

BOLDER *Sounds*

presents

Hammered Dulcimer Trilogy - Volume 2

Concert Grand Hammered Dulcimer

Apple Logic EXS24



ABOUT THE INSTRUMENT

Most hammered dulcimers you see these days are double 'course' instruments. Meaning they use 2 strings per note (much like a twelve string guitar). One of the unique things about the 'Grand' is that it employs three courses making for a bigger sound as well as a bigger instrument. Not quite as big as the colossal Cimbalom (volume 1 of the Trilogy), but still quite a big instrument to lug around. The Cimbalom's sound-print is quite a bit darker than this instrument. These 'Grand' triple coursed hammered dulcimers enjoyed a bit of a revival among folk musicians in the 1960's.



EXS24 Installation

Before you do anything else - *please make a backup copy of the package you have downloaded!*

After extracting the Concert Grand EXS24 folder, you may place it anywhere on your hard drive you prefer. However there are 2 other folders which must be placed in the correct place. They are as follows -

Concert Grand HD instruments folder - Copy this to Sampler Instruments folder used by Logic (user/Library/Application Support/Logic/Sampler Instruments).

Concert Grand Channel Strips - Copy this to Channel Strip Settings/Instrument folder (user/Library/Application Support/Logic/Channel Strip Settings/Instrument).

Logic Pro Channel Strips

There are 3 channel strip settings for the Concert Grand which were created with Logic Pro 8. The channel strips generally employ EQ along with some Space Designer impulse responses. These are intended just to get the user started in creating their own channel strip settings. Logic Pro offers an immense palette of sonic sculpting tools to choose from.

Sampling and Programming Notes

The Concert Grand hammered Dulcimer was sampled in stereo at 24 bits/44k into a Alesis ML9600 High Resolution Master Disc Recorder using a stereo pair of Nuemann KM 184 mics into a Grace Design 201 mic preamp. The 24 bit resolution has been retained for this EXS24 sample set.

Total size of all samples and .exs instruments combined is 454 megabytes.

The Concert Grand Hammered Dulcimer was sampled with wood and felt hammers as well as being plucked by the flesh of the thumb for a very dark and warm tone color.

The Drag Ornament

Also sampled with both wood and felt hammers were “drag” ornaments - created by one hammer bouncing repetitively on the string to be finally interrupted by the other hammer which plays a long accented note. This ornament is generally used leading into a downbeat. So the bouncing portion of the note is just ahead of the beat acting as a pickup or anticipation into the down beat.

If you are unsure as to what kind of programming modulations have been assigned to a particular instrument, just look at the bottom of the EXS24's front panel and you will see the modulation matrix which very clearly shows controller assignments as well as other programming parameters.

Concert Grand Hammered Dulcimer EXS24 Instrument list

CG 3 way VelSwitch - 3 way velocity switch between thumb pluck, felt and wood hammers.

CG 4 Way VelSwitch - Velocity switch between thumb, felt & wood hammers and drags.

CG Felt Drags - EXS instrument with the felt hammer drags ornament only.

CG Felt Hammers - EXS instrument with the felt hammers only.

CG Felt-Wood VelXfade - There is a overlap velocity point between these two samples, at the overlap they are crossfaded from felt to wood hammers.

CG Thumb MW=HiPass - Flesh of thumb samples, a HiPass filter is introduced by using your modulation wheel which rolls off the bass end of the frequency spectrum.

CG Wood Drags - EXS instrument with the wood hammer drags ornament only.

CG Wood MW=HiPass - Wood hammer samples only, a HiPass filter is introduced by using your modulation wheel which rolls off the bass end of the frequency spectrum.

Customer Support

For any questions, technical issues inquiries etc.... please contact Bolder Sounds via email at sales@boldersounds.net.

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Thank You for your consideration! Dennis Burns - boldersounds.com