

Which MIDI Software Do You Rate?

David Knopfler

Dear Diary,

It's getting to that time to send my copy in to 1984 Online - erk. What to do? ...

This space was to be a review of Steinberg Cubase VST 24 version 4.0 - which "integrates audio and MIDI for a complete recording studio solution," they say. Regretfully Steinberg failed to keep their promise and have not at the time of writing (12.3.'99.) delivered their review bump. Nor indeed did they respond at all to the reminder. Additionally their technical department failed to reply to the query laboriously completed by yours truly on their support form for that matter about a problem I was having with version 2.0 which as a mere 68k user for my studio set up is all my poor old CPU can cope with. Is this the kind of company you want as a partner when you are recording albums? Seems a legitimate question to ask doesn't it?

So, while I wait for that information to arrive, hopefully in time for the next edition, I suggest you visit MacHome Interactive and take a look at their glowing review of Cakewalk <<http://www.machome.com/default.html>> which for \$200 is certainly a deal cheaper.

Subject: Re: Cubase
Date: Fri, 19 Feb 1999 05:43:21 EST
From: ICtomwendt@aol.com
To: david@knopfler.com

Hi,
thanks for your interest in Cubase.
I'll send a promo a.s.a.p

best Regards

Thomas Wendt

Then you can go pick the bones out of some of the following sites which offer MIDI related software for the Mac and iMac. The following listing by the way was condensed and compiled from recent update entries found at the completely outstanding VersionTracker (www.versiontracker.com) website which delivered all these links in seconds c/o it's excellent search and database. If you've never visited VersionTracker you're missing possibly the most essential Mac site on the web period and certainly for tracking updates and other goodies.

Opcode Studio Vision Pro - MIDI & digital audio recording, sequencing

http://www.opcode.com/dl/svpro/svp_mac.html 4.2.1 Opcode Vision DSP - MIDI and audio recording and sequencing for music and media

http://www.opcode.com/dl/vision/vis_mac.html 4.2.1 Emagic Logic Audio - integrated MIDI & digital audio sequencer, for Platinum & Gold vers.

<http://www2.emagic.de/english/support/download/logicmac.html> 3.7.2 MIDIGraphy - MIDI sequencer to edit, play back and record standard MIDI files - 960k

<http://ux01.so-net.or.jp/~mmaeda/indexe.html> 1.4.2 Club MID - plays standard MIDI files, play list offers sequential or random orders - 204k

<http://www.tcp-ip.or.jp/~setsu/clubMid.html> 1.1 Midimizer - assemble & playback a list of QuickTime MIDI files with shuffle & repeat - 363k

<http://www.moonbeam-online.com/products/midimizer.html> 1.0 MOTU FreeMIDI - complete MIDI operating system with an optional OMS emulator extension - 1.7M

<http://www.mOtu.com/english/software/freemidi/fmdist.html> 1.38 Emagic Unitor8 - driver & firmware v1.2.9 for the MIDI interface and synchronizer - 603k

<http://www2.emagic.de/english/support/download/toolsmac.html> 1.0.6 MIDWorld - FutureBasic II programmer's tool for playing MIDI music in your programs - 383k

<http://www2.hawaii.edu/~dereksmi/midworld/midworld.html> 4.0.5a Coda Finale - MIDI & notation tools to print music scores

<http://www.codamusic.com/downloads.htm#macintosh> 98d VSamp - oms, freemidi, sound manager compatible multitimbral sample playback module - 401k

<http://www.kagi.com/smaug/vsamp/> 2.4.4 Res Rocket - allows you to play with other musicians on the net via MIDI - 1.5M

<http://www.resrocket.com/software/release.html> 1.2.1 Opcode OMS - manages the flow of MIDI info between apps & MIDI hardware - 3.5M

http://www.opcode.com/dl/oms/oms_mac.html 2.3.6 / lite Coda Finale Allegro - music notation software, MIDI & notation tools to print scores

<http://www.codamusic.com/final98.htm> 98 Midi Delay - realtime midi effects application works like a hardware digital delay

<http://www2.cybernex.net/~jonwitte/ReadMididelay.html> 3.0.1 Motu Unisyn profiles - updated profiles for the MIDI device editor / librarian - 3.3M

<http://www.motu.com/> <<http://www.motu.com/english/download/> update MMMMM - Midi Plug-in for the Palace (online chat environments) - 292k

<http://insnet.com/~wadaputz/macmidi.html> 2.0 D-SoundPRO - "audio sound editor, synthesizer, wave generator, samplers MIDI/SCSI manager"

<http://www.harmony-central.com/Software/Mac/d-soundpro.html> 3.5.1 Midi Thru - use

with OMS or Midi Manager to connect a controller synth to a slave synth
<http://www2.cybernex.net/~jonwithe/MidiThru.html> 2.1 Yamaha MIDPLUG for XG - MIDI plug-in for Netscape Navigator or Internet Explorer
http://www.cyber-bp.or.jp/yamaha/midplug/index_e.html 1.0 VocalWriter - "MIDI file editor, player and synthesizer that also sings lyrics" - (Wow!?)
<http://kaelabs.com> 1.0 Arnolds MIDI Player - MIDI and Karaoke file player
<http://www.planete.net/~amasson/amp.html> 2.9b9 Midi JukeBox - plays standard MIDI files
<http://synapse.cs.byu.edu/~randy/jukebox.html> 2.9 Image Utilities CMM - "manipulates QuickTime, picture, sound & MIDI files & more"
<http://www.riccisoft.com/cmm/> 1.1 MOTU Performer - MIDI sequencer with integrated digital audio recording
<http://www.motu.com/> 6.0 Crescendo - real-time MIDI player for Netscape and Microsoft browsers - 92k
<http://www.liveupdate.com/dl2.html> 2.0 Opcode MusicShop - MIDI Sequencer - 975k
http://www.opcode.com/dl/musicshop/mus_2.0.2_mac.html 2.0.2

If you own midi software you really rate, I'd be delighted to hear from you and pass on your comments to our readers. Then again you might, like me, have been on a very long sabbatical from MIDI period and ideally prefer instead the twangs and clumps of real hands-on instruments as they compress and gently hiss through an old fashioned 2 inch block at 15ips ;) with just a dab of Dolby SR to keep things from getting too silly.

Well Diary I could send the above but it seems, well a tad inflammatory... oh ***k it ... What's next - oh yeah - I gotta send that letter to The Observer newspaper. I expect they'll bottle publishing it as usual ... think this about hits the spot though
Dire Traits

Dear Editor,

I'm sure I'm not the only musician who recognizes the authenticity of Drummer Tony McCarroll's account of being cuckooed, trashed and ripped off by his former band buddy Noel what's-his-name from Oasis and his representatives. Tony McCarroll can however be eternally grateful that the what's-his-name in question wasn't his brother.

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