

SOUNDIRON

MONTCLARION HALL GRAND PIANO

VER
1.1

Welcome to the Montclarion Hall Steinway Grand Piano.

This particular hall really resonates with us. It's a uniquely curved A-Frame chapel tucked high in the densely forested Oakland hills that we've used to record a number of different Soundiron libraries. This hall just so happens to have a beautiful black Steinway 1926 Parlor Grand Piano sitting in it. Since the first time we set foot in the sanctuary hall and sat down to play, we knew we needed to record it. This magical room combined perfectly with this piano, creating the right tonal and spatial balance to create a lush, bright sound that felt both instantly inspiring and unique.

We recorded in wide stereo from three distances. The close microphone pair is ideal for more intimate scoring. The mid microphone is great for a larger acoustic live feel and the far microphone has an incredibly dreamy texture to it. We also included a selection of live sfx ambiences, abstract atmospheres and evolving soundscapes that can accompany the piano in real-time, just to provide a bit of added inspiration.

We decided we needed to have it, and so here it is. We recorded sustains and release samples, as well as pedal sfx, bench, lid and sheet music sounds. Then we popped the hood and went to work, capturing a decent selection of sweeps, scrapes, glisses, rumbles and other effects. Then we prepared the piano for a little special treatment, capturing 3 buzzy, resonant and raw tuned string percussion sets. Finally, we decided to do a little bare-handed 3-man ensemble percussion at the piano's expense.

Note: This library was originally released by Tonehammer in 2009 as the "Montclarion Hall Piano".



SOUNDIRON MONTCLARION

Version
1.1

2755 Samples

7.25 GB Installed

Grand Piano recorded at 3 microphone distances: Close (player perspective), Mid (6m), Far (30m)

11 Multi-Instrument banks (.nkm)

35 Kontakt patches (unlocked .nki)

Includes a bonus collection of custom sound-designed ambiences and special FX presets.

Includes a selection of 34 custom convolution reverb impulses.

Full FX section including

- 3 unique experimental prepared piano
- Glisses Scrapes & sweeps
- Piano body percussion and Player sfx (sheet music, bench movement, piano hardware, etc)

Note: The full version of Kontakt 3.5 or later is required for all Kontakt presets.

CREDITS

Recording, Editing, Sound Design
Mike Peaslee

Systems Design, Programming & Scripting
Chris Marshall & Mike Peaslee

Photography & Artwork
Gregg Stephens & Mike Peaslee

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION - Page 1

OVERVIEW & CREDITS - Page 2

FIDELITY, REQUIREMENTS, INSTALLATION & LOADING - Page 3

PERFORMANCE CONTROLS - Page 4 - 5

FX & TONE CONTROLS - Page 5

INSTRUMENT PRESET LIST - Page 6 - 9

LICENSE AGREEMENT - Page 10

THANK YOU - Page 11



Format

All of the sample content is included as standard open PCM wav files to allow you easy access to manipulate, reprogram and customize the sounds however you wish. We know that it's important for many users to be able to go beyond the limitations of any one format, so we've kept this library's directories and files open for our advanced users. As a professional, you may have your own workflow or format requirements, and we trust that you'll respect our hard work and won't share this content with anyone who hasn't paid for it.

You'll need the full retail version of Native Instruments Kontakt 5.1.0 or later to use the nki presets in this library. The free Kontakt "Player" and any other version of Kontakt that came bundled with another library or software product (other than NI's full "Komplete" package) don't support this library. The free Kontakt Player is NOT a full version of Kontakt and cannot load or play standard open-format Kontakt instruments, wav samples or libraries. Please read all instrument specs and software requirements before purchasing this or any other Soundiron products to see the full list of software requirements, features and format compatibility for each library.

Fidelity

This library was recorded in wide stereo at 44.1kHz / 24bit. This was recorded on location in a wet church hall environment. Natural room tone and various sonic impurities from clothing, body movement and natural mouth and throat sounds may be present in the samples and the softer dynamic layers are naturally quiet, resulting in the presence of low levels of signal noise. Our goal is to preserve and accentuate the natural live qualities in our instruments without overly modifying and sterilizing the recordings. Therefore, please keep in mind that this library isn't designed to provide perfectly sterile result.

System Requirements

Please be aware that many instrument and multi-instrument programs in this library are extremely ram/cpu and hard disk-streaming resource intensive. We highly recommend that you have a 64-bit operating system (Windows or OSX) with *at least* 3GB of system ram, a multi-core cpu and a 7200 rpm SATA or SSD hard disk before purchasing this particular Soundiron library. Large sample sets like those found in this library may load slowly and may cause system instability on some machines.

Download

We provide the Continuata Connect download manager to offer high-speed, reliable and fully automated library downloading and installation. Download and run the latest version for your OS (PC or Mac) before proceeding. You may also need to add special permissions to your security software for the downloader, if it blocks applications from accessing the web.

Next, copy-paste your download code from your download email into the Code box in the downloader window. Press the download button and select the location you'd like to download and install the library. It will automatically start downloading the file(s) and then error-check, extract and install the finished library. Once installation is fully complete, you can remove the .rar download files and store them in a safe place as a back-up copy. We always recommend downloading the latest version of our downloader before you begin. The link in your email will always take you to the latest version.

Don't move, rename, delete or modify any of the files or folders created during the download until after you see the status message for all files in your download queue display the word **"INSTALLED"**. Please don't close the downloader while it's actively downloading, unless you press the pause button first. To resume downloading, press the Resume button. If you need to resume downloading after closing the downloader, run it again and enter your code and press Download again. Then select the same download/installation location on your computer that you chose originally.

If the downloader reports a DL Error or Install error, it will automatically try to download the file again until it successfully downloads and verifies all the data it needs. It's best to allow it to finish the process before trying to move or access the library data. Please see your download email for more detailed instructions.

If you have any trouble with our Downloader utility or prefer to use your browser or another download manager, log into your personal manual download page on our website, by using the direct link in your download email. Log in using your download code. Or, if you used the downloader originally, but you need to re-install the library manually for any reason at a later time you can always re-use the original rar files. To do that, you'll need Winrar, UnrarX or another full-featured Rar extraction utility to extract and install the library. Please note that Stuffit Expander and Winzip **DON'T** support many types of common rar files.

Preset Loading

Once installation is complete, you can browse and load the included .nki presets using the Files, Quickload or Database tabs in the Kontakt Browser, or through the main File load/save menu. Please allow any current preset to finish loading completely before loading a new one. The "Add-Library" function does not support this product or any other open-format Kontakt library. Only locked "Powered-By-Kontakt" Libraries are visible to propriety "Libraries" window. This library does not require online Service Center activation.



FRONT PANEL CONTROLS

There are a variety of specialized tone, effect and performance shaping controls on the front instrument panel, providing everything from subtle tonal reshaping to dramatic otherworldly effects. Please be aware that the value ranges for many of our controls allow you to go way beyond realistic behavior for this or any real-world piano, which may increase the noise floor artificially. We provide such extreme variability to allow more creative freedom. Please also note that numeric values ranges and intervals for each control do not necessarily correspond to milliseconds, decibels, cents, or any other specific scale. They are simply mathematical multipliers that control underlying processes. Some of them are on linear scales while others follow distinct mathematical curves. Therefore, they're best used by ear and feel.



Swell

This knob controls the volume swell of the instrument.

Offset This controls the amount of sample start offset allowing you to jump ahead into samples.

Attack

This knob controls the sharpness of attack. Lower values provide a harder initial transient. More moderate values allow you to simulate softer hammer felt, while extremely high values allow for a long, slow fade-in.

Dynamics

This knob shapes the overall dynamic response of the piano, to allow for a wide range of personal playing styles, tonal flavors and performance characteristics. The lower the knob setting, the less the tonal and dynamic difference between the lowest and highest velocities.

Rel. Vol (Release Volume)

This control sets the volume of the note release samples.

Release

This controls the release time of the main note samples. Lower settings cause the sound to be damped and cut off, while higher settings allow notes to ring out longer.

Stepping

This controls the pitch shifting up or down from the natural root pitch of each sample. You can use this knob to transpose the pitch up or down by 24 semitones in half-step increments.

Pan

This controls the stereo pan position for the instrument,

Pedal Volume

This knob controls the velocity and volume of the sustain pedal up and down sound effects. Turning the knob to 0 will disable all pedal sound effects. Since midi sustain pedals can only transmit "on" and "off" messages, there's no way to automatically tell how much intensity and force you're playing the pedal with. This knob allows you to adjust the sound to appropriately match the feel of your performance. The pedal sound effects were recorded in several velocity layers to provide greater natural realism.

Key-Switch On/Off Button

This button turns the turning key-switches on and off. The key-switches allow you to press designated keys on your midi keyboard to instantly retune the entire instrument. The lowest key-switch sets the global root pitch to -12 semitones and the highest sets the global tuning to +12 semitones higher than normal. The center key-switch returns the tuning to normal.

Fake RR On/Off Button

This button is only included in the "plucked" piano presets. It activates simulated "round-robin" sample variation, to allow more natural-sounding variety in the sound as you re-trigger any given note repeatedly. Turn the button off if you need more precise control over the sound of each note.



CONVOLUTION & TONE CONTROLS

There are a variety of specialized tone, effect and performance shaping controls on the front instrument panel, providing everything from subtle tonal reshaping to dramatic otherworldly effects. Please be aware that the value ranges for many of our controls allow you to go way beyond realistic behavior for this or any real-world piano, which may increase the noise floor artificially. We provide such extreme variability to allow more creative freedom. Please also note that numeric values ranges and intervals for each control do not necessarily correspond to milliseconds, decibels, cents, or any other specific scale. They are simply mathematical multipliers that control underlying processes. Some of them are on linear scales while others follow distinct mathematical curves. Therefore, they're best used by ear and feel.



Reverb Dry Mix

This knob controls the amount of "dry" or "clean" signal returning from the convolution reverb effect. This knob is only active when a reverb impulse has been loaded in the Impulse Select drop-down menu located to the right of the "wet mix" knob or in presets that come with an impulse already pre-loaded.

Reverb Wet Mix

This knob controls the amount of "wet" signal returning from the convolution reverb effect. This knob is only active when a reverb impulse has been loaded in the Impulse Select drop-down menu located to the right of the "wet mix" knob or in presets that come with an impulse already pre-loaded.

Low Pass

This knob enables and controls the high-frequency roll off amount that is applied to the convolution output. Use this to dull, darken and soften the sound.

Convolution Reverb Impulse Menu

This drop-down menu allows instant access to a variety of custom convolution impulses that we've captured in some of our favorite locations or created using various special techniques.

As soon as you load an impulse from the menu, the effect is activated and the impulse you've chosen is loaded into the signal path. Once an impulse has been loaded, the "Dry mix" and "Wet Mix" knobs become active.

EQ Active On/Off Button

This button enables/disables the parametric EQ filtering and controls. It's found on the front panel.

EQ Gain Controls

These 3 EQ Gain knobs control bass, mid and treble tone characteristics. It's found on the front panel.



INSTRUMENT PRESETS

** Please note that all presets listed are designed to be used with the full retail version of Kontakt 3.5 or higher. These presets do not work with the free "Kontakt Player".

We've created a variety of ready-made presets that present some of the many sides our Montclarion Hall Piano has to offer. You can modify all preset values. If you wish to restore any knob setting to its default value after you've changed it, simply hold the control key and press your right mouse button. This only works for knobs. Buttons and menus cannot be automated.

Close Mic:

Standard Piano:

Montclarion_I_cls.nki

This is the primary preset in this library. The mics were arranged in a wide pattern on a plane parallel to the hammers.

Montclarion_I_cls_lite.nki

A low-memory "DFD" version of the main preset, which tighter voice restrictions as well. This is more ideal for systems with less available resources

Montclarion_I_cl_hi-mem.nki

Beware: This preset loads the entire sample pool into ram and requires roughly 2GB of free ram just to load. It also allows higher polyphony. This preset is ideal for high-end systems running in 64-bit OS and host sequencer environments.

Effects:

Montclarion_I_FX_pluck-kill_cls.nki

This is a tuned percussion instrument created by playing various keys, while damping the strings aggressively with a hard wooden dowel.

Montclarion_I_FX_pluck-mute_cls.nki

This is a tuned percussion instrument created by playing various keys, while damping the strings lightly with a variety of small wooden and metal objects.

Montclarion_I_FX_pluck-slide_cls.nki

This is a tuned percussion instrument created by playing various keys, while using metal objects to slide up the strings, creating a dissonant drifting anti-harmony.

Montclarion_I_FX_gliss_cls.nki

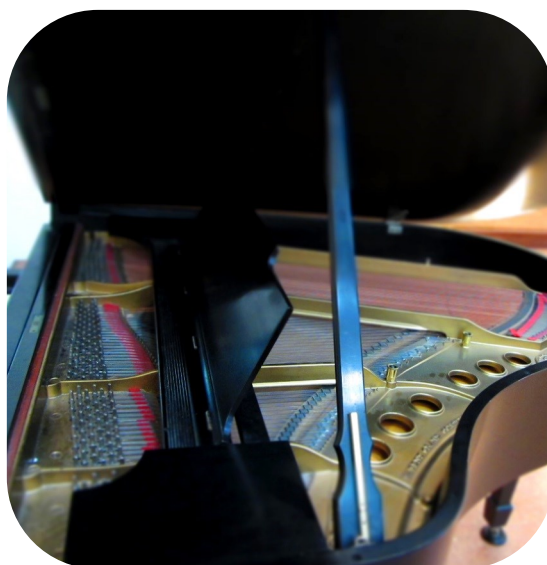
These are classic string glisses, sweeps, swells, rumbles, scrapes and other sustaining and crescendo string effects.

Montclarion_I_FX_hand-slams_cls.nki

This is a percussion ensemble collection, created by playing with bare hands on the body top, sides and sound board of the piano.

Montclarion_I_FX_player_sfx_cls.nki

These are classic sound effects that can add significant realism to piano tracks. The set includes piano bench creaks, squeaks and other body adjustments, as well as keyboard lid opening and closing and sheet music leafing, sliding, sorting, adjusting and shuffling sounds.



Custom Presets

Montclarion_big-downer.nki

Big, dark and fuzzy like Mike's dog.

Montclarion_impulster.nki

Mating call of the pod people

Montclarion_mirror-grinder.nki

Complicated and uncomfortable, like watching footage of your own corpus callosotomy and then finding out that it hasn't happen yet.

Montclarion_rezitar.nki

Very gently spooky

Montclarion_wait4it_mw-swell.nki

Patience is a virtue, but fuck patience. Modwheel makes magic.

Montclarion_Roomtones_auto.nki

This program is just for fun. It's meant to be loaded along-side any other nki program. Once you load one of our custom ambiences and set the midi channel to the same as the channel as the instrument you're playing, just start playing.

As long as you keep playing, the ambience will continue. Use the Ambience Drop-Down menu to pick your environment. Then set the volume you want it to play at with "Amb.Vol." knob. You can play with the fade times if you want. Basically, we decided this piano was a little cinematic in it's own right. Why not include the "movie"?

Montclarion_Roomtones_tuned.nki

The same ambiences with a simplified manual playback and deeper UI control.

Mid Mic:

These presets directly correspond to the close mic presets of the same name. They were recorded at about 7 meters (roughly 21 feet) from the hammers. These presets match the close mic position in structure and control systems.

Standard Piano:

Montclarion_2_mid.nki

Montclarion_2_mid_lite.nki

Montclarion_2_mid_hi-mem.nki

Effects:

Montclarion_2_FX_gliss_mid.nki

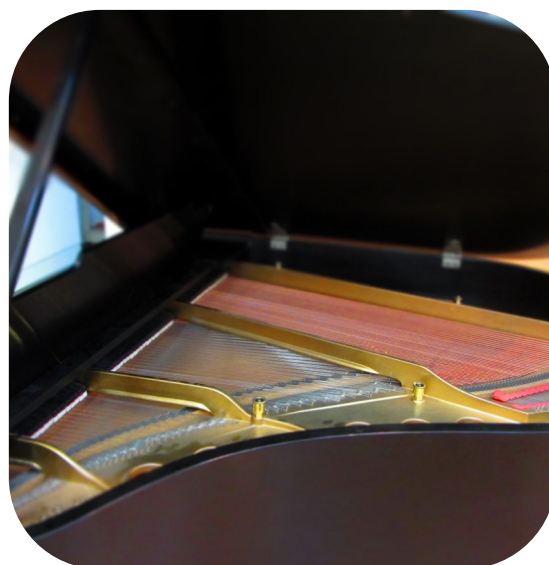
Montclarion_2_FX_hand-slams_mid.nki

Montclarion_2_FX_player_sfx_mid.nki

Montclarion_2_FX_pluck-kill_mid.nki

Montclarion_2_FX_pluck-mute_mid.nki

Montclarion_2_FX_pluck-slide_mid.nki



Far Mic:

These presets directly correspond to the close mic presets of the same name. They were recorded at about 30 meters from the hammers. We say 30 meters, but we mean like 90 or a hundred feet, give or take.

Standard Piano:

Montclarion_3_far.nki

Montclarion_3_far_lite.nki

Montclarion_3_far_hi-mem.nki

Effects:

Montclarion_3_FX_gliss_far.nki

Montclarion_3_FX_hand-slams_far.nki

Montclarion_3_FX_player_sfx_far.nki

Montclarion_3_FX_pluck-kill_far.nki

Montclarion_3_FX_pluck-mute_far.nki

Montclarion_3_FX_pluck-slide_far.nki

Multi-Instrument Banks (nkm files)

These banks require a large amount of ram to load and use properly. They may also trigger a large number of voices, which can cause CPU spiking and glitching, popping, snapping, buzzing, distortion or clicking if the driver latency settings are too low for your sound hardware and/or CPU to process the total number of simultaneous voices being played.

Keep in mind that it's always best to load individual nkis rather than nkm multis, since many scripting features, such as convolution impulse menu are not supported in multi instrument banks for some reason. Adding multiple nkis to kontakt will not cause this problem within of a host sequencer, unless your manually save the entire bank to a new nkm format file. We don't recommend creating, saving or using nkm files, since they cause certain kontakt script functions to fail and provide no significant benefit over loading multiple individual nkis into an instance of Kontakt and saving them as part of a project file within your host sequencer, but we've provided them as a convenience.



Standard Piano:

All three mic positions in a single bank. The Lite preset is the same program, with DFD and voice-capping systems to conserve resources. The Hi-Mem preset loads the entire sample pool into ram and requires roughly 6GB of free ram just to load. It also allows higher polyphony. This preset is ideal for high-end systems running in 64-bit OS and host sequencer environments.

Montclarion_Piano_Full.nkm

Montclarion_Piano_Full_Lite.nkm

Montclarion_Piano_Full_hi-mem.nkm

Effects:

Montclarion_Gliss_Full.nkm

Montclarion_Pluck-Kill_Full.nkm

Montclarion_Pluck-Mute_Full.nkm

Montclarion_Pluck-Slide_Full.nkm

Montclarion_Slams_Full.nkm

Montclarion_Player_SFX_Full.nkm

Ambient Piano:

These two presets combine the close/far piano instruments with the automatic ambient room-tone instruments.

Montclarion_Piano_Close_Ambient.nkm

Montclarion_Piano_Far_Ambient.nkm



SOUNDIRON

SOFTWARE LICENSING AGREEMENT

LICENSE AGREEMENT

By installing the product you accept the following product license agreement:

LICENSE GRANT

The license for this product is granted only to a single individual user. No unlicensed use is permitted. All sounds, samples, programming, images, scripting, designs and text contained in this product are copyrights of Soundiron, llc. This software is licensed, but not sold, to you by Soundiron, for commercial and non-commercial use in music, sound-effect creation, audio/video post-production, performance, broadcast or similar finished content-creation and production use. Individual license holders are permitted to install this library on multiple computers or other equipment only if they are the sole owner and only user of all equipment this software is installed or used on.

Soundiron allows you to use any of the sounds and samples in the library(s) you've purchased for the creation and production of commercial recordings, music, sound design, post production, or other content creation without paying any additional license fees or providing source attribution to Soundiron. This license expressly forbids any unauthorized inclusion of any raw or unmixed content contained within this product into any other commercial or non-commercial sample instrument, sound effect library, synthesizer sound bank, or loop or effect library of any kind, without our express prior written consent.

This license also forbids any unauthorized transfer, resale or any other form of re-distribution of this product, or its constituent sounds or code, through any means, including but not limited to re-sampling, reverse engineering, decompiling, re-mixing, processing, isolating, or embedding into software or hardware of any kind, except where fully rendered and integrated into the finish soundtrack or final mix of an audio, visual or interactive multimedia production, live performance or finished work of sound design, with a running time no less than 8 seconds in total length. Licenses cannot be transferred or sold to another entity, without written consent of Soundiron LLC.

RIGHTS

Soundiron retains full copyright privileges and complete ownership of all recorded sounds, instrument programming, documentation and musical performances included within this product. All past and future versions of this product, including any versions published or distributed by any other entity are fully bound and covered by this agreement.

REFUNDS

Downloaded libraries can't be returned, so we do not provide refunds or exchanges. Be aware that as soon as the product has been accessed on our servers or shipped on DVD to the end user, the product can not be returned or refunded.

RESPONSIBILITY

Using this product and any supplied software is at the licensee's own risk. Soundiron holds no responsibility for any direct or indirect loss arising from any form of use of this product.

TERMS

This license agreement is effective from the moment the product is purchased or acquired by any means. The license will remain in full effect until termination by Soundiron, llc. The license is terminated if you break any of the terms or conditions of this agreement, or request a refund for any reason. Upon termination you agree to destroy all copies and contents of the product at your own expense. All past and future versions of this product, including those released through brands other than Soundiron, are covered under the terms of this agreement.

VIOLATION

Soundiron reserves the right to prosecute piracy and defend this copyrighted work to the fullest extent of US and International civil and criminal law.



THANK YOU

Thank you for buying the Soundiron Montclarion Hall Grand Piano library, programmed for the Native Instruments Kontakt virtual sampler platform. If you enjoy this library, we hope you'll check out some of our other awesome virtual instrument creations. If you have any questions or need anything at all, just let us know. We're always happy to hear from you.

info@soundiron.com

thanks!

Mike, Gregg and Chris



WWW.SOUNDIRON.COM

All programming, scripting, samples, images and text © Soundiron 2013. All Rights Reserved.
Soundiron is a Registered Trademark of Soundiron LLC

