

Native Instruments Introduces DISCOVERY SERIES: WEST AFRICA

**KONTAKT-powered instrument provides authentic sounds and grooves
of traditional African percussion ensembles for a wide variety of styles**

Berlin, June 20th, 2011 – Native Instruments has just introduced DISCOVERY SERIES: WEST AFRICA, a new instrument that centers on the infectious polyrhythmic grooves of traditional African music. For use in KONTAKT 4 and in the free KONTAKT PLAYER, the instrument provides the full sonic spectrum of a West-African percussion ensemble, and represents a unique and highly versatile resource for film scoring as well as contemporary pop and club music styles.

Recognising the substantial influence of traditional African grooves on contemporary Western music, WEST AFRICA provides the typical percussion and melody instruments of the region, combined with a versatile array of authentic and instantly usable polyrhythmic patterns. The instrument faithfully recreates a typical six-person percussion ensemble centered around multiple types of Djembe and Dunun drums. This setup is complemented by Calabash and Krin, as well as unique melodic instruments like the Kora and Bolon harp, various Balafons, the distinctive Ngoni, and the Fula flute. All instruments were recorded with painstaking precision in Native Instruments' studios in Berlin, resulting in 3 GB of studio-quality sample material.

WEST AFRICA features a specifically designed sequencer that provides over 70 pre-programmed ensemble patterns with complex West-African grooves, complete with solos, fills and single hits that can be intuitively triggered via the keyboard. Patterns automatically sync to the tempo of a host sequencer, and can be easily edited or created from scratch using an intuitive visual interface. With advanced options to modify the feel and intensity of the groove, a choice between heptatonic and chromatic instrument scales, and a wide range of ensemble configuration options, WEST AFRICA provides all necessary means to recreate the profound sonic impact of traditional West-African music with all its intricacies and universal appeal.

Pricing and availability

DISCOVERY SERIES: WEST AFRICA is available as a download in the NI Online Shop for \$119 / 99 EUR.

Further product information and press material

Additional information on DISCOVERY SERIES: WEST AFRICA is available at

www.native-instruments.com/westafrica

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 DJing. 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 musicians, producers and DJs. The company currently employs around 250 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.