

Ruby Kirk
Senior Capstone

My finished project includes three finalized songs: We've Still Got Time, DEGROWTH, and Small False Start.

[We've Still Got Time](#) (on Spotify)

This song is about my senior year of high school. I spent 28 hours working on it. It's about feeling like I'm running out of time, and knowing that I'll be somewhere completely different next year. It's about feeling sad that all things come to an end. It was written in a place of social turmoil, and the melancholy feelings of change come through in the lyrics and chord progressions. I recorded everything in my room and mixed and mastered it at MilkBoy the Studio with my mentor. The instruments include electric guitar, acoustic guitar, piano, drums (acoustic and programmed), bass, and vocals. It was released on Spotify on March 15th, 2024.

DEGROWTH and Small False Start will release on streaming platforms on June 2nd in an EP titled Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow. The album name is a Shakespeare reference that I thought was appropriate because the overarching theme of the pieces is *time*. These two songs were completely composed from found sounds I recorded in the city and around Philly. Each individual sound is a moment of time captured in a recording, then manipulated to sound musical. The title Small False Start is a reference to the artist Jasper Johns who I took inspiration from for the artist name skeletons with top hats.

Degrowth Final Mix.wav

DEGROWTH is a conduit for the rhythms of the city. The sounds of nature are violently intruded upon by the sounds of industry and human technology. A harmonious medley between the two introduces a future of economic and systematic degrowth and understanding that we are a part of the planet, and not separate from it.

Small False Start.wav

This movie-trailer-esque piece consists of sounds from many places, including percussion from the Wissahickon. The main keyboard sound came from a recording I took at the beginning of the year during a girls volleyball game. This song gives me the feeling that I'm able to create new worlds within sounds. And the ways that I'm able to manipulate found sounds are often more interesting and meaningful to me than just lyrics or words.

Overall I spent over 92 hours on my capstone, and I documented what I did each time I worked:

Capstone Hours Log

I took detailed record of each sound I recorded on my field microphone, and organized each sound into different categories both on this google doc and in a folder on my computer:

CAPSTONE MASTER DOC