

Hyper Bloom

Electronic Music

Xinmeng Li

INTRODUCTION

Hyper Bloom is an electronic music piece I composed and produced independently, with a focus on sound design. It brings together synthesizer textures, electronic rhythms, and jazz-influenced harmony.



Serum 2 - sound design.

Motivation and references

Inspired by Porter Robinson's sound design and musical style, I wanted to explore how electronic timbres and harmony could complement each other. I was particularly drawn to being able to change the properties of a sound directly. Across different sections, I worked by ear to recreate timbres I admired in electronic music and incorporate those experiments into my own piece.

Sound design and specific choices

I used Serum 2 to explore wavetable synthesis and compare the timbres and harmonic content of basic waveforms. In the verse, I developed a synthesizer backing layer that plays alongside the piano's short notes. I explored the rich harmonic content of square and sawtooth waves to emphasize its higher-frequency content as a distinct voice interacting with the piano. I also used Serum 2's portamento control to add pitch glides.

Arrangement and harmony

In Logic Pro, I arranged multiple instrumental and synthesizer layers. Chords including E13, G#m7, Gm7(13), and Fmaj7 added harmonic color and connected different sections, working alongside electronic rhythms and synthesizer melodies.

Mixing and space

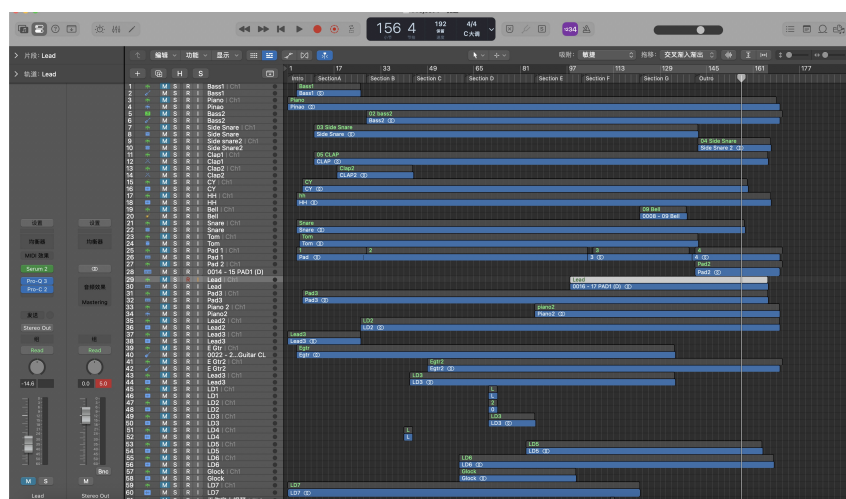
Sound design also informed my mixing decisions. I listened for how changes to a basic waveform affected its spectral character, used EQ to shape the frequency balance of different voices, and applied sidechain compression to adjust how they worked together in the mix. I also paid attention to the sense of space, using Logic Pro's Stereo Spread to adjust stereo width.

Outcome and reflection

The finished track uses these timbres and layers to build contrast, energy, and emotional progression. I enjoyed exploring how different waveforms and processing methods changed what I could do with a sound. These experiments gave me more choices as I developed the piece and helped me build my skills in composition, synthesis, and digital music production.

Contributions and tools

Composition, sound design, and production: Xinmeng Li. Main tools: Serum 2 and Logic Pro.



Hyper Bloom - Logic Pro arrangement.