



Name: **Wesley Tetzner**

Course Studied: **BTEC Extended Diploma in Music Technology**

Feeder School: **Wey Valley School**

Destination: **Freelance studio engineer/songwriter**

I studied for a BTEC Diploma in Music Technology at Weymouth College – 2010-2012, I loved it and got involved with whatever I could. The practical studio/ mixing lecturers were my favourite. Learning to use DAW's and the studio fixed me on a path of becoming a studio engineer. We got to record full bands, write songs, learn music theory, try live sound and even had a go at DJ'ing. In my final year I won Guitarist of the Year and Music Technology student of the year, which was great.

I went on to study Music Technology at University of Kent for 1 year -2012-2013, however I dropped out after the first year because the course wasn't for me. It was too technical and not creative enough.

I joined Southampton Solent University in 2013 to study Popular Music Production. This was great, and perfect for me. The course is essentially a step up from the course at Weymouth College. We did a lot of the same stuff but at a more advanced level. I was able to run sound for various live gigs, run studio sessions with top session musicians and producers, organise events, learn about the music industry and get work outside for the course. Through Solent I was able to go and sit in on a session at Abbey Road Studios which was a once in a life time experience.

I've currently got 2 jobs. The first one is working freelance for River Studios as a studio engineer/songwriter – this job involves me working with different clients from singers to bands to songwriters and producing songs with them. With bands it can be anything from a single to an album, with singers usually they will be recording a cover and we will be recording it. The bulk of the work I do there is helping to run a song-writing course. We help clients develop their songwriting skills, whether its from the very beginning and they've never written a song before or if they've already written several albums. We are there to advise and help develop their songs.

The second job I have which is more recent is a graduate job at Solent University within the music department. I am a graduate assistant and my duties are anything from assisting with guest lectures, organising events/ gigs, producing videos/ audio from events/ gig, working on recruitment from feeder colleges and working on a mentoring scheme with the students.

I take great pride in my work and was pleased to receive this praise after completing a recording session with a client; "Please pass on our special thanks to Wesley, our engineer, he was absolutely charming and went that extra mile to make the day special." (Tony Mott).

