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My Misc Tape: An Album

I spent time this past fall semester and during this winter break writing and recording music and sounds for my album *My Miscellaneous Tape*. I recently returned from my trip from Thailand, where I recorded sounds of my heritage, focusing in on Buddhist temples. I recorded the atmosphere and sounds of chanting monks during various occasions. Some common sounds at temples included bells, coins, and running water. I also recorded sounds of family members and friends speaking in Thai and hope to incorporate the beautiful language into the piece. I also use this method of collecting sounds for my birthday track. I invited friends over to my house to experiment with sounds and instruments and recorded the whole night. As planned, I intend on condensing these sounds into a track reflecting my trip and my birthday experiences over winter break.

In addition to recording sounds from specific experiences, I wrote and recorded several songs with my peers throughout the semester. These songs reflected on my personal experiences of ups and downs throughout this semester. I also recorded two French pieces, one aria and one art song, that I was working on with Mrs. Beasley. In addition to using these recordings for the album, I submitted them to a French vocal competition. Although I was not selected as a finalist for the competition, the experience allowed me to push my vocal boundaries, especially with the Offenbach's Doll Aria, which ranges up to an E6.

The creation of this album has taken me on an emotional and physical journey that has allowed me to get to know myself and my role as an Arts Scholar at UVA better. Writing music and thinking about its production forced me to dig deep to find the truest way of representing my idea. Deciding what tracks will make it to the final work will show which of my pieces reflect my whole UVA experience best. I have already started uploading tracks onto my SoundCloud, but when complete, I will be uploading the album as a whole onto <https://soundcloud.com/marchaitea>.

I would like to thank the Miller Arts Scholars Program and its donors for this opportunity to pursue and explore the different angles of and ways to express my music and myself.