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Subject: small mobile laptop rig - suggestions?

Posted by [David Evan](#) on Mon, 19 Feb 2007 19:33:42 GMT

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hey everybody,

it's been a while since i've been here. still using paris but about to sell everything (i may keep paris so that in ten years when suddenly, everybody's drooling for that great, "vintage paris sound" i'll sell it and retire). i have mics, pres, racks, etc. i'm selling it because i'm about to move out of my home and live a life of touring on the road. so, i need to get a laptop and a mobile recording setup for recording simple demos on the road. i'm keeping one at4050 for vocals, and am planning to get a rode nt4 for stereo micing my ac. guit. any suggestions about programs and firewire micpre interfaces?

thanks!

-david evan

[www.myspace.com/davidevanmusic](http://www.myspace.com/davidevanmusic)

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Subject: Re: small mobile laptop rig - suggestions?

Posted by [excelav](#) on Mon, 19 Feb 2007 21:53:54 GMT

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I really depends on what you need. Suck as how compact, do you want your stuff racked mounted?

Alesis MasterControl

<http://www.alesis.com/>

<http://www.motu.com/products/motuaudio/>

For PT compatability

<http://www.m-audio.com/index.php?do=products.list&ID=mobileinterfaces>

<http://www.tascam.com/ComputerRecording.html>

<http://presonus.com/firestudio.html>

[http://www.focusrite.com/product/saffire\\_pro\\_26\\_i\\_o/](http://www.focusrite.com/product/saffire_pro_26_i_o/)

<http://www.apple.com/macbook/macbook.html>

For card buss

<http://www.apple.com/macbookpro/>

<http://www.gatorcases.com/productsdetail.aspx?LID=8&PID=106>

[http://www.gatorcases.com/productsdetail.aspx?LID=8&PID= 107](http://www.gatorcases.com/productsdetail.aspx?LID=8&PID=107)

[http://www.gatorcases.com/productsdetail.aspx?LID=8&PID= 154](http://www.gatorcases.com/productsdetail.aspx?LID=8&PID=154)

This should get you started.

Good luck!

James

"David Evan" <davidevanmusic@yahoo.com> wrote:

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Posted by [excelav](#) on Mon, 19 Feb 2007 21:59:33 GMT

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---

Subject: Re: small mobile laptop rig - suggestions?  
Posted by [excelav](#) on Mon, 19 Feb 2007 22:18:36 GMT  
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---

The studio to go is what I was thinking of.

<http://www.gatorcases.com/productsdetail.aspx?LID=8&PID= 132>

<http://www.gatorcases.com/productsmodeldetail.aspx?LID=8&PID=131&MID=383>

<http://www.gatorcases.com/productsdetail.aspx?LID=8&PID= 108>

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---

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Subject: Re: small mobile laptop rig - suggestions?  
Posted by [TCB](#) on Mon, 19 Feb 2007 22:22:38 GMT  
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I posted here that I'm using a totally crap, \$500 Acer with a Sempron in it for portable audio. Just wipe the drive when you get it and put a fresh install of XP on it and suddenly it works 200x better.

For an audio interface, bite the bullet and go with RME cardbus. It's a zero configuration, zero hassle, almost zero latency solution. Yes, it will cost twice what the laptop does but it's the way to go.

TCB

"David Evan" <davidevanmusic@yahoo.com> wrote:

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>

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Subject: Re: small mobile laptop rig - suggestions?  
Posted by [Chris Ludwig](#) on Mon, 19 Feb 2007 23:30:22 GMT  
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---

Hi David,

For firewire interfaces. These are ones I've used and know sound good and work.

They are all cross platform. In no particular order.

Focusrite Saffire LE  
Focusrite Saffire Pro 26i/o  
Presonus Firepod  
TC Electronic Konnekt 24D (it has issues with Cakewalk Sonar)  
MOTU 828  
MOTU 8pre  
MOTU 896  
RME Fireface 400  
RME Fireface 800

(RME and MOTU would be the top 2 for sound quality with the the TC in a close 3rd)

If it's not on the list then I probably have had problems with and don't feel like ranting...:)

Software -

Cross platform -  
Steinberg Cubase 4  
Ableton Live 6

PC -  
Magix Samplitude Professional

Apple-

Apple Logic

MOTU Digital performer

laptops -



ADK 1Q (shameless plug)

or

Apple Mac Book pro

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Chris Ludwig

ADK Pro Audio

(859) 635-5762

www.adkproaudio.com

chrisl@adkproaudio.com

---

Subject: Re: small mobile laptop rig - suggestions?

Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Tue, 20 Feb 2007 00:08:14 GMT

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---

Now you have my curiosity up. Why no Sonar?

AA

"Chris Ludwig" <chrisl@adkproaudio.com> wrote in message

news:45da334e\$1@linux...

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> (859) 635-5762  
> www.adkproaudio.com  
> chrisl@adkproaudio.com

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Subject: Re: small mobile laptop rig - suggestions?  
Posted by [Chris Ludwig](#) on Tue, 20 Feb 2007 01:37:18 GMT  
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---

Hi Aaron,  
The ASIO driver has a some compatibility issues with Sonar which both  
companies are aware and supposedly dealing with .  
Cakewalk has their own "unique way of ASIO support.

Chris

Aaron Allen wrote:

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---

Subject: Re: small mobile laptop rig - suggestions?  
Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Tue, 20 Feb 2007 04:46:54 GMT  
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---

I know they use a kinda wierd way to get to it, but I've not seen anything here that scared me yet with the Creamware ASIO drivers... are we talking just ASIO in general or ASIO on a laptop? I seriously would like to know, as I'm looking to build a laptop to use live and I'm looking hard at Sonar for that because I simply must have midi/wav lock and a playlist capability that's fast to use/edit. Stability is also a must have, there are no second takes live...

If I'm about to step in warm gooey stuff, brotha show me the way :)

AA

"Chris Ludwig" <chrisl@adkproaudio.com> wrote in message  
news:45da5112\$1@linux...

> HI Aaron,

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---

Subject: Re: small mobile laptop rig - suggestions?  
Posted by [Chris Ludwig](#) on Tue, 20 Feb 2007 04:54:50 GMT  
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Hi Aaron,  
TC are th only one that I'm aware of right now that have had these issues in a long time. I think they might have got lazy with testing it with some software. Sonar isn't a popular program overseas compared to Cubase, logic, PT , DP, even Samplitude.

What do you mean by midi/wav lock and playlist?  
And what do you mean by Live?



Live recording?  
Live VSTi triggering?  
Live effects processing?

Chris

Aaron Allen wrote:

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>>>news:45da334e\$1@linux...

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>>>

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Chris Ludwig

ADK

chrisl@adkproaudio.com <mailto:chrisl@adkproaudio.com>

www.adkproaudio.com <http://www.adkproaudio.com/>

(859) 635-5762

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Subject: Re: small mobile laptop rig - suggestions?

Posted by [Chris Ludwig](#) on Tue, 20 Feb 2007 04:59:41 GMT

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Hey Jim,

As a converter/Pre it's great . I know they had problems with some old drivers but AFAIK they are working fine now. It has always seemed quite expensive for limited features it has as a audio device. I guess if you were just recording a stereo performance and low latency was a priority then it would work great.

Chris

Jim Campbell wrote:

>Hey Chris,

>

>Does the Apogee mini-me USB qualify as rant worthy? Oh, sorry, fire wire...

>

>

>Jim

>

>

>Chris Ludwig <chrisl@adkproaudio.com> wrote:

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Subject: Re: small mobile laptop rig - suggestions?  
Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Tue, 20 Feb 2007 05:03:32 GMT  
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Live band tracks. PC runs lighting, vocal FX changes, click and aux tracking from playback only.

I use a combo of a stereo WAV (though I've been thinking of doing less ITB mixing and farming a few extra tracks out) locked with midi click/program changes/lighting commands and I need it in a quick and editable set list formation.

No VSTi/DXi, no live FX processing. I've been using a Firewire Audiophile with a VAIO but that's been pretty mixed results as the VAIO pretty much sucks dung. Ditto the DELL inspiron 8000 I tried previously - it worked flawlessly for days on end looping and the moment I took it out it developed a bad attitude. Took it home, all's well. Go figure on that one, but I'm looking to use my Toshiba Tablet now and I can't imagine it wouldn't cut it here, but I'm not willing to get beat up if I can avoid it.

I've tried both onboard FW and a PCMCIA card. Card seems to be a little happier, no surprise. Via chipset on the PCMCIA.

Thoughts?

AA

"Chris Ludwig" <chrisl@adkproaudio.com> wrote in message  
news:45da7f61\$1@linux...

> Hi Aaron,  
> TC are th only one that I'm aware of right now that have had these issues  
> in a long time. I think they might have got lazy with testing it with some  
> software. Sonar isn't a popular program overseas compared to Cubase,  
> logic, PT , DP, even Samplitude.  
> What do you mean by midi/wav lock and playlist?  
> And what do you mean by Live?  
> Live recording?  
> Live VSTi triggering?  
> Live effects processing?

>  
>  
> Chris

>  
>  
> Aaron Allen wrote:

>  
>>I know they use a kinda wierd way to get to it, but I've not seen anything  
>>here that scared me yet with the Creamware ASIO drivers... are we talking  
>>just ASIO in general or ASIO on a laptop? I seriously would like to know,  
>>as I'm looking to build a laptop to use live and I'm looking hard at Sonar  
>>for that because I simply must have midi/wav lock and a playlist  
>>capability that's fast to use/edit. Stability is also a must have, there  
>>are no second takes live...  
>>If I'm about to step in warm gooey stuff, brotha show me the way :)

>>  
>>AA

>>  
>>  
>>"Chris Ludwig" <chrisl@adkproaudio.com> wrote in message  
>>news:45da5112\$1@linux...

>>  
>>>Hi Aaron,  
>>>The ASIO driver has a some compatibility issues with Sonar which both  
>>>companies are aware and supposedly dealing with .  
>>>Cakewalk has their own "unique way of ASIO support.

>>>  
>>>Chris

>>>  
>>>  
>>>Aaron Allen wrote:  
>>>



>>>  
>>>>Now you have my curiosity up. Why no Sonar?  
>>>>AA  
>>>>  
>>>>  
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Subject: Re: small mobile laptop rig - suggestions?  
Posted by [JCampbell](#) on Tue, 20 Feb 2007 05:29:25 GMT  
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Hey Chris,

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Jim

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Subject: Re: small mobile laptop rig - suggestions?  
Posted by [excelav](#) on Tue, 20 Feb 2007 05:52:27 GMT  
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---

This might be fun to add to a portable system. Now DeeJ is going to want a lap top or he might, well, you know.

<http://www.uaudio.com/products/uad/xpander/index.html>

James

"Jim Campbell" <campbell1745@sbcglobal.net> wrote:

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Subject: Re: small mobile laptop rig - suggestions?  
Posted by [Steve Helm](#) on Wed, 21 Feb 2007 19:01:09 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

David,  
I think you should seriously look into Metric Halo's Moblie I/Os. The Firewire interface seamlessly connects with Macbook Pros! I use mine in the studio, but it is equally at home on the road.

Both Meric halo's ULN and 2882's have great pres and coverters. It depends on how many channels you want to record at once. The ULN has two channels and the 2882 has 8. Of course one can connect several together for more simultaineus tracks Many MH users are using them to record exceptionally high quality live recordings. Metric Halo MIO Control software also has a sweet recording

interface so no other DAW is required.

Check out [www.mhllabs.com](http://www.mhllabs.com) and their excellent user group for more info.

Good Luck!  
Steve

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Subject: Re: small mobile laptop rig - suggestions?  
Posted by [Ab](#) on Wed, 21 Feb 2007 23:58:41 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Yes, what Steve said.

Cheers,  
Ab

"Steve Helm" <shelm@radford.edu> wrote:

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