The MusE Sequencer
Current Features and Plans for the Future

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What is MusE?

- MIDI/Audio Sequencer application
- Look and Feel of Cubase/Cakewalk
- Classical approach: Tracks/Parts
- "Windows-conformant" UI (Cut/Copy/Paste, Drag&Drop etc)
- Linux only so far, works (at least) on ia32, amd64, ppc
- GPL project (of course!)

Historical Summary

- Started off as pure Xlib program (19xx)

- Next evolution step: Tk script
  + hand-crafted kernel driver (MIDI)
  + OSS for output to audio cards
  -> acceptable MIDI timing stability

- 2001: Switch to C++/Qt, ALSA
  + libs for housekeeping (sndfile, JACK)

- Has ever grown wildly since then

Features

- MIDI support (ALSA: internal/external)
- Sound through JACK (exclusively!)
- Synchronization (JACK Transport)
- Undo/Redo, "click or drag to select",...
- Editors: "Pianoroll", Drum editor
- MESS: Virtual instruments a la VST
- Mixer with inserts (LADSPA) and routing capabilities (Mixdown to file)
- FreeST (VST instruments in Linux)

Weak Spots

- Development process sometimes furious -> hard to follow if you're no geek

- Documentation is still weak
  -> more usage of Doxygen to improve?
  -> Wiki is in place and shaping up now.
  -> "Real" manual in planning now

- Overall stability (cvs version)

All of this is actively being worked on!

Future Plans:
User visible changes

- New look (sliders, buttons)

- Synchronisation with external MIDI devices

- Import function for old (0.6) songs (Script for conversion exists)

- Complete automation of all controllers

- DSSI support

- Stability?

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Future Plans: Developers visible changes

- Better modularisation:
  -> "AWL" (audio widget library)
  -> "AL" (audio library)

- Large rewrite of MIDI routing code (currently underway)

- Detaching MESS plugins from rest of MusE source tree

- Creation of a "demosong regression test suite" to improve on weak spots

Conclusions

- 0.7 ("stable" branch) is really quite stable today

- Used for hobbyist productions

- Time to break it! 0.8 coming up with lotsa cool stuff™

- Volunteers needed: Documentation, Testing, Bug reporting, Developing

- Wanna join us?

Links

- MusE homepage:

http://www.muse-sequencer.org

- MusE Wiki (Tour, FAQ, Hall of Fame):

http://www.muse-sequencer.org/wiki/index.php/Main_Page

- Muse-Score (mscore):

http://mscore.sourceforge.net

- Sampler fodder:

http://www.hollowsun.com

Questions?

If none: Go and MusE along! :-)