

21M.380 · MUSIC AND TECHNOLOGY
RECORDING TECHNIQUES & AUDIO PRODUCTION

READING ASSIGNMENT 7 (RD07)
STEREO RECORDING TECHNIQUES

DUE: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2016, 9:30AM
SUBMIT TO: MIT LEARNING MODULES ▶ ASSIGNMENTS
0.5% OF TOTAL GRADE

1 Materials to study

Alexander, Robert Charles (2000). "Binaural sound." In: *The Inventor of Stereo. The Life and Works of Alan Dower Blumlein*. Paperback edition. Oxford and Woburn, MA: Focal Press. Chap. 3 (excerpt), pp. 60–80. Available at: MIT Learning Modules ▶ Materials.

QSound Labs (1996). *Virtual Barber Shop (Long) – Binaural Audio Demo*. URL: <https://youtu.be/IUDT1vagjJA> (visited on 09/18/2013). Listen to this example through headphones, not through free-standing loudspeakers!

2 Questions to respond to

1. Which property of human hearing does Blumlein's invention address? Relate this to the concepts about sound localization that we have learned about earlier, and try to use according terminology.
2. According to Blumlein, how can the effects that we observe in 'natural' hearing be recreated by means of a microphone recording? Describe the required microphone setup and how it manages to recreate these effects.
3. By which name did Blumlein refer to the system that he invented, and what do we call it today?
4. Blumlein's original term is still in use today, albeit with a more specific meaning. Which? Do some research online to answer this question. How does this relate to the *Virtual Barber Shop* demo?

3 Guidelines

- Your answers need not be very extensive (a short paragraph per question is enough), but they should demonstrate that you have actually read the article and understood its main points.
- Be concise and pay attention to form, grammar, and spelling.

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