

magnetic tape, optical data storage devices, and carrier waves. The computer readable medium can also be distributed over network-coupled computer systems so that the computer readable code is stored and executed in a distributed fashion.

[0074] The advantages of the invention are numerous. Different aspects, embodiments or implementations may yield one or more of the following advantages. One advantage of the invention is that an electronic mixer for media items can be provided using a computing device having a touch screen. Another advantage of the invention is that an electronic mixer with complete capabilities can be provided without having any mechanical moving parts. Still another advantage of the invention is that an electronic keyboard for media items can be provided using a computing device having a touch screen. Yet still another advantage of the invention is that a computing device having a touch screen can be configured for multiple purposes, one of which can be as an electronic mixer and another of which can be as an electronic keyboard.

[0075] The many features and advantages of the present invention are apparent from the written description and, thus, it is intended by the appended claims to cover all such features and advantages of the invention. Further, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, the invention should not be limited to the exact construction and operation as illustrated and described. Hence, all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to as falling within the scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A touch-sensitive apparatus operating as a media mixer, said apparatus comprising:

a touch screen having a display area that also operates as a touch input area; and

a plurality of media mixing controls being displayed in the display area of said touch screen and being interactive with a user through interaction with the touch input area of said touch screen.

2. A touch-sensitive apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the media mixing controls include a plurality of sliders.

3. A touch-sensitive apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the media mixing controls include at least one button, at least one dial and at least one slider.

4. A touch-sensitive apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein said touch screen is a multipoint touch screen.

5. A touch-sensitive apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the display area displays a plurality of slider graphics including slider elements, and a user can touch and move at least one of the slider elements of the slider graphics.

6. A touch-sensitive apparatus as recited in claim 5, wherein the slider graphics associated with the at least one of the slider elements being displayed are modified concurrently with the movement of the at least one of the slider elements.

7. A touch-sensitive apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein said touch-sensitive device further comprises:

a processor operatively connected to said touch screen, said processor operable to receive touch input from

interaction by the user with the touch input area, and to display the media mixing controls on the display area.

8. A touch-sensitive apparatus as recited in claim 7, wherein said processor causes the display of the media mixing controls to be altered based on the touch input from interaction by the user with the touch input area.

9. A touch-sensitive apparatus as recited in claim 8, wherein the alteration of the media mixing controls based on the touch input is performed in real time.

10. A touch-sensitive apparatus as recited in claim 8, wherein the media mixing controls include at least one slider graphic, and

wherein, based on the touch input from interaction by the user with the touch input area, said processor controls dynamic alteration of the at least one slider graphic.

11. A touch-sensitive apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein said touch screen is capable of detecting multiple touches that occur at the same time.

12. A touch-sensitive apparatus as recited in claim 11, wherein said touch screen displays a plurality of separate objects, and wherein each of the multiple touches that occur at the same time respectively correspond to a different one of the separate objects.

13. A touch-sensitive apparatus as recited in claim 11, wherein the display area displays a plurality of slider graphics including slider elements, and a user can concurrently touch and move at least two of the slider elements of the slider graphics.

14. A touch-sensitive apparatus as recited in claim 13, wherein the at least two of the slider elements of the slider graphics being displayed are modified concurrently with the movement of the at least two of the slider elements.

15. A touch-sensitive apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein said touch-sensitive device further comprises:

surface guides provided on or over the touch input area of said touch screen to assist with the touch input.

16. A touch-sensitive apparatus as recited in claim 15, wherein said surface guides correspond to the media mixing controls being displayed in the display area of said touch screen.

17. A touch-sensitive apparatus as recited in claim 15, wherein configurations of said surface guides correspond to configurations of the media mixing controls being displayed in the display area of said touch screen.

18. A touch-sensitive apparatus as recited in claim 16,

wherein the media mixing controls include at least one slider control being displayed in the display area of said touch screen, and

wherein said surface guides include at least one slider guide.

19. A touch-sensitive apparatus as recited in claim 16,

wherein the media mixing controls include at least one button control being displayed in the display area of said touch screen, and

wherein said surface guides include at least one button guide.

20. A touch-sensitive apparatus as recited in claim 16,

wherein the media mixing controls include at least one dial control being displayed in the display area of said touch screen, and