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## OT//New way to transition between tracks like Ableton [VID]

Posted by biologik - 2013/03/29 05:27

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EDIT: Here's a link to the video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VMhA8a6SiMU&feature=youtu.be>

I had a BIG breakthrough tonight.

I found that if you turn off loopmode and use the trigs to fire off clips in "plays free mode" you can have the OT act EXACTLY like Ableton's launch capabilities for transitioning. The only caveat: it only works for loops. Still great though! You can always sample your sequenced out stuff into a spare track.

Here's how:

- 1) Turn on all tracks to play free. Set the trig mode to ONE2. Now when you hit a trig it'll start to play and will be synced. I have it synced to the pattern length.
- 2) Make sure all your loops have loop mode set to OFF

Now, let's say you've got 2 patterns. Most people, including me, would transition using the crossfader trick. Now, there's no need to. You can switch patterns and replace each track one by one.

So, you've playing your track, turning tracks off and on. Now it's time to transition. Turn Loop Mode to ON on ALL the loops you want to carry over. Then, you can switch patterns and have those loops still playing. As long as your next pattern is setup the same way they won't fire until you hit a trig. So, now you can replace the bassline with a touch of the trig! Then swap out the kick drum, then hats etc! It works great!

The only issue is that it's annoying to change the loop mode (well, to me it is). Does anyone know if there is a SYSEX command that can control this?

Have fun!

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## Re:OT // New way to transition between tracks! (Like Ableton)

Posted by biologik - 2013/03/29 06:31

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OK - I figured out a great workaround baring any SYSEX nightmares.

Simply copy your last pattern to a new one and use a different part that has loop mode ON for everything.

Now, it's just like ableton in terms of launching and slowly bringing in one track at a time! It works great!

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## Re:OT // New way to transition between tracks! (Like Ableton)

Posted by MK7 - 2013/03/29 06:47

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Nice trick!

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## Re:OT // New way to transition between tracks! (Like Ableton)

Posted by skab - 2013/03/29 07:03

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<http://physics.weber.edu/carroll/archimedes/images/eureka.gif>

Nice work!

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## Re:OT // New way to transition between tracks! (Like Ableton)

Posted by BlueWolfSe7en - 2013/03/29 07:24

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You Sir have made my day! :laugh:

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## Re:OT // New way to transition between tracks! (Like Ableton)

Posted by biologik - 2013/03/29 07:42

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I'll make a video this weekend. I can't believe how great this works!!!

EDIT/UPDATE:

There are still some quicks i'm trying to figure out..

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## Re:OT // New way to transition between tracks! (Like Ableton)

Posted by Bart2 - 2013/03/29 08:33

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Simply copy your last pattern to a new one and use a different part

Actually in my opinion that's the best way making transitions. No fancy tricks needed.

- Make sure that you always use 1 bank for 2 songs with Part 1 for Song 1 and Part 3 for Song 2. Part 2 and Part 4 will be the parts where we make our transitions.

- Always keep 2 or more patterns per Bank free for your transition patterns. For example:  
Pattern 1 to 7 for Song 1, Pattern 8 for the transition, 9 to 15 for song 2 and 16 again for a transition to the next Bank.

- Copy and paste the pattern of Song 1 you want to alter and make the transition from and change it's Part to Part 2.

- Save part 1 then copy Part 1 of Song 1 to Part 2. Now you are free to alter it without changing Part 1 of Song 1

- Lets decide which tracks can be taken out of Song 1 to be replaced with some tracks of Song 2.

- Copy a Track of Song 2 and Paste it into a Track of the transition pattern (which you just set to Part 2). Repeat as needed and save Part 2.

- To make a transition from Song 2 to Song 3 in the next bank basically do the same except now copy the tracks from Song 3 to the previous Bank.

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## Re:OT // New way to transition between tracks! (Like Ableton)

Posted by biologik - 2013/03/29 09:05

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That way works but it requires structure.

The way I'm doing it does not require that. You can switch from any pattern and mix in and out seamlessly. I've figured out a few extra things and will make a video. It's about as complicated as doing the fader trick in terms of setting it up but it's MUCH EASIER to transition with this new way.

I'm calling it the logical-transition ;P

This is my project this weekend.

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## Re:OT // New way to transition between tracks! (Like Ableton)

Posted by N\_Rain - 2013/03/29 09:24

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:watch:

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## Re:OT // New way to transition between tracks! (Like Ableton)

Posted by Lindsay - 2013/03/29 09:33

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N\_Rain wrote:

:watch:

+1

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## Re:OT // New way to transition between tracks! (Like Ableton)

Posted by BlueWolfSe7en - 2013/03/29 19:24

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If you assign one shot trigs using Biologiks method it works a treat!

Simply have Rec light on, then choose a track, hit Enter & that one is replaced whilst the others continue to loop - very cool!!!

:lvl:

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## Re:OT // New way to transition between tracks! (Like Ableton)

Posted by rhizome - 2013/03/29 21:24

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good tip. I hope they add more options to change how free playing tracks work on pattern change -- start free playing track on pattern switch, or even keep track's last pattern until new one is triggered, etc. I think that would also go a long way to help solve the delay/reverb tail cutting problem...

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## Re:OT // New way to transition between tracks! (Like Ableton)

Posted by previewlounge - 2013/03/29 21:44

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this all sounds very bizarre, awesome, practical, super cool and next level.

i guess at the moment i am kind of leaning towards just sampling the OT to the MD and then playing that back through the OT while simply muting the OT tracks and previewing them, when changing patterns to a potentially unknown pattern sound ....

but then again, it would be nice to just rock up to gigs with the Octatrack, plug in and play. One device, one performance. At least, to have that option, a super minimal setup time with a rich, vast diverse array of musical rhythms and harmonic plays available.

this new biologik technique sounds promising and would be awesome for one-machine performances.

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## Re:OT // New way to transition between tracks! (Like Ableton)

Posted by Bart2 - 2013/03/29 21:54

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biologik wrote:

That way works but it requires structure.

Thats true. If you are more chaotic in your sets /structure this is awesome!

I will be experimenting with it tonight and this weekend, i like to collab on this as much as possible.

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I kinda feel some people are unaware of the more complex ways to make transitions and are too much used to the old school part-per-pattern-ish workflow. Aka make a pattern, save, copy and paste, change it, save, copy and paste, etc etc.

Now it will be very easy with the Octatrack to make songs without worrying about how to integrate them in your live-performances.

Great find.

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## VIDEO!

Posted by biologik - 2013/03/29 22:42

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<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VMhA8a6SiMU&feature=youtu.be>

The crossfader transition was great, but I found that I messed up once in a while. It's pretty disastrous when you do that in a live setting. It also ate up one of my tracks. This new transition method lets you seamlessly transition between tracks by bringing in one part at a time without the need of the crossfader or internal sampling. It also frees up a track!

One catch: it only works for loops. Not that big of a deal though, you can sample your tracks into a loop on the fly. Still easier than the crossfader transition and the results are much better IMHO. Also, the tails don't get cut off when you bring in something new!

Here's how I have it setup:

- Tracks are in Play Free mode with trig mode being ONE2. This lets you start and stop tracks as per the quantization of your specification. Mine is set to per pattern length. You can set it to whatever you want.
- All loops must have release set to INFINITE (although this only really matters for Part Four)
- Part One: Loop mode is set to AUTO.
- Part Four (or whatever part you want): Loop mode is set to ON

You need Part One because it lets you turn tracks on and off. If you only use Part Four it won't let you turn the track off because it'll loop forever. When it comes time to transition, switch to Part Four and change banks and/or patterns. Now you can bring in new parts one at a time while still being able to modify the previous tracks's parameters.

Have fun!

(NOTE: Sorry about the quality - I realize you can't hear the bass or some of the low-end tweaks I did. You get the idea anyways!)

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## Re:OT//New way to transition between tracks like Ableton [VID]

Posted by biologik - 2013/03/30 00:45

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Oh, I just thought I'd add: If you have a long vocal or other loop and switch patterns it then plays it through. This has been an unbelievably amazing side effect of this process. It's SO useful!

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## Re:OT//New way to transition between tracks like Ableton [VID]

Posted by sicijk - 2013/03/30 04:48

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Great Biologik!  
And once again....PlaysFree rulez!

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## Re:OT//New way to transition between tracks like Ableton [VID]

Posted by license - 2013/03/30 06:33

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Oh my GAWD, I've been sleeping hard on Plays Free. :lvl: Cheers!!

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## Re:OT//New way to transition between tracks like Ableton [VID]

Posted by Octacrak - 2013/03/30 09:20

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This is pretty fucking awesome. This basically makes the OT indistinguishable from Ableton for live performance.

You sir are a gentleman and a scholar. Thanks for sharing this great find!

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## Re:OT//New way to transition between tracks like Ableton [VID]

Posted by Veets - 2013/03/30 09:28

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Pretty sure this one will make the history books. People will be talking about the "Biologik trick" for a long time. :lvl: :lvl: :lvl: Kudos!

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## Re:OT//New way to transition between tracks like Ableton [VID]

Posted by Allerian - 2013/03/30 09:40

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Hats off to you biologik, this is a fantastic workflow. :ohmy:

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## Re:OT//New way to transition between tracks like Ableton [VID]

Posted by biologik - 2013/03/30 21:55

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Cheers guys! :)

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## Re:OT//New way to transition between tracks like Ableton [VID]

Posted by previewlounge - 2013/03/31 14:15

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i was planning a series of five different images, artworks commemorating the Biologik Discovery. but then realised this could be slightly over the top.

so, suffice to say, cheers for the share bro! :)

although i am still learning how and why there must be two Parts used in this freedom-enhancing performance workflow, i do have one question at this current stage of medium illumination...

would having different effects on a Master Track kind of get in the way of this working?

currently, i have Track 8 as the Master track. that is fun to work with and sculpt the overall sound, but if necessary i will relinquish this in favour of the new approach. And it would be a bonus to free up Track 8 again for loops ... or perhaps to use for Gigi's plays-free FX technique.

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## Re:OT//New way to transition between tracks like Ableton [VID]

Posted by jonah - 2013/03/31 22:54

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I'm glad you found a way to make this work for you! Will this finally end the part hate? :laugh:

You should name your parts though.

I knew about the infinite release and play free thing, but wasn't aware of it being like Live or solving a functionality issue people were having....

Another note, it also keeps your audio inputs open and keep in mind you can have different scenes per part. So you could have an LFO linked to a scene that ramps up or down your volume or effects etc. Be sure to play with the LFO sync options! :woohoo:

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## Re:OT//New way to transition between tracks like Ableton [VID]

Posted by Bart2 - 2013/04/01 00:15

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great technique, played 2 days with it.

it's solid. that being said, i use to much one-shot material to incorporate this.

the fact that it also costs 2 Parts, just like the structure-transitions, and it demands several button combo's, wich i can avoid with structure transitions, i must conclude, not my cup of tea.

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## Re:OT//New way to transition between tracks like Ableton [VID]

Posted by previewlounge - 2013/04/01 00:44

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how about one flex machine on a dedicated track in every kit, always set to play free,  
then just sample the master output and assign that sample to the free-playing flex machine?

mute all the other tracks when switching patterns, then mix them in either manually or using scenes, after a smooth pattern changeover is achieved by having the dedicated plays-free flex machine continuing the master output sample from before...

perhaps this may help to avoid the extra use of a precious part?

or is this an over-simplification that may sound okay in theory yet in practise is not so fresh?

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## Re:OT//New way to transition between tracks like Ableton [VID]

Posted by biologik - 2013/04/01 01:01

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@previewlounge No need to give up track 8. You can do what you will with it!

In terms of using an extra part, this is only needed if you use the OT like me. You can still mute the tracks using the loop method. All you have to do is disable the track and then hit funct+stop. This is similar to the way I was using the OT anyways when it was in audio mode. I use the extra part just because I like hitting the trigs as per the video. I actually find myself using only one part more and more now anyways.

@jonah Yeah, I do some extra things with my parts besides what I've shown :)

@bart2 Agreed. If you use a lot of one-shots then it won't be that great. I only use one-shots for vocal samples so it's fine for me. Not sure what you mean about button combos though, you only have to push a trig to start the track. It also lets you maneuver to any other song you may have.

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## Re:OT//New way to transition between tracks like Ableton [VID]

Posted by biologik - 2013/04/01 01:03

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previewlounge wrote:  
how about one flex machine on a dedicated track in every kit, always set to play free,  
then just sample the master output and assign that sample to the free-playing flex machine?

That's essentially the crossfader method of transitioning...?

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