Emily Elizabeth Russell

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Professional Audio Engineer / M.S. in Audio Engineering

A highly passionate and meticulous music industry professional, with deep academic and hands-on expertise in stereo and Dolby Atmos. Masterfully skilled in audio engineering, delivering cutting-edge sound experiences.

Education

Master of Science in Audio Engineering, 2022

Belmont University, Nashville, TN

Studied academic and practical skills in audio engineering, audio coding and programming, acoustics, and sound production.
Emphasis in spatial audio with Dolby Atmos for music production

Bachelor of Arts, 2017

Belmont University, Nashville, TN

Interdisciplinary degree combining the studio of theology with the art of audio engineering and music production
Minor in Spanish

Organizations

Audio Engineering Society (AES)
Women's Audio Mission (WAM)

Notable Courses

Advanced Mixing Techniques: An advanced, individualized study focused on the critical components of contemporary music mixing. This one-on-one independent course was conceptualized, designed, and executed by Emily Russell in collaboration with Grammy Award-winning mix engineer and Belmont professor Ed Seay. Bi-weekly stereo mixing assignments were completed in Pro Tools, with each session rigorously evaluated by Professor Seay, who provided detailed critiques on every element of the mix — from dynamics and EQ to spatial imaging and overall sonic impact. (Aug '21-Dec '21)

Immersive Mixing in Dolby Atmos: A specialized, in-depth study of immersive audio with a focus on Dolby Atmos for music production. This one-on-one independent course was designed, developed, and executed by Emily Russell in collaboration with Kevin Boettger — a seasoned Dolby Atmos mastering engineer and former Content Relations and Music Ecosystems Expert at Dolby Laboratories. Bi-weekly immersive mixes were produced and critically assessed in Atmos, with Professor Boettger providing comprehensive feedback on spatial design, object placement, mix translation, and overall creative execution. (Jan '22-May '22)

Career Experience

Emily Russell, Crooked Letter Eye Productions, Nashville, TN — July 2024 – Present

Owner and Chief Engineer (Self-Employed)

- Deliver professional mixing and mastering services in both stereo and Dolby Atmos formats, tailored to a diverse range of artists and genres.
- Support senior mix and mastering engineers through session prep, editing, recall management, and technical assistance across high-profile projects.
- Streamline studio operations by developing efficient workflows and implementing Monday.com for day-to-day project management, ensuring consistent delivery and asset organization.
- Current clients include MRSV Media
- Notable credits: Relient K, Lecrae, August Burns Red, Norma Jean, MercyMe, Ashes Remain, Silent Planet, and more.

Universal Music Group, East Iris Studios, London, England, United Kingdom (REMOTE) — April 2023 – July 2024

Audio Engineer (Full-Time)

- Delivered technical audio editing, mixing, and quality assurance for all digital content in Universal Music Group's *Sollos*—a groundbreaking wellness app leveraging cognitive science and proprietary audio tech to promote focus, relaxation, and sleep.
- Collaborated with a global team of audio engineers to optimize workflows, streamline project delivery, and implement effective cross-regional communication strategies, enhancing overall team efficiency and coordination.
- Reported directly to Caroline Hilton, VP of Artist Engagement and R&D – Advanced Audio Technology, contributing to UMG's innovation in wellness-focused audio experiences.

The Lodge Mastering, New York, New York — October 2022 – March 2023

Assistant Engineer (Full-Time)

- Executed Dolby Atmos pre-mixing for high-profile artists including Justin Bieber, David Guetta, Brittany Howard, Lauren Daigle, and Avery Anna.
- Managed comprehensive audio asset workflows—organization, session prep, and delivery—for stereo mastering, Dolby Atmos mixing, and Dolby Atmos mastering sessions.
    - Dolby Atmos: Justin Bieber, David Guetta, Brittany Howard, Lauren Daigle, Avery Anna
    - Stereo: Weezer, The Band JOSEPH
- Provided advanced technical support for studio software systems, including macOS, Dadman, and Dante, ensuring seamless operation during critical sessions.

- Installed, configured, and provided maintenance for two Synology RS1221+ data management systems, supporting high-volume media storage and access.
- Coordinated secure and efficient delivery of audio assets via Aspera, Sony Ci, and Dropbox, meeting tight deadlines and client specs.
- Handled administrative responsibilities including vinyl/CD PQ sheet completion, invoice review, and direct communication with major and independent labels.

Universal Music Group, East Iris Studios, Nashville, TN — August 2022 – November 2022
Audio Engineering Associate (Full-Time)

- Conducted rigorous quality control of stereo and Dolby Atmos deliverables, ensuring technical and artistic integrity for new music releases.
- Engineered precise STEM creation for Universal Music Group-certified Dolby Atmos engineers by reconstructing full mixes from raw multi-track audio, faithfully replicating commercially released stereo masters.

Starstruck Entertainment, Nashville, TN — January 2022 – August 2022
Studio Intern; Dolby Atmos Consultant (Part-Time)

- Collaborated with Starstruck's Chief Technology Specialist and Chief Engineer in the development and launch of a state-of-the-art Dolby Atmos 7.1.4 music studio.
- Trained Grammy Award-winning in-house engineers on Dolby Atmos production workflows, including:
    - Dolby Atmos Renderer configuration, master file creation/playback, binaural metadata management, re-rendering, and input setup
    - Pro Tools I/O routing, 3D panning, session organization, and foundational Atmos mixing techniques
- Contributed to projects for high-profile artists including Carrie Underwood.

Belmont University's Best of the Best Showcase, Nashville, TN — April 2022 – April 2022
Assistant Mixer (Part-Time)

- Live mixed Belmont University's *Best of the Best* Showcase on an Avid S6 console in the campus's 60-speaker Dolby Atmos mixing theater—the first live immersive mix in the showcase's history.
- Managed a 48-channel live audio feed (featuring four bands and audience mics) transmitted via Dante from the Curb Event Center Arena to the Dolby Atmos Theater.
- Created a fully immersive Dolby Atmos mix in real time, utilizing both the Atmos bed and individually panned objects to deliver a 360° auditory experience.
- Contributed to a fully student-led production encompassing lighting and stage design, FOH/live sound, and multi-cam video production.
  Event backed by major industry sponsors including Clair Global, Bandit Lites, Spectrum Sound, Shure, ASCAP, and BMI.

Belmont University's Curb College of Entertainment and Music Business, Nashville, TN — June 2021 – May 2022
Graduate Assistant (Part-Time)

- Oversaw installation, configuration, and maintenance of all professional audio engineering and film production software across Belmont University's on-campus studios, computer labs, and editing suites.
- Managed and organized comprehensive Pro Tools plug-in libraries across the Robert E. Mulloy Studios (Studios A–D) and Edit Bays B11–B14, ensuring optimal system performance and creative consistency.
- Diagnosed and resolved complex Mac OS, audio interface, and system-level issues campus-wide, providing critical technical support to students and faculty.
- Installed and integrated high-end audio hardware across multiple studio environments, contributing to the infrastructure of a professional-grade academic production facility.