

Press release – for immediate release

Native Instruments Introduces ABBEY ROAD 60s DRUMS

New KONTAKT instrument provides authentic vintage drums for classic and contemporary music styles, recorded at Abbey Road Studios

Berlin, January 25th, 2010 - Native Instruments today introduced ABBEY ROAD 60s DRUMS, the first instrument created in its collaboration with the iconic British recording studios. Recorded using sophisticated engineering techniques and exclusive vintage gear, ABBEY ROAD 60s DRUMS provides a versatile arsenal of classic drum sounds with absolute tonal authenticity, supreme playability and immense sonic flexibility. For use in the free KONTAKT PLAYER and the industry-leading KONTAKT 4 sampler, it provides a unique resource for typical Sixties sound aesthetics as well as for modern pop, rock and urban music styles.

ABBEY ROAD 60s DRUMS features two quintessential drum kits of the Sixties era, a Gretsch and a Ludwig, which were recorded in painstaking detail utilizing Abbey Road's profound engineering expertise and outstanding arsenal of vintage equipment. Classic AKG, Neumann and STC microphones from the studios' famed microphone collection, the exclusive REDD.17 and EMI TG mixing desks, a valve-based Studer tape machine and other authentic outboard gear all contributed to the charismatic sound of ABBEY ROAD 60s DRUMS.

With up to 30 velocity layers per instrument, each utilizing up to six randomly selected variation samples, as well as separate left- and right-hand samples and individually adjustable snare bleed, ABBEY ROAD 60s DRUMS delivers ultimate authenticity both for DAW-based rhythm programming and for real-time MIDI-controlled drum playing. To cover both classic and contemporary sound aesthetics, users can choose between "vintage" and "modern" microphone setups, and select separate "tea towel" samples for an even more distinctive, punchier sound. A special room microphone configuration was used to fully capture the outstanding acoustic room sound of Abbey Road's famous Studio Two, with the ambience individually adjustable for each instrument.

The concise user interface of ABBEY ROAD 60s DRUMS makes full use of the advanced GUI features of the KONTAKT platform, with convenient controls for articulation, sound shaping, mixing and routing functions. Advanced randomization features can even add additional subtle nuances to the tone and timing, making it sound completely organic and virtually indistinguishable from a conventional studio-recorded drum performance.

Pricing and availability

ABBEY ROAD 60s DRUMS is available for purchase in the NI Online Shop on DVD and as a download for \$119 / 99 €.

Further product information and press material

Additional information on ABBEY ROAD 60s DRUMS is available at

www.native-instruments.com/abbeyroad60sdrums.info

A digital press kit including picture material is available at

www.native-instruments.com/press.info

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About Native Instruments

Native Instruments is a leading manufacturer of software and hardware for computer-based music production and performance. The company's mission is to develop innovative, fully integrated solutions for all professions, styles and genres. The resulting products regularly push technological boundaries and open up new creative horizons for professionals and amateurs alike.

Native Instruments opened up the fascinating world of real-time sound synthesis on standard computers in 1996, and today offers an extensive product range for the Instruments, Guitar and DJ markets, designed and developed by three corresponding divisions within the company. Native Instruments currently employs more than 180 people in its two offices in Berlin and Los Angeles, and works closely with more than 40 international distribution partners to ensure its future growth and success.

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