

Hear It From the Front DJ Workshop Pt. 1/3

Feb 17, 2024

@places.wav

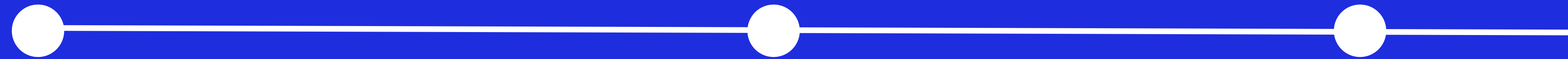
Join the Discord



Welcome
and Thank You!

If you are here, you belong!

Overview



February

Chats, Thinking,
Getting Started

Introduction (10 mins)

Chats: Setting the Dancefloor (25 mins)

Mixing Overview (20 mins)

Break (5 mins)

Deck 101 (20 mins)

Q&A (10 mins)

Next Steps (5 mins)

March

Deeper dive
into Mixing

April

Building capacity,
more mixing, thinking

Introduction

Hamilton
Artists Inc.

Places

What is it?

a music/DJ collective that celebrates and prioritizes local Hamilton DJs, selectors, live acts, and venues

Mission:

solve a local and concrete music problem by creating a musical and social ecosystem

What is the challenge?

- lack of resources, venues
- stereotypes about DJ
- lack of musical education
- celebrity culture (“me me me”)
- Big cities versus Hamilton
- “Algorithm anarchy” — act of selecting

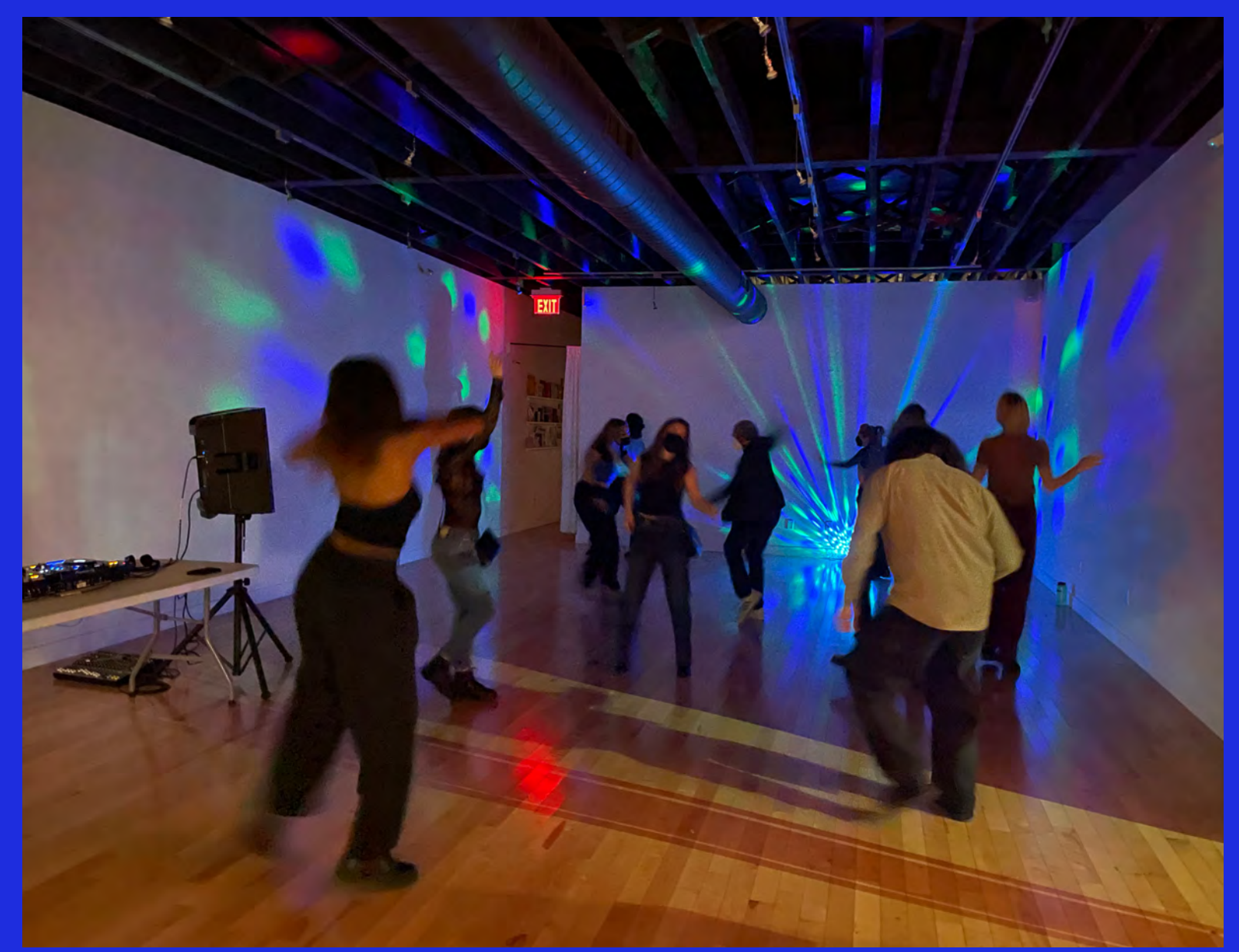
Creating a musical ecosystem

on-air creation & presentation



You? In a collective culture?

playing in person



education



*creating conditions, new
relationships, new and
sustainable "economy" (?)*

Setting the Dancefloor

1-2-4 thinking

Setting the Dancefloor

Join the Discord
#hiftf-cohort



Dunaway+Nikhil intro

Yourself 1 >> 2 >> 4 (5 mins each)

- Reflect on what drew you into joining the program?
- What are you hoping to learn throughout the series (2-3 things)
- What are some of your listening and music habits?
 - Where do you listen to music?
 - What types of music are you or have you been listening to? How has your “taste” changed?
 - What do you think a DJ does/plays?

Discussion & Facilitation (10 mins)

Discussion

- social practice?
- “I thought DJs only play house/techno?”
- “Are DJs just appropriating sounds? Are they original?”
- Streaming era
- Celebrity & Collective?

Mixing Overview

Mixing Overview

Mixing Music as Communication

What is your idea? What is the place? What is the time?
Who are you playing with/for? How are you feeling? What is feel?

Types of Mixes/Mixing



Halloween mix /
Trap / Hip Hop



Disclosure b2b
Annie Mac
4:20-6:20



Peggy Gou @ Giant Steps
16:18 (play for a minute ,
skip to 21:30, play for a
minute , skip to 25:30)

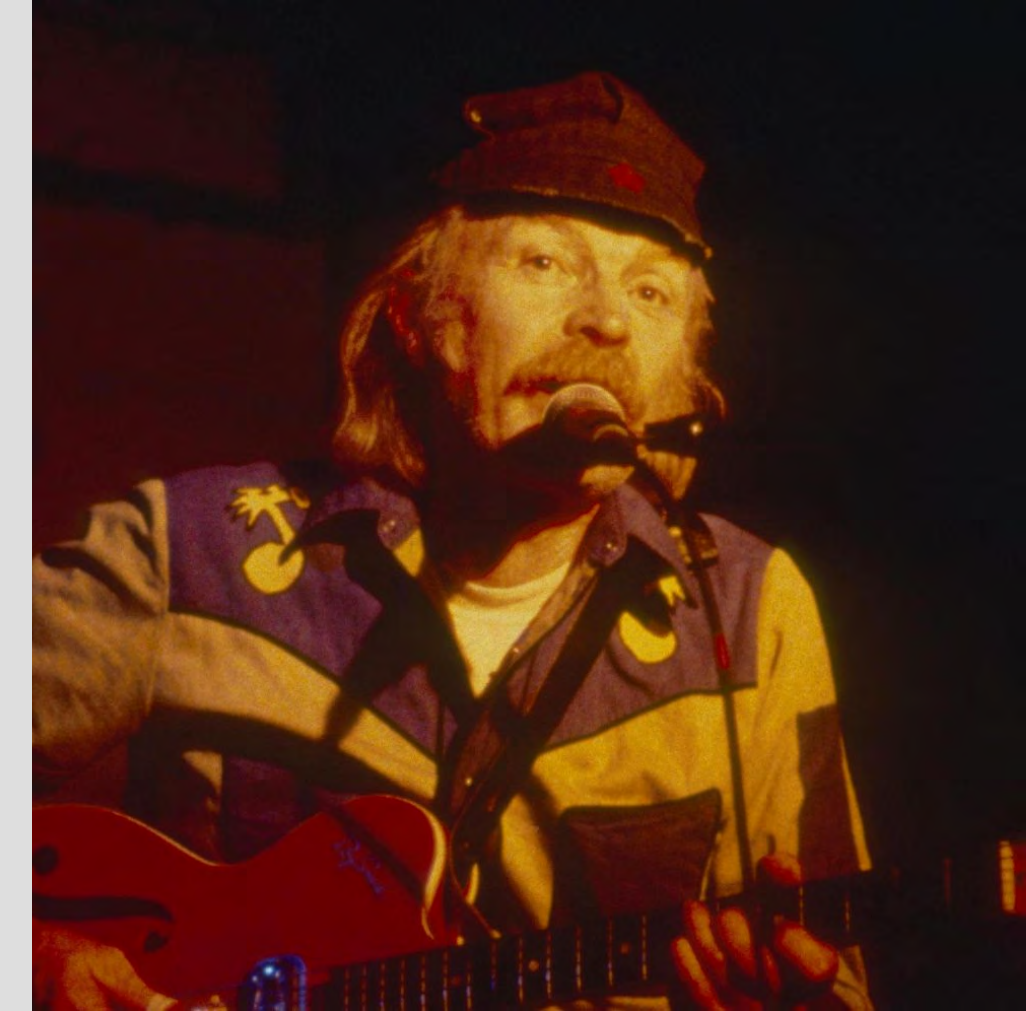
Multi genre/ selectors
choice/ playing full tracks

Types of Mixes/Mixing



Earl Sweatshirt & Solange

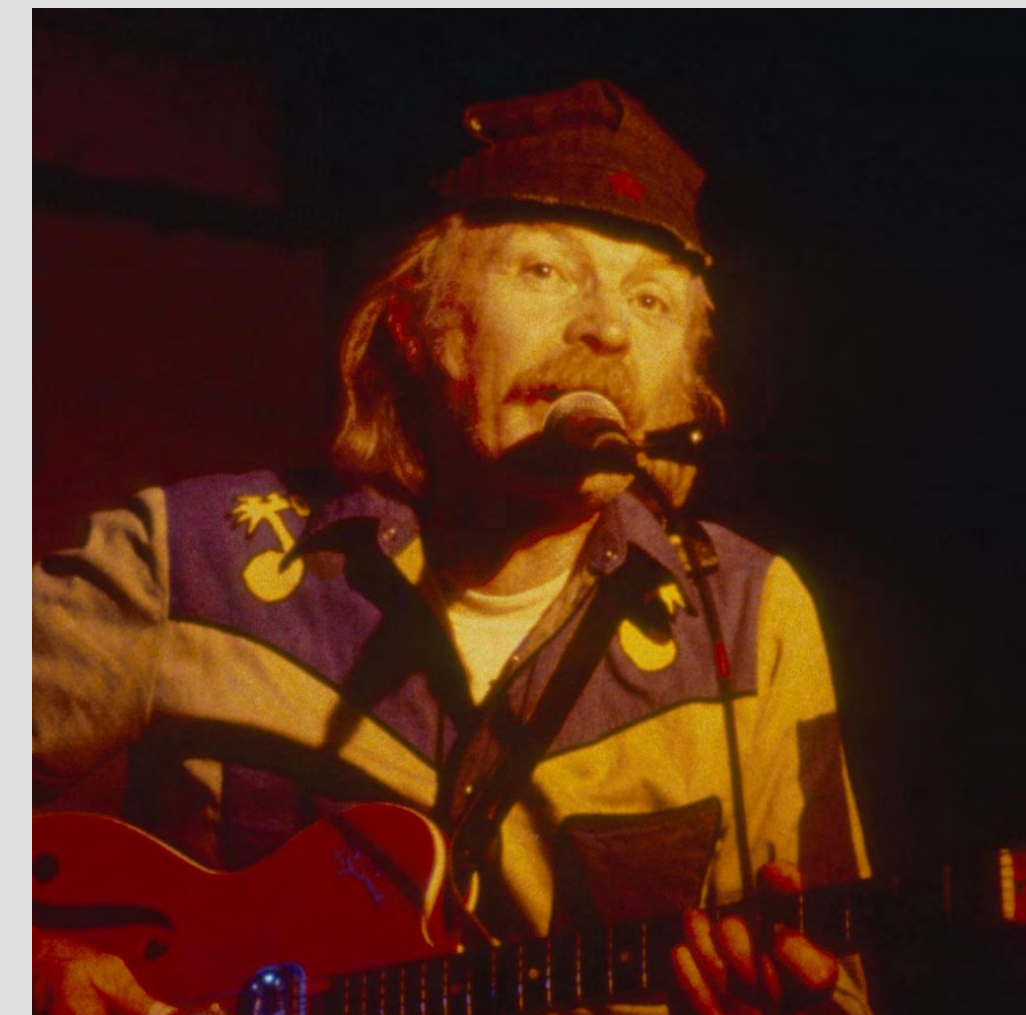
Radio mix / podcast mix /
backstory / cool story /
album art / song intro



In Focus: Michael Hurley

In focus mix / brief
description/ story of artist
led by deep dive

mixing Spectrum?





Shift Radio @ Montreal



LOT Radio @ New York



ISO Radio @ Toronto



Places @ CFMU Hamilton!

People-first Philosophy

- algorithm hierarchy?
- situating music socially & locally
- think of DJs as your friends
- education, experimentation, organizing
- DJ-ing as musical journalism

Can we move away celebrity culture?
Call for: collective culture, problem-solving, open-source knowledge, no gatekeeping

MORE PEOPLE
CASUALLY
DJING
IS GOOD FOR MUSIC

MOST OF DJ TWITTER
IS 40 YEAR OLD DJs
ASKING WHY 18 YEAR
OLD RAVERS DON'T
KNOW SONGS THAT
CAME OUT 25
YEARS AGO.

Deck 101

Chances are, you have
already been DJ-ing

music sequencing, programming
curating, selecting, mixing, dancing,
befriending, people-managing, teaching,
listening, sharing, (re)searching, digging,
producing, protesting...etc

Club Setup?

SOUND SYSTEM



USB - YOUR MUSIC



CONTROLLER - THE "DECKS"



Today's Setup

SOUND SYSTEM



USB - YOUR MUSIC



CONTROLLER - THE "DECKS"



Perfect Setup?

LAPTOP – THE “DECKS”



SPEAKERS OR HEADPHONES AT HOME



Closer to the Deck!

Recap

| Music is everywhere and it's
not going anywhere

| Education, listening, creating,
experimenting, making music
decisions in your everyday live

| Get local, pay it forward, get involved

Creating a musical ecosystem

on-air creation & presentation



playing in person



education



creating conditions, new relationships, new and sustainable "economy" (?)

Discord

“trying” to be intentional about organizing LOL



A screenshot of the Discord desktop application interface. The window title is "# general". The left sidebar shows a server named "Places" with a channel list including "WELCOME", "TEXT CHANNELS" (with "# general" selected), and "VOICE CHANNELS". The main chat area shows a conversation with messages from users like "incapablenikhil", "marissa888joy", "tompepper", "Dunaway", and "DJ Synth". A message from "Dunaway" is highlighted, containing a link to a website and a list of items: "CFMU", "Operatic Agency", and "Home". The right sidebar shows a list of online users (12) and offline users (28). The bottom status bar shows the user "Dunaway" is online and has a microphone icon.

What's Next

- Join the discord the workshop cohort (#hifftf-cohort)
- Share on the server 2-3 songs you would like to play & mix in the next workshop
- Will share this presentation and some additional resources (as to where to find music) **ON THE DISCORD!**

Next Workshop

- Saturday, March 16, 3:30-5:00pm
- Collecting all the tracks you provided and hands-on mixing 101 (+confidence)
- Listening to more mix examples
- Mixing fundamentals, basics, and tips
- Working towards: playing on air in June
 - Will check in to see who's interested!

THANK YOU!

PWYCY!