RAFA (XINZE) LU

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EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA — Expected May 2028
Bachelor of Arts in Music and Psychology
- Double major with academic interests spanning across music production, audio technology, performance, music perception, music therapy, and psychological studies.

ACADEMIC COURSEWORK

Music 108: Music Perception & Cognition
- Studied the sensory and cognitive foundations of listening, performing, and composing.

Music 158A: Sound and Music Computing with CNMAT Technologies
- Created digital sound programs using Max, a sound computing software. Developed music programming, digital audio signal processing, and sound analysis skills.

Music 150: Sight Singing and Score Reading
- Developed foundational musicianship skills through intensive training in sight-singing, score reading, piano, ear training, and music theory.

MUSIC & AUDIO EXPERIENCE

Firework Band, UC Berkeley (Chinese student-run music organization in UC Berkeley) — 2024–Present
President, Guitarist, Drummer
- Firework Band member from 2024-2025. President from 2025-2026. Coordinated rehearsals, performances, musical arrangements, and band operations
- Arranged, performed, recorded, and produced original music while developing guitar, drum, bass, and vocal parts
- Planed and executed live performances in Berkeley-area venues, including Ashkenaz Music Center, with responsibility for stage setup and technical coordination
- Created stage plots and input lists; coordinate microphones, DI systems, monitor mixes, amplifiers, and instrument signal flow
- Managed recording and live-audio equipment, troubleshooted guitar and audio signal chains, and adapted setups for both performance and recording

Independent Musician & Producer, NetEase Cloud Music — 2019–Present
Independent Artist, Producer
- Self-produced and published 13 original hip-hop and rock songs and produced 30+ beats.
- Handled recording, engineering, mixing, songwriting, arrangement, and production primarily in FL Studio.

SELECTED MUSIC PROJECTS

UC Berkeley Music / Musical Projects, Berkeley, CA — 2024–Present
Musician / Producer / Mixing Engineer
- Collaborated with artist *Mia Wang* on her singles "Sinner's Secret" & "Wreckage". Worked as a producer, recording engineer, mixing engineer, and composed the guitar and drum parts on both tracks.

https://open.spotify.com/artist/3eW2SzL4YCGGq1Pg2sLIxd?si=P5P0gf_qTVKJBhG3RRQZ9A

- Worked as a band member of *idiotique.* I Composed, produced, and mixed the track "No Apology", also performed the same roles on three more songs in idiotique's upcoming EP.

https://open.spotify.com/artist/6ru0bw0mFCRxW9JI53C7q1?si=xdyurRdJRsSTfrNI2orjRg

Take Your Professor Home, Independent Project — 2022
Singer-Songwriter / Producer
- Created a concept album using sampled TOEFL sounds and voices, transforming educational source material into original music intended to encourage test preparation.

CREATIVE RESEARCH

Pioneer Academics, Independent Research — 2022
Researcher
- Completed the individual musicology project "Guitar Pedals: The Sound Defining Elements of Alternative Rock," examining the role of guitar effects in shaping rock subgenres and aesthetics.

LEADERSHIP & ACTIVITIES

Firework Band, UC Berkeley — 2024–Present
President
- Built and maintained a collaborative music community among UC Berkeley students; organized rehearsals, shows, and collaborations
- Coordinated band logistics, equipment, venue requirements, and performance preparation

Rock Band Club, Tsinghua University High School — 2021-2023
Founder / President
- Founded and led the club for three years, recruited musicians, organized activities, and collaborated with school groups and official events
- Taught songwriting and developed ensembles spanning rock, pop, experimental music, and percussion

TECHNICAL & MUSICAL SKILLS

Production: FL Studio, Logic Pro X; recording, engineering, mixing, songwriting, arrangement, sound design
Live Audio: Stage plots, input lists, DI systems, monitor mixes, microphones, audio interfaces, signal flow, live-performance setup
Musicianship: Guitar, drums, bass, vocals; ensemble performance and arrangement
Languages: Mandarin (native), English (fluent), Spanish (conversational)