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Subject: Re: Hardware or soft synths-What do you use more of these days?

Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Fri, 06 Jan 2006 01:18:36 GMT

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that the firewire card in it went bad and for some reason

> would take out the external drives on the internal firewire and  
> corrupt the boot drive that disk warrior wouldn't even touch it.

>

> thanks

>

> On Thu, 5 Jan 2006 10:10:32 -0700, "DJ"

> <[animix\\_spam-this-ahole\\_@animas.net](mailto:animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net)> wrote:

>

> >I've heard nothing but good things about the Silicon Image SATA  
conrrollers.

> >I have a question about this though. If I'm reading my manual correctly,  
the

> >onboard VIA controller on my mobo has it's own separate bus for SATA RAID

> >which is independent of the PCI bus. I would think that, if this is the

> >case, using an onboard controller would be a better choice as long as  
it's

> >got a separate bus. The Promise controller on my A7V8X-LAN mobo has  
onboard

> >SATA but it's pinging the PCI bus a little and therefore isn't much  
faster

> >than ATA33.

> >

> >

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Subject: Hardware or soft synths-What do you use more of these days?

Posted by [Pete Ruthenburg](#) on Fri, 06 Jan 2006 02:01:02 GMT

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eciated,

>> PeteGee uncle Rick. Every time you relate your experiences with Macs, somehow I  
imagine that slitting my wrists would be preferable to owning one.

;o)

"rick" <[parnell68@hotmail.com](mailto:parnell68@hotmail.com)> wrote in message  
news:g24rr1tepf875igtphb42n914c128i2r4@4ax.com...

> my g4 has no sata connectivity so it would be strictly a pci thing. i

> was checking out mac gurus and theirs against the others. i will say

> that after 2 1/2 years tiger 10.4.3 is pretty good after 3 installs.

> it seems

---

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Subject: Re: Hardware or soft synths-What do you use more of these days?

Posted by [Pete Ruthenburg](#) on Fri, 06 Jan 2006 02:27:16 GMT

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y and that as VSTi.

Do you need portable rig? That's another consideration. I decided to go with a totally sample/VSTi based setup here right before the first of the year.

Right now I'm using an MAudio Keystation 88 with the following VSTi's

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Jamstix

Groove Agent II

Halion Player 3.1

Ivory

Garritan Personal Orchestra (haven't yet decided if this is a keeper)

Native Instruments B4 II (hasn't showed up yet but I've heard the B4 v1 and

I'm smitten with the NI implementation of the B# organ so I'm expecting to be happy with this)

I'm counting on these, along with Jammer v6 for roughing out song ideas and Cubase SX for finishing them out and my Paris rig to provide what I need here for a pretty well fleshed out audio production capability. This next year is looking like it's going to be getting a bit more complex than the acoustic/singer/songwriter/bluegrass based stuff I've been doing for the last few years.....plus, mu muse is tweaked and I want to start composing music again. It's been a long time since I've written anything and I always enjoyed producing (according to my wife...I enjoy it a little too much and need to simplify.....simplify....??????.....me????)

;o)

"Pete Ruthenburg" <ruthenburg@sbcglobal.net> wrote in message news:43bddb75\$1@linux...

>

> Hey DeeJ,good point about reality vs. synthes

---

Subject: Re: Hardware or soft synths-What do you use more of these days?

Posted by [Deej \[1\]](#) on Fri, 06 Jan 2006 02:35:35 GMT

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If you're looking for reality instead of synthesis, go soft all the way. Get you a good controller and build yourself a moose of a comp to stream samples or if you need portability get the thingie that plays them out of a box (forget the name)....or you could drop \$8k and get yourself a Korg Oasys.

;o)

"Pete Ruthenburg" <ruthenburg@sbcglobal.net> wrote in message news:43bdc14e\$1@linux...

>  
> So I'm looking to get a new synth in here. Pretty slim synth  
> collection-Kurz PC2X and 2500 rack,D50.I'm looking at the Yamaha  
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> that will continually be updated as opposed to a hard synth that  
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>  
> Any advice appreciated,  
> Pete

---

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Subject: Re: Hardware or soft synths-What do you use more of these days?  
Posted by [Pete Ruthenburg](#) on Fri, 06 Jan 2006 03:52:37 GMT  
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---

Hey Deej,good point about reality vs. synthesis.Hadn't thought of it that way,but I'm probably thinking more reality vibe.

Yeah,I played an Oasys the other day.Nice board,but 8k I don't think so;)

Pete

"DJ" <animix\_spam-this-ahole\_@animas.net> wrote:

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>

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>"Pete Ruthenburg" <ruthenburg@sbcglobal.net> wrote in message

>news:43bdc14e\$1@linux...

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Subject: Re: Hardware or soft synths-What do you use more of these days?  
Posted by [Deej \[1\]](#) on Fri, 06 Jan 2006 04:38:08 GMT  
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I understand the vibe vs reality thing. I just loaded Garritan Personal Orchestra. It's pretty nice and it's sample based. I've got a buddy here in town that is using the synful Orchestra. It's synthesis based but the way it goes about it is extremely pleasing to the ear and actually seems a bit more realistic to me than the GPO.....the Synful orchestra sounds very retro, but in a very good way. If you're looking for piano though, it's gotta be Ivory and that as VSTi.

Do you need portable rig? That's another consideration. I decided to go with a totally sample/VSTi based setup here right before the first of the year. Right now I'm using an MAudio Keystation 88 with the following VSTi's

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> >;o)

> >

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> >news:43bdc14e\$1@linux...

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> >> will be worth whatever in a couple of years.

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> >> Any advice appreciated,  
> >> Pete  
> >  
> >  
>

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Subject: Re: Hardware or soft synths-What do you use more of these days?  
Posted by [erlilo](#) on Fri, 06 Jan 2006 07:39:48 GMT  
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Pete,  
Have a look at the new softsynth from [www.kjaerhusaudio.com](http://www.kjaerhusaudio.com) You can try it out before buying. I've heard on the mp3's on the site and I must say it sounded great for the money.

Erling

"Pete Ruthenburg" <[ruthenburg@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ruthenburg@sbcglobal.net)> skrev i melding  
news:43bdc14e\$1@linux...

>  
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> Any advice appreciated,  
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Subject: Re: Hardware or soft synths-What do you use more of these days?  
Posted by [TCB](#) on Fri, 06 Jan 2006 15:20:35 GMT  
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At this point I'm waiting for someone to give me even one solid reason to use hardware synths other than familiarity.

TCB

"Pete Ruthenburg" <ruthenburg@sbcglobal.net> wrote:

>  
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Subject: Re: Hardware or soft synths-What do you use more of these days?

Posted by [emarenot](#) on Fri, 06 Jan 2006 16:13:35 GMT

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Hey Pete

I've yet to dip into soft synths. I'm thinking about trying out Absynth or Ivory. One thing about hardware though, and it may not really matter if you've got a quick computer, they don't use up any CPU cycles.

MR

"Pete Ruthenburg" <ruthenburg@sbcglobal.net> wrote in message  
news:43bdc14e\$1@linux...

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---

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Subject: Re: Hardware or soft synths-What do you use more of these days?

Posted by [TCB](#) on Fri, 06 Jan 2006 16:21:04 GMT

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Also, if you're looking for synthy synths check into Operator from Ableton, it's a FM synth that (for FM) is actually pretty easy to use. The Spectrum is partially an additive synth which is something I've never been able to get my head around but maybe y'all can.

TCB

"erlilo" <erlilo@online.no> wrote:

>Pete,

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Subject: Re: Hardware or soft synths-What do you use more of these days?

Posted by [LaMont](#) on Fri, 06 Jan 2006 16:29:12 GMT

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I have to tell you that it's more 60/40 these day for me. Now that I built



myself a Dedicated VSTi & Giga Machine (PC), powering up my keyboard racks is becoming less less.

Last year I systematically set out to replace all of modlus and import stock(meat & Potatoes) sounds that can get me thru a modern production. When Spectrasonics updated Stylus to RMX & Battery/Acid, I know long have to use my MPC for sounds, but only as a sequencer. Here the replacement list:

For Rhodes: Native Instruments : Electick Piano, Scarbee Rhodes

For Real Grand Pianos: Giga Pianos,Soon Ivory

For Synth Bass : Trilogy, Auturia Mini Moog

Pads : Atmosphere,FM7, Albino(!!!),Wavestation

Analogy Synths : Pro 53, Atmosphere,Korg poly 6,Moog,  
CS- 80,Arp 2600

Organs: NI's B4..

Real Strings : Garritan Giga Strings,Sonic Implants,Kirk Hunter

Real Drum Sim: BFD, Battery..

i just em up in V-Stack, boom..remembers each song setups..

If I do use hardware, it's only because I just a particular sound that I have found yet in the vast vsti library. Also, I have a "ganked out" Kurweil K2500XS, That's my Baby. It's has a sound quality second to none!! I have Gigs of internal and external sound in it that just gets the job done.. So, there you have it.

"TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:

>

>At this point I'm waiting for someone to give me even one solid reason to  
>use hardware synths other than familiarity.

>

>TCB

>

>"Pete Ruthenburg" <ruthenburg@sbcglobal.net> wrote:

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Subject: Re: Hardware or soft synths-What do you use more of these days?

Posted by [LaMont](#) on Fri, 06 Jan 2006 16:31:01 GMT

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Oh Yeah.. I almost forgot to mention NI's Absynth (2 & 3)..If your are into post , commericals or scoring, this baby will get you there..

"LaMont" <jjdpro@ameritech.net> wrote:

>

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Subject: Re: Hardware or soft synths-What do you use more of these days?

Posted by [gene lennon](#) on Fri, 06 Jan 2006 17:05:59 GMT

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>  
>Real Drum Sim: BFD, Battery..

This is a good list. Some additions by category:

Culture  
RA  
Stormdrum

Gene

---

Subject: Re: Hardware or soft synths-What do you use more of these days?  
Posted by [steve the artguy](#) on Fri, 06 Jan 2006 18:17:07 GMT  
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"TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:

>  
>At this point I'm waiting for someone to give me even one solid reason to  
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>TCB

ok, Thad, here's one.,

I have yet to take anything small to a gig (mixer, rompler module, etc) which I put carefully on top of my keyboard thingies, which hasn't gotten knocked off and onto the ground. Whether it's the drunks in the audience or careless band members or my own stupid self, it seems to happen to every one of them.

I'd hate to have that happen with a laptop. Crunch!

That, and I'm the only one in the known universe at this point without a laptop...or a cell phone...or a pda... or a gps... or...an automated loom....

-steve the luddite

-steve

>

>"Pete Ruthenburg" <ruthenburg@sbcglobal.net> wrote:

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Subject: Re: Hardware or soft synths-What do you use more of these days?

Posted by [Gary Flanigan](#) on Fri, 06 Jan 2006 18:38:09 GMT

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"Pete Ruthenburg" <ruthenburg@sbcglobal.net> wrote:

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> However,I can see the benefit of going that route with software  
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Craig Anderton pointed out recently that soft synths are often vanishing  
instruments, especially if the company goes out of business and the software  
doesn't run on the newer OS.

Sound familiar? :)

---

Subject: Re: Hardware or soft synths-What do you use more of these days?

Posted by [TCB](#) on Fri, 06 Jan 2006 19:36:05 GMT

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A valid point, the playing live part, but if someone spills beer on your \$3k Motif you're out more than if the same guy spills beer in your \$600 Dell laptop. I DJ with a laptop fairly often and it's worth less than all but two of my guitars, all of my amps. Actually, my Moog delay and Fulltone wah have a significantly higher replacement cost than my laptop.

TCB

"steve the artguy" <artguy@svnsillyme.net> wrote:

>

>"TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:

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>-steve the luddite

>

>-steve

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>>>with.  
>>> However,I can see the benefit of going that route with software  
>>>that will continually be updated as opposed to a hard synth that  
>>>will be worth whatever in a couple of years.  
>>>  
>>>Any advice appreciated,  
>>>Pete  
>>  
>

---

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Subject: Re: Hardware or soft synths-What do you use more of these days?  
Posted by [steve the artguy](#) on Sat, 07 Jan 2006 04:33:37 GMT  
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Thad, you are of course right.

I can't get used to the concept of "cheap laptops." Odd, since I'm quite conversant with the concept of "cheap everything else."

the equipment I used on my new year's gig cost me... hmm... about \$250...with cables, let's say \$300...

-steve

"TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:

>  
>A valid point, the playing live part, but if someone spills beer on your \$3k  
>Motif you're out more than if the same guy spills beer in your \$600 Dell  
>laptop. I DJ with a laptop fairly often and it's worth less than all but  
>two of my guitras, all of my amps. Actually, my Moog delay and Fulltone wah  
>have a significantly higher replacement cost than my laptop.

>  
>TCB

>  
>"steve the artguy" <artguy@svnsillyme.net> wrote:

>>  
>>"TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:  
>>>  
>>>At this point I'm waiting for someone to give me even one solid reason  
>to  
>>>use hardware synths other than familiarity.

>>>  
>>>TCB  
>>  
>>

>>ok, Thad, here's one.,  
>>  
>>I have yet to take anything small to a gig (mixer, rompler module, etc)  
>which  
>>I put carefully on top of my keyboard thingies, which hasn't gotten knocked  
>>off and onto the ground. Whether it's the drunks in the audience or careless  
>>band members or my own stupid self, it seems to happen to every one of  
them.  
>>I'd hate to have that happen with a laptop. Crunch!  
>>  
>>That, and I'm the only one in the known universe at this point without  
a  
>>laptop...or a cell phone...or a pda... or a gps... or...an automated loom....  
>>  
>>  
>>-steve the luddite  
>>  
>>-steve  
>>>  
>>>"Pete Ruthenburg" <ruthenburg@sbcglobal.net> wrote:  
>>>>  
>>>> So I'm looking to get a new synth in here.Pretty slim synth  
>>>>collection-Kurz PC2X and 2500 rack,D50.I'm looking at the Yamaha  
>>>>motifs,but a buddy was telling me I should go soft synth.I'm not  
>>>>currently running DAW with audio/midi and was thinking of getting  
>>>>into the SX thing.  
>>>> I haven't gotten into the soft synth thing at all so I'm a  
>>>>little hesitant having to go the new dedicated comp,software,vsti  
>>>>route compared to a hardware synth I can turn on and make noise  
>>>>with.  
>>>> However,I can see the benefit of going that route with software  
>>>>that will continually be updated as opposed to a hard synth that  
>>>>will be worth whatever in a couple of years.  
>>>>  
>>>>Any advice appreciated,  
>>>>Pete  
>>>  
>>  
>

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Subject: Re: Hardware or soft synths-What do you use more of these days?  
Posted by [Chris Wargo](#) on Sat, 07 Jan 2006 05:47:01 GMT  
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>>At this point I'm waiting for someone to give me even one solid reason  
to  
>>use hardware synths other than familiarity.



>>  
>>TCB

I'll give you another, but probably not one that applies to you. I've been tossing around the idea of getting a nice synth workstation. I'm not really a keyboardist and don't do much electronic music. I have a few soft synths, some freebies/built-ins and some that I bought. I also have Emulator-X and an Oasys card. It's all quite a pain in the ass to manage when I need to put a keyboard part down. I'm not intimate with all these synths, so I waste a lot of time hunting around for what I want, often not finding it.

Having a workstation with a large soundbank would allow me to just scroll through sounds until something sparked my creative funny bone. My Oasys is the antithesis of this approach. You really need to know what you are looking for. Hardware synths also give the ability to just turn on a synth in less than a second and just start playing. Sometimes this is very valuable too. And finally, when I need to upgrade my computer to run "Hungry Reverb 4.0 (tm)", I don't need to rebuild my arsenal of synths, and a trusty old Kurzweil 2500 doesn't care when you migrate to a new OS on your computer.

Hardware synths, good for idiots ;-)  
-Chris

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