

Rock and Roll Boot Camp

Composing their own songs using computer software (Garage Band, FL Studio), each song about two minutes.

Lotz and Mraz are up to their usual trickery and magic. Pulling music out of Middle School kids. Each is very different, some using real instruments, a lot of digital instrumentation.

One song (for example) has 33 tracks. The same student composed a second song with 50-some tracks. They are eager to play their songs for me from devices. I am stunned and caught off guard: so much variety in their compositions, so many layers of sound and feeling, and attention to details.

I hear the ukulele balanced with electronic keyboard and various moods, rhythms, tones. Upbeat, downbeat - the production, manipulation, and creation of sound. These students are in it and with it. Amazing what they've done in a short time.

Stephen Ringo

Casual Observer