# Performing Electronic Music Live: A Guide from AES



## Performing Electronic Music Live (Audio Engineering

Society Presents) by Kirsten Hermes

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Performing electronic music live can be a daunting task, but it's also incredibly rewarding. With the right preparation and know-how, you can create an unforgettable experience for your audience.

This guide from the Audio Engineering Society (AES) will provide you with everything you need to know to get started, including:

- Technical setup
- Stage presence
- Rehearsal
- Performance tips
- Troubleshooting

#### **Technical Setup**

The first step to performing electronic music live is to make sure you have the right technical setup. This includes your computer, software, hardware, and cables.

Here are some tips for choosing the right equipment:

- Computer: A powerful computer is essential for running your music software and plugins. Make sure your computer has a fast processor and plenty of RAM.
- Software: There are many different software programs available for performing electronic music live. Choose a program that is easy to use and has the features you need.
- Hardware: In addition to your computer, you will also need some hardware to perform electronic music live. This includes a MIDI keyboard, audio interface, and monitors.
- Cables: Make sure you have all the necessary cables to connect your equipment. This includes MIDI cables, audio cables, and power cables.

#### **Stage Presence**

Once you have your technical setup in place, it's time to start thinking about your stage presence. This includes your appearance, your demeanor, and your interaction with the audience.

Here are some tips for developing a strong stage presence:

- Dress professionally: When you perform electronic music live, you are representing yourself and your music. Dress in a way that makes you feel confident and professional.
- Be yourself: Don't try to be someone you're not on stage. Be yourself and let your personality shine through.
- Connect with the audience: Make eye contact with the audience and smile. Let them know that you're enjoying yourself and that you appreciate their support.
- Move around: Don't stand still on stage. Move around and interact with the audience. This will help to keep them engaged and entertained.

#### Rehearsal

Rehearsing is essential for any live performance, but it's especially important for electronic music performances. This is because electronic music is often complex and technical, and it's important to make sure that everything runs smoothly on the day of the show.

Here are some tips for rehearsing effectively:

- Practice regularly: The more you practice, the more confident you will become on stage. Try to practice at least once a week.
- Record yourself: Recording yourself practice can be a great way to identify areas where you need to improve. Listen back to your recordings and make notes on what you could do better.

 Perform for friends or family: Once you're feeling confident, try performing for friends or family. This will help you get used to the feeling of performing in front of an audience.

#### **Performance Tips**

Now that you've prepared for your performance, it's time to take the stage and show the world what you've got. Here are a few tips for giving a great performance:

- Start strong: Your opening song should be something that grabs the audience's attention and gets them excited for the rest of your set.
- Keep the energy level high: Don't let the energy level drop during your set. Keep the music moving and the audience engaged.
- Be flexible: Things don't always go according to plan when you're performing live. If something goes wrong, don't panic. Just keep playing and make the best of it.
- Have fun: Most importantly, have fun! Performing electronic music live should be an enjoyable experience. So relax, let go, and let the music flow.

#### Troubleshooting

Even the best-prepared performances can sometimes run into problems. Here are a few tips for troubleshooting common problems that can occur during electronic music performances:

 My computer crashed: If your computer crashes, don't panic. Just restart it and try to recover your project. If you can't recover your project, you may have to start over.

- My audio interface is not working: If your audio interface is not working, try restarting it. If that doesn't work, try connecting it to a different USB port.
- My MIDI keyboard is not working: If your MIDI keyboard is not working, try restarting it. If that doesn't work, try connecting it to a different USB port.
- My monitors are not working: If your monitors are not working, try restarting them. If that doesn't work, try connecting them to a different power outlet.

Performing electronic music live can be a challenging but rewarding experience. With the right preparation and know-how, you can create an unforgettable experience for your audience. So what are you waiting for? Get out there and start performing!

#### About the Author

The Audio Engineering Society (AES) is a professional organization dedicated to advancing the science and practice of audio engineering. AES members are involved in all aspects of audio, including recording, production, live sound, broadcasting, and research.

The AES has been publishing books and journals on audio engineering for over 70 years. AES books are written by leading experts in the field and are considered to be the definitive sources of information on audio engineering.

Performing Electronic Music Live is the latest book from the AES. This comprehensive guide provides everything you need to know to get started performing electronic music live, from technical setup to stage presence.



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