolutely superb. I have used them both live performance and for production. The clarity of various instruments heard simultaneously is incredible.

Loop Station: This might be the most fun piece of equipment I have purchased. Easy looping capability allows me to make my cello sound like a duet from a concert hall or two electric guitars at a rock concert. This loop station has multi-loop capacity that provides greater flexibility, creating an awesome effect for performances.

Pioneer Case: As I have begun to produce more music and perform more, I have needed to transport my equipment to various places. This case has been invaluable in safely transporting my DDJ-SB controller, allowing me to be able to commit to gigs in various places without concern for damaging my equipment.

Summary: Each piece of equipment has allowed me to continue to expand my capacity to create music. Whether discovering new loop capabilities, being able to analyze tracks at new levels with my headphones, or fusing together production and mixing practices, the equipment from this mini grant has been incredibly valuable. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to explore this music, and I look forward to continuing this experimentation in the years to come.