

BASIC FEEDBACK · MIX & VOCALS

Paper Saints

A minimal, atmospheric vocal track. A focused pass on the mix, and how the vocals are sitting in it.

ARTIST	FOCUS	STAGE	DATE
Della Frost	Mix & vocals	1st Version	June 2026

■ STRONG START

The mix is really coming together: a nice balance of clarity and atmosphere, and the minimalism is a strength here, not something to fix. The first thing I would chase is a bit more *dimension on the vocals*, which are sitting slightly dry and a touch buried for my taste.

01 THE MIX AS IT STANDS

The instrumental has a lovely quality and it deserves space to breathe, which the arrangement mostly gives it. The balance is solid too: the bass is prominent but controlled, and nothing is fighting for room. Where I would put the attention is the vocals. They are sitting a little dry for my tastes, and a touch more reverb would add dimension without losing the intimate, up-close feel you are clearly going for.

They could also do with a more thorough de-ess, followed by a little air added back on top. That pairing helps a vocal cut through without turning harsh, which matters more than usual on a track this sparse, where there is nowhere for it to hide.

02 KEY SUGGESTIONS

- 01 **De-ess, then add air.** Tame the sibilance first, then a gentle high shelf to keep the top end open.
- 02 **A little more reverb for depth.** Enough to place the voice in a space, not so much you lose the closeness.
- 03 **Carve a small pocket.** A subtle dip around 1 kHz in the instrumental gives the vocal room to sit without anything moving out of the way obviously.

On the echoes specifically, since that is what you asked about: there is no wrong answer here, it is a creative dial rather than a problem to solve. The track can take them pushed and affected, formant manipulation for a more processed, Burial-ish texture, or some saturation and modulation. If that pulls too far from the mood, pared right back is just as valid, letting the natural gaps in the vocal do the work. On a minimal arrangement those gaps are often the most powerful part, so do not feel you have to fill them. Try it both ways and trust whichever one keeps the hypnotic quality you have already got.

Forest DLG

HEAD ENGINEER · STUDIO KMJ45

STUDIO KMJ45 · PRECISE AUDIO, SINCE 1999

studio@kmj45.com

kmj45.com

P. 01 / 01