



PRODUCTION AND A&R

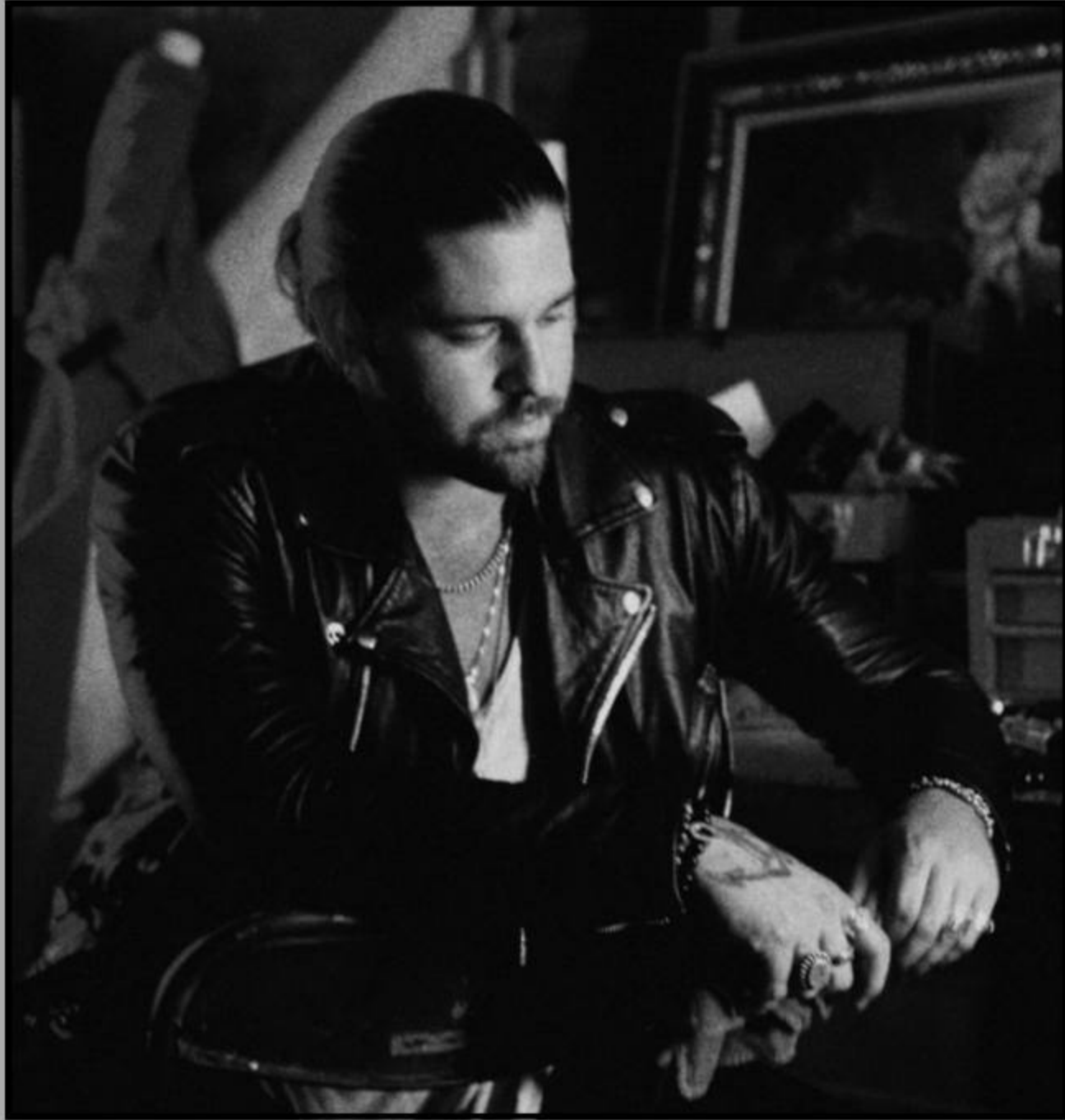
A PRESENTATION BY

***THE DUST
BUSTERS***

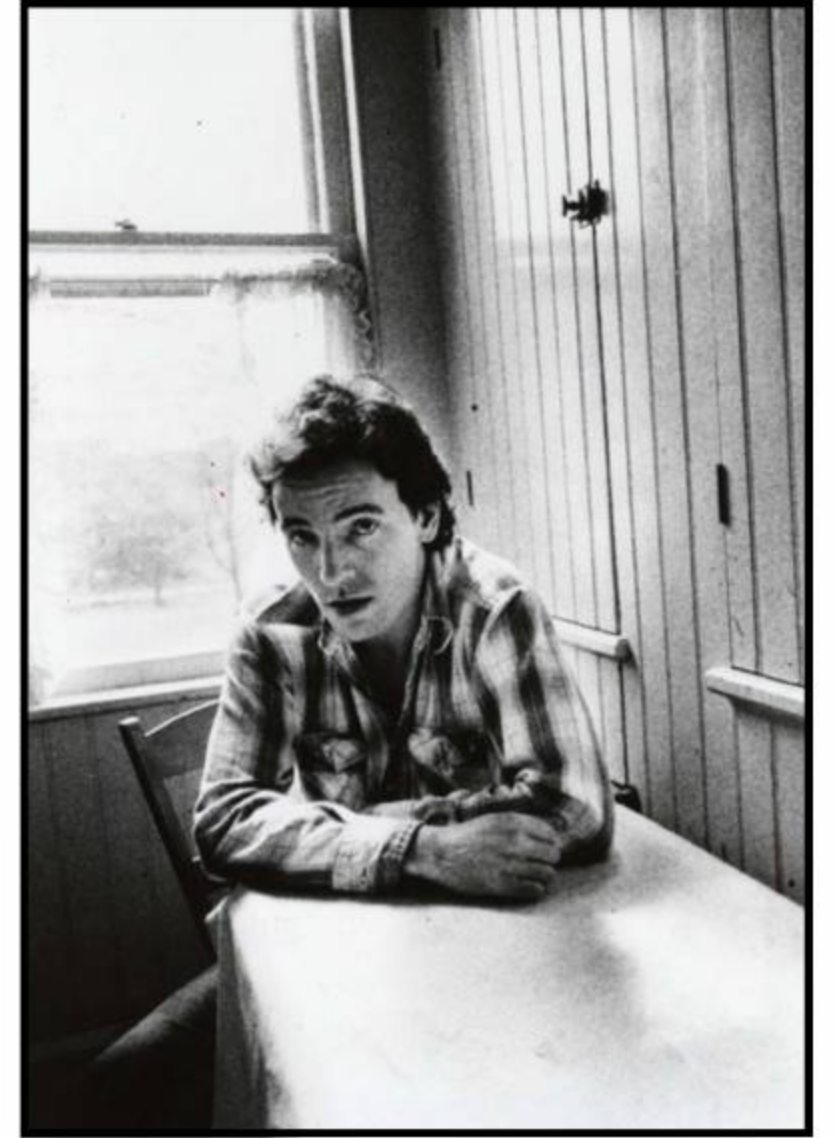
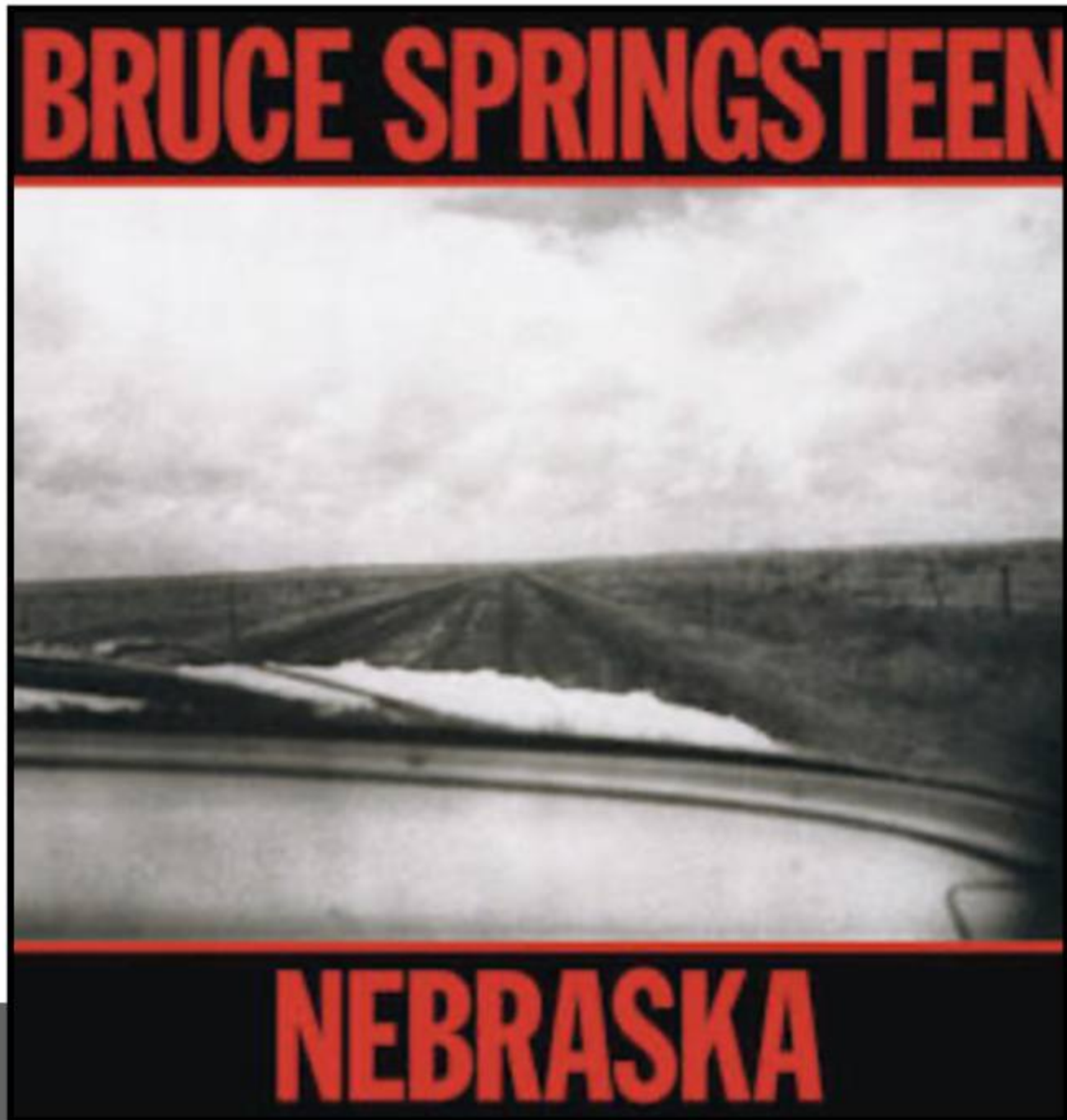
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
JANUARY 2026



GABLE BRADLEY



VISION & DEMO



PRE - PRODUCTION

Pre-Production · Tracking · Overdubs · Mixing · Mastering

- Creative decision stage
- Song selection, key, tempo, arrangement
- Group alignment around artistic direction

 **JESUS AIN'T LISTENING**

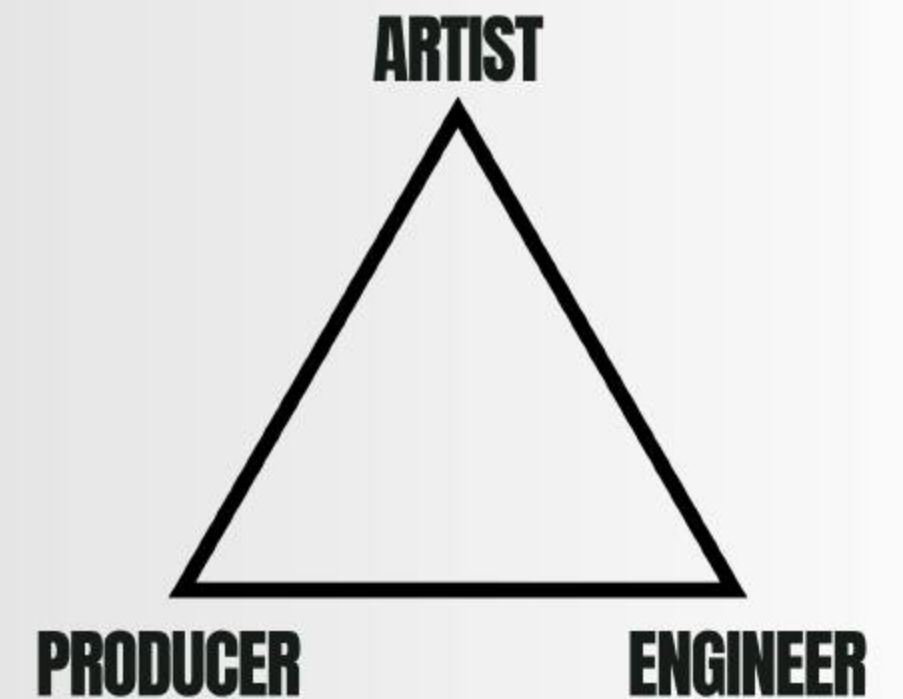
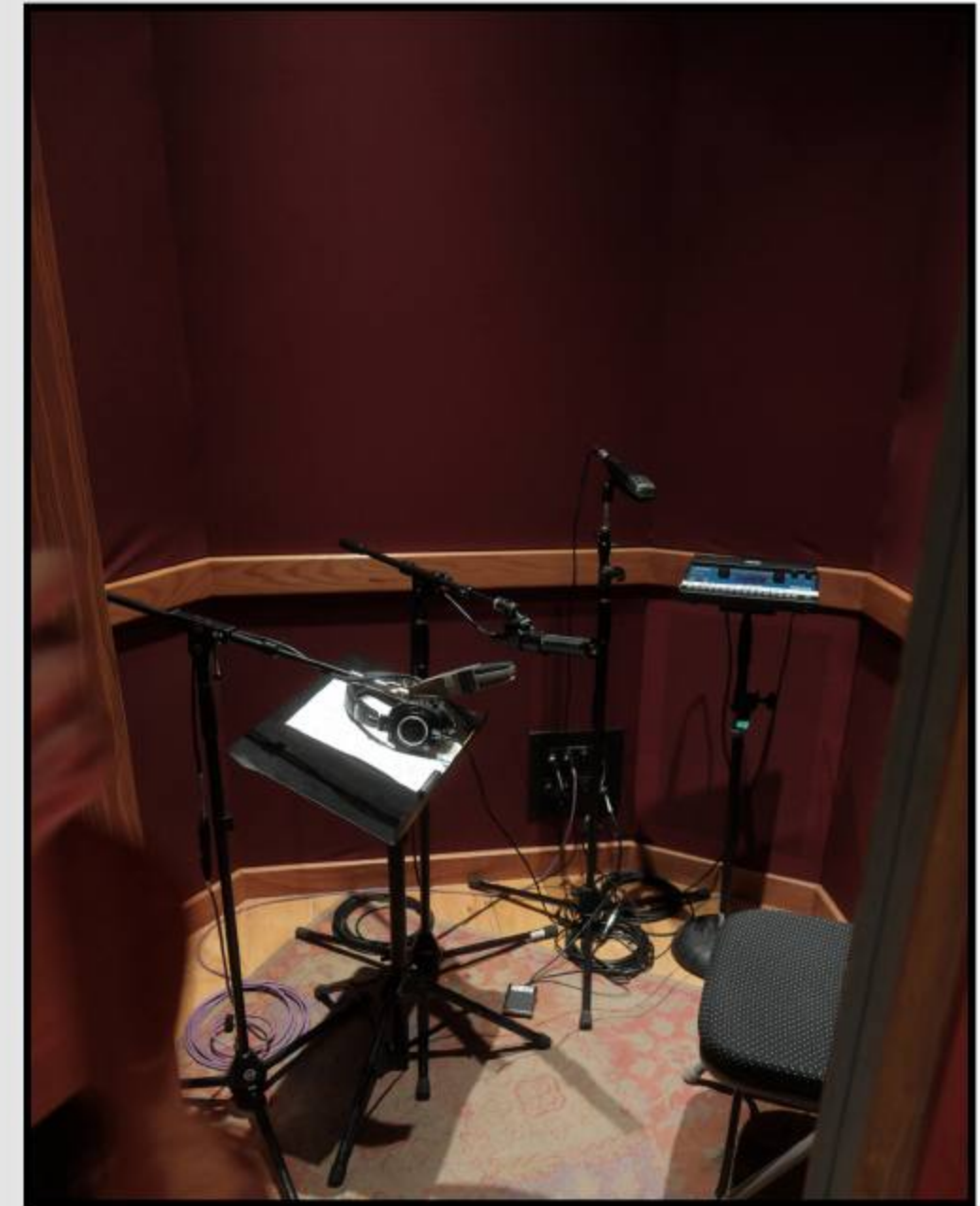
 **OFF A MEMORY**

 **HOME**

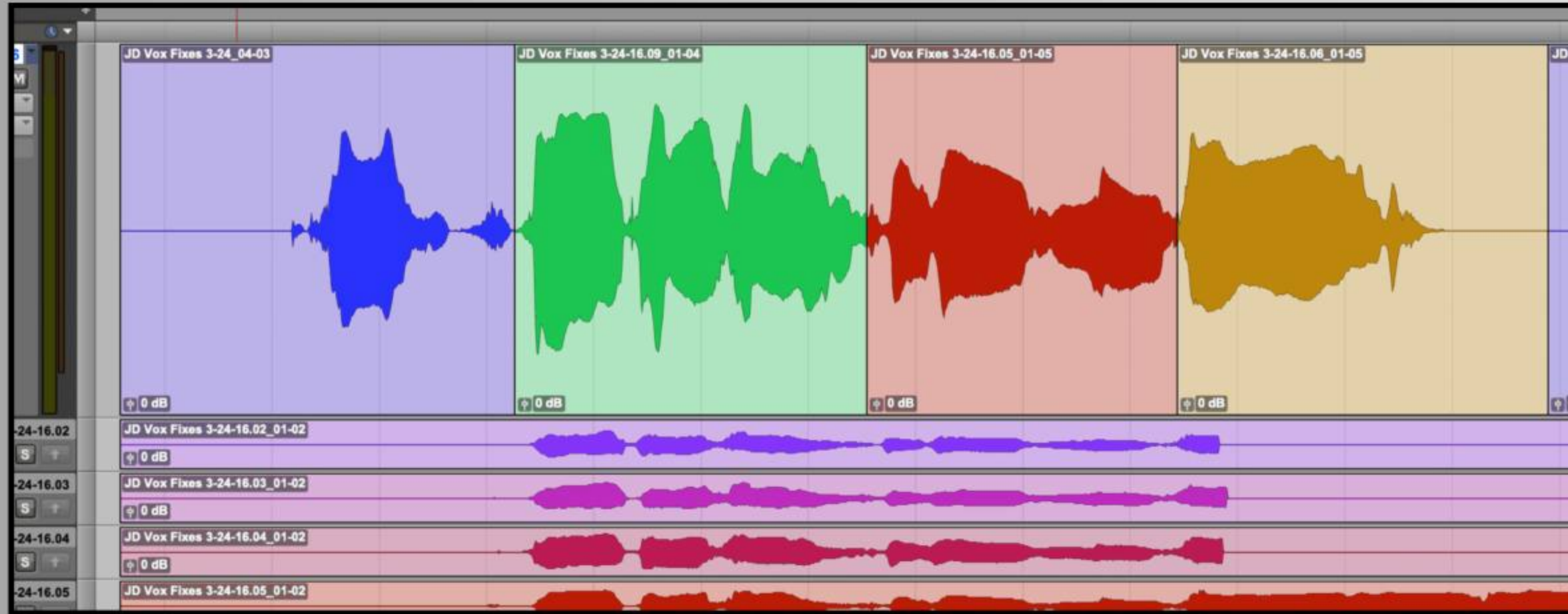


TRACKING

- The triangle:
artist, producer,
engineer
- Session musicians
- Sightlines
- Tracking as a
whole band



OVERDUBBING, EDITING, & COMPING



PERFORMANCE CONSISTENCY:

These processes help maintain emotional continuity across an entire song, especially when full takes vary in energy.

PRODUCER/ENGINEER ROLE:

The comping process becomes an act where one is shaping a narrative rather than just fixing mistakes.

LISTENER IMPACT:

A well-comped vocal feels effortless and intimate, even though it's constructed from many takes.



MIXING

- What is Mixing?
 - Process of blending individual tracks into a stereo file
- Who is Involved?
 - Mixing Engineer (Shani Gandhi)
 - Artist (Gable Bradley)
 - Producer (Steve Fishell)
- How Does it Work?
 - Technology!

TOOLS AND TECHNOLOGIES

- Volume Automation
- Panning
- EQ
- Reverb
- Compressor



MASTERING



How is it different?

- The sum rather than the parts

Key Approaches:

- Listen first!!!!!! and quietly!
- Musicality over technicality
- Switch between stereo and mono to listen for any phase issues



**“Nothing needs to be done
to this mix.” - Kevin Reeves**



“Home” - Gable Bradley



NYU 2026 EQ1 Masters (4824)

Shared with Dropbox

 Dropbox

VINYL!



A&R, STUDIO EXPERIENCE, & ARTIST PSYCH



ROLE OF A&R:

MANAGING BOTH THE CREATIVE +
BUSINESS ASPECTS OF A RECORDING
PROJECT



STUDIO EXPERIENCE:

OUT THE BOX + STATE OF THE ART
EQUIPMENT + MENTORS + LIVE ROOM
ENERGY = "MAGIC"!



ARTIST PSYCHOLOGY:

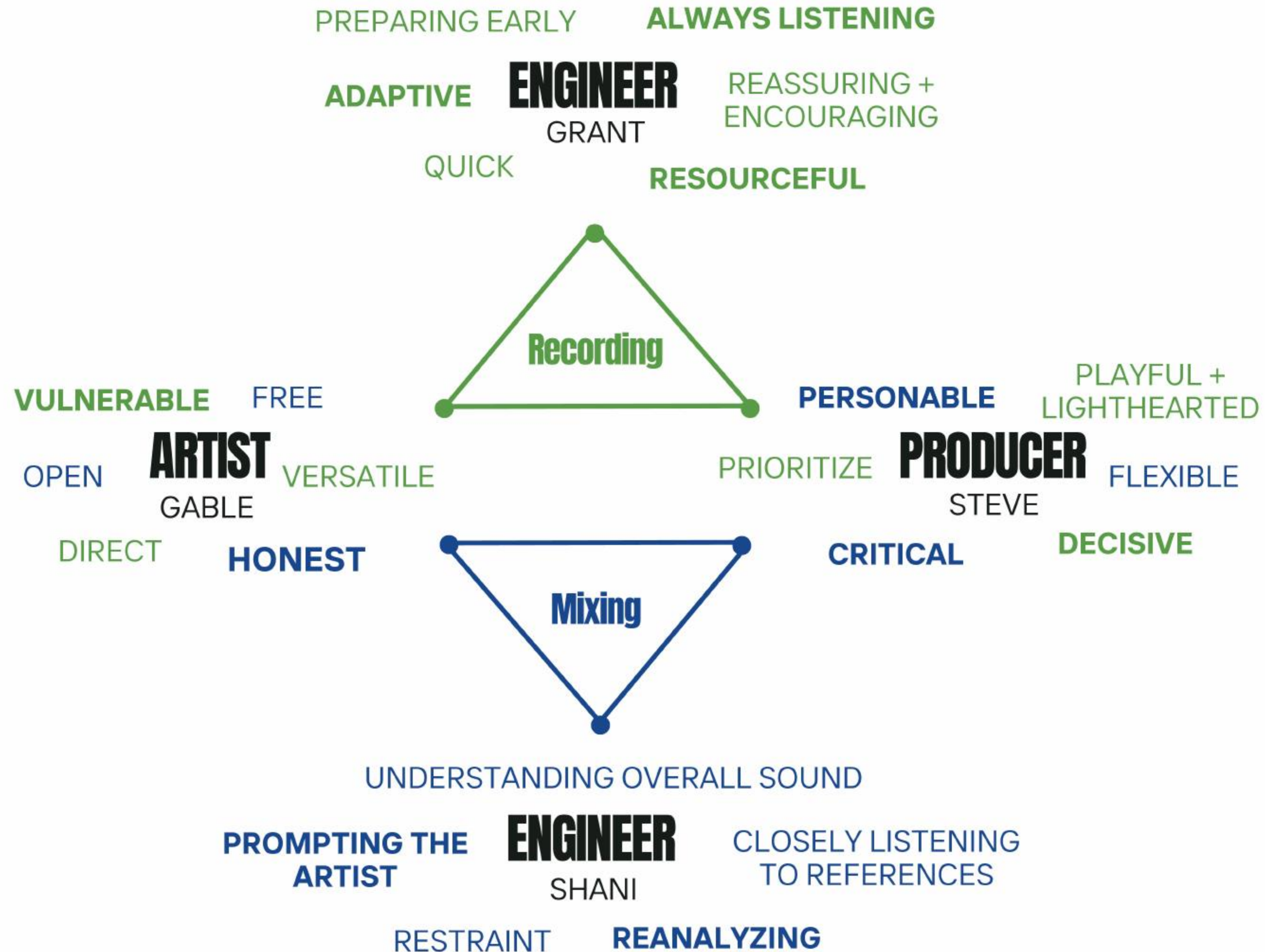
"PRETEND LIKE YOU'RE PLAYING
LIVE";
"IT'S OK TO MAKE MISTAKES" -
STEVE FISHELL (2026)



THE TRIANGLE

TRUST!

- Work history between **Gable** + **Steve**
- **Grant** understood the artistic vision by using appropriate mics, settings, setup.
- **Shani** clearly understood the reference tracks provided by **Steve** and applied those ideas to the track.



NECESSARY SKILLS

PRODUCING + ENGINEERING + A&R



- Being able to **“read the room.”**
- Appropriately **assessing risks** in terms of finances, time management, creative decisions, etc.
- Having extensive knowledge of **musical conventions & music history.**
- Promoting **good music & genuine artistry** is at the core of these hands-on studio professions.
 - **Big M, small B**
- Looking out for the **artist’s interests.**
 - **Trust!**

WAS IT WORTH IT?



THANK YOU!



-THE DUST BUSTERS