

Christina Fox IBC2009

UrbanFox.TV

Simple Sound Advice

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All of this presentation will go on our website

www.urbanfox.tv/seminar

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A few questions

- How many of you shoot your own stuff or expect to in the future?
- How many work on your own?
- How many want to buy some kit?
- How much do you want to spend?

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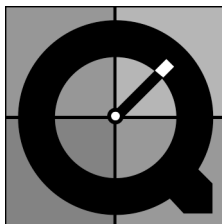
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SOUND IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE PICTURES

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trouble is...we forget that the audio is important, until we are in the edit.

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Budget

- Buy the best sound equipment you can afford
- Half your kit budget should be camera - half for everything else
- Money well spent
- Mics are a good investment

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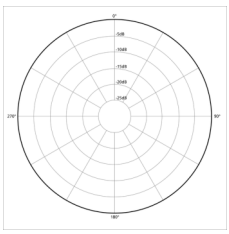
PICK-UP PATTERN

- Omni directional
- Figure of eight
- Cardioid
- Hypercardioid
- Supercardioid
- Shotgun

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OMNI-DIRECTIONAL



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OMNI-DIRECTIONAL

- Personal mic (Tie, clip, lavalier)
- Sony ECM77 or ECM88
- The Tram TR-50
- Sanken COS-11



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FIRST RULE OF MICROPHONES

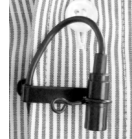
- The microphone needs to be as near to the sound source as possible....
- ...but, without looking silly

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OMNI-DIRECTIONAL

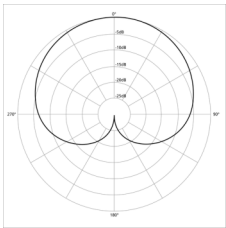
- Need phantom power or a battery
- Needs a controlled quiet location
- Prone to pop on Ps and Bs
- Can be hidden under clothing and hair
- Great for interviews
- Multi-coloured



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CARDIOID



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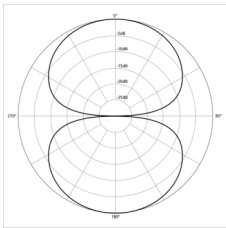
CARDIOID

- Good for bringing out the voice from a noisy background
- On-board camera mic
- On a desk at a press conference
- Speakers lectern

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FIGURE OF EIGHT



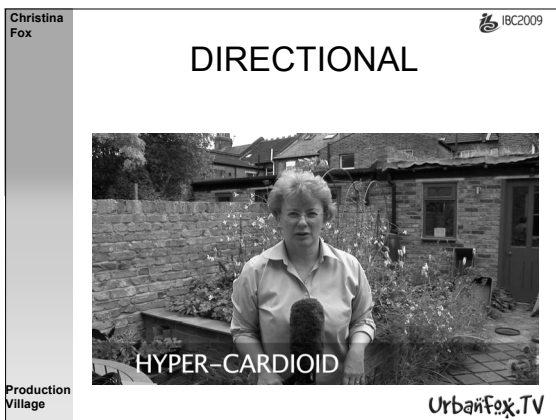
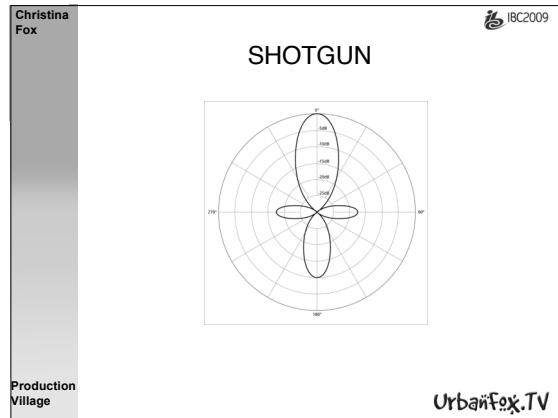
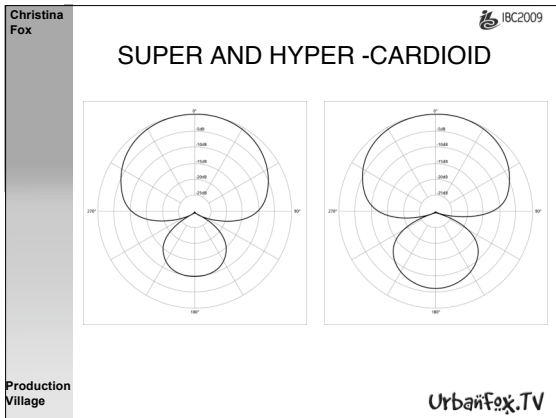
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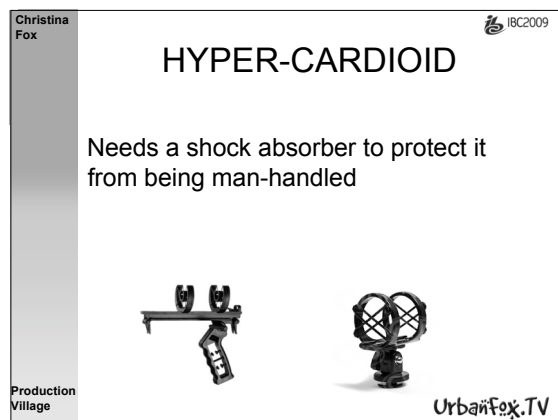
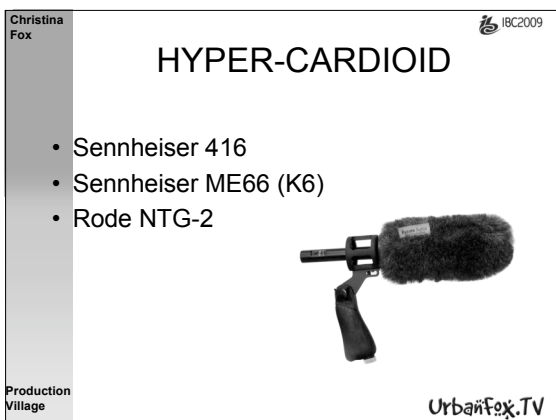
FIGURE OF EIGHT

- Sometimes used for two instruments playing simultaneously
- Lip Mics

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- ## HYPER-CARDIOID
- Directional mics are great for noisy locations
 - Need to be pointed in the right direction
 - There is on-axis and off-axis audio
 - Have bass tip up
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WINDY

Protection from the wind



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But...

Don't confuse direction with distance.

They may be directional...

....but, you still need to get them in close to the sound source.

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FIRST RULE OF MICROPHONES

- The microphone needs to be as near to the sound source as possible....
- ...but, without looking silly

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FIRST RULE OF MICROPHONES

- The microphone needs to be as near to the sound source as possible....
- ...because they follow the inverse square law.

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DIRECTION/DISTANCE



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SECOND RULE...


- USE THE RIGHT MIC
- FOR THE RIGHT JOB

Because there isn't one perfect mic for all occasions.

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MIC TEST



STEREO ON-BOARD CAMERA MIC

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Basic Sound Kit

- A good directional mic
- Works in noisy or quiet locations
- Use for interviews, docs and drama



<http://tinyurl.com/brockett>


Audio samples of a wide range of mics

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DON'T FORGET THE CABLES

- XLR-XLR cables
- Various lengths 30cm, 1m, 2m, 3m etc




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Basic Sound Kit

- Personal mics (x2)
 - one for the interviewer and one for the interviewee
- If you need to plug in more than 2 mics you'll need mixer.



<http://tinyurl.com/brockett2>

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Basic Sound Kit

- Sometimes contributors need to go walkabout
- Radio mic
- Sennheiser Evolution (EW112-p G2)



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Basic Sound Kit

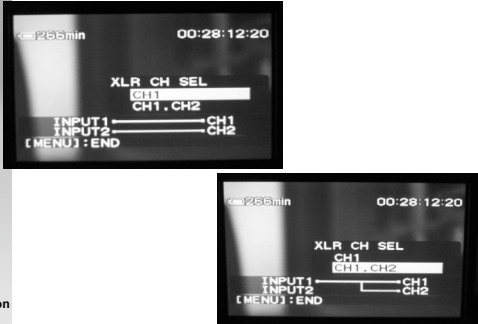
- If you can afford it buy a Diversity System
- Sony UWP-C1 series



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Which audio goes where?

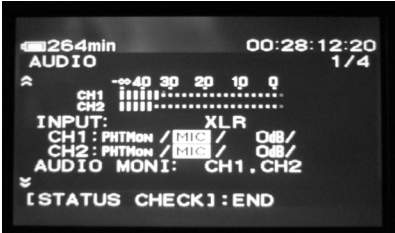


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Setting the levels

- Rule of thirds - one third for atmos




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Setting the levels


- Two thirds for voice



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DISTORTION



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DISTORTION




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DON'T FORGET THE HEADPHONES!

- Closed Headphones not open
- Sennheiser HD25



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DSLR cameras


- Canon EOS 5D Mark II - 1920 X1080
- Canon EOS 500D - 1920 X1080
- Nikon D5000 - 1280 X 720
- Olympus E-P1 - 1920 X1080
- Panasonic DMC-GH1 - 1920 X1080
- Pentax K-7 - 1536 X1024

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Why use a DSLR?

- Lenses, lenses and more lenses




- But, not for great audio.

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You'll need one of these...



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...and something like this

- 4 track audio recording
- XLR and 1/4inch with phantom power
- Mini jack mic input
- Mid-side stereo
- Records to SD & SDHC flash cards



Zoom H4n
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GOOD BOOK

- Audio For Single Camera Operation
- TONY GRANT
- (focal press)

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Good websites

- Dan Brocket on Kenstone.net
- <http://tinyurl.com/brockett2>

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Other web sites

- <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microphone>
- <http://tinyurl.com/micswork>
- <http://recordinghacks.com/microphones>
– Mic database
- <http://www.kenstone.net>

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Any questions?

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The Polar patterns were taken from:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microphone>

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