

THE SOUNDS OF 70s GENRE CINEMA

A FUNK/SOUL PRODUCTIONS FEATURE

GRINDHOUSE

SO BAD...ITS GOOD

MANUAL

BLAXPLOITATION - KUNG-FU - SPAGHETTI WESTERN

SLASHER - BIKER-GANG - GIALLO

WHAT IS IT?

GRINDHOUSE is a collection of edgy, lo-fi, and retro-cool multi-sampled instruments with loads of character and a unique, 1970s Exploitation Movie vibe.

Looking for a bunch of beautifully recorded, pristine-sounding virtual instruments? Need another "all-purpose Swiss army knife of VIs" to add to your collection?

If so, don't buy this product.

However, if you're looking for an eclectic collection of instruments that sound like they were sampled from old vinyl LPs - or maybe recorded off a bad copy of an obscure 1970s exploitation film - then GRINDHOUSE is for you. Our goal in creating GRINDHOUSE was to produce a virtual instrument that had the same vibe as those old exploitation films: a VI that is so bad, it's good.

WHAT'S IN IT?

The instruments that we sampled for GRINDHOUSE were chosen because they have a truly distinctive sound and character. We used old instruments, cheap instruments, and instruments that most sensible people would have probably taken to a music store for repairs, or thrown in the trash (in fact, at least two of the instruments in this product were recovered from a town dump).

We watched a lot of old exploitation films from the 1970s, and set out to replicate some of the vocal and instrument-sounds that were used in those films. Take a look at the Patch List below and you'll find such B-Movie soundtrack classics as Spaghetti Western Electric Guitar, Melodramatic String Section, 1960s Cliche Jungle Movie Drums, several patches of audio clips taken from actual (public domain) grindhouse flicks, and lots more.

WHAT DO I DO WITH IT?

GRINDHOUSE is designed for use in all sorts of Indie-style productions, or any project that calls for a lo-fi or "home-made" vibe. Whether you're a songwriter, a producer, or a composer working for TV, film, or video games, GRINDHOUSE can be used to add grit and character to your music. You can use it to create loops, tracks, or entire songs that have a funky, crate-digger type of vibe. And of course, GRINDHOUSE is ideal for scoring your very own retro-style Kung Fu, Spaghetti Western, Biker Gang, Girl Gang, Women in Prison, Pinky Violence, Low-Budget Horror, Italian Crime, Japanese Yakuza, and/or Blaxploitation B-movie soundtracks.

THE GRINDHOUSE GUI

Just in case our instruments don't sound bad enough for your tastes, we included an easy-to-use Graphical User Interface (GUI) that lets you degrade the sounds even further. Here's a quick overview of the GUI controls:



DISTORTION - adds simulated tube-amp distortion

BASS - a bipolar control used to increase or decrease the amount of bass

TREBLE - a bipolar control used to increase or decrease the amount of treble

HI-CUT - reduces the high end, making instruments sound dull and slightly muffled.

LO-CUT - a filter that reduces the low end, making instruments sound thin and tinny.

REVERB - controls the amount of reverb

Drop-Down Menu #1 - provides a selection of 10 high-quality convolution Reverbs

TAPE SAT - adds analog tape-style compression and limiting, fattens-up sounds

DELAY - controls the number and loudness of Delays (see below) added

Drop-Down Menu #2 - a selection of tempo-synched Delays and delay-effects

MOD-WHA - flip this switch and you can use your keyboard's Mod Wheel as a Wah-Wah pedal

ADSR - separate knobs for Attack, Decay, Sustain, and Release

WOBBLE - causes the pitch to fluctuate unpredictably, similar to old film or tape.

NOISE - adds authentically awful hum and crackle sampled from actual 1970s exportation films. Flip the switch to the right of the knob to turn on this "feature", then dial in the amount of Noise you want to add.

THE KEY-SWITCHES

On several instrument patches, to the far left-hand side of the GUI's keyboard, you will find several green-colored keys. Aside from giving the GUI a minty-fresh look, these keys can also be used to switch from one articulation to another: for instance, from long sustained notes to short staccato notes, or from one keyboard preset to another.

KEYSWITCHES



Most of the Horns & Winds include key-switches, as do several of the Guitars, Bases, and Keyboards. Be sure to check out Vibrato Surf Guitar and Spaghetti Western Guitar, both of which have a key-switched fast-picked articulation that'll make you sound like a low-budget version of Dick Dale (or, in the case of the Spaghetti Western Nylon String Guitar patch, a Mariachi version of Dick Dale).

GRINDHOUSE PATCH LIST

Shocking! Raw! Uncensored! Play these instrument-patches at your own risk!

DRUMS & PERCUSSION

- 1960s Cliche Jungle Movie Drums & FX - very cliché and also politically incorrect
- 1960s Spaghetti Western Drums & Stuff - classic Cinecitta soundtrack drums & perc
- 1970s Junky Funk Kit - has that great 70s "muffled toms" sound
- 1970s Synth-Drum Kit 1 - the classic sound of a cheesy old drum machine
- 1970s Synth-Drum Kit 2 - more of the same, with tacky Syn-Drum-style toms
- Beatnik Coffee House Brushes Kit - a small cocktail kit played with brushes, ideal for that early 60s Beatnik vibe
- Beatnik Coffee House Sticks Kit- see above, but with sticks
- Hong Kong Gongs - a staple of 1970s Shaw Brothers film soundtracks
- Kung Fu Drums & Sticks - all-purpose cliché Asian-movie drums
- Lo-Fi Retro 70s Drum Kit- a good (or bad) kit for retro Rock or R&B
- Retro 60s Rock Kit - a truly bad-sounding drum kit
- Trashy Surf Rock Kit - perfect for your Surfer-movie or Biker -film soundtrack needs

HORNS & WINDS

- Cliche Mariachi Trumpets in 3rds - Cliche and politically incorrect, all in one patch. In the key of C, but you can change keys using the Tune button on the GUI.
- Grindhouse Growling Bari Sax - gritty and insane
- Grindhouse Growling Tenor sax - little brother of Grindhouse Bari. Also insane.
- Kung Fu Wood Flute - combine this with the Gu-Zheng for a cool cliché sound
- Prison Movie Harmonica: wouldn't be prison without one of these
- Psychedelic Rock Flutter-Tongue Flute - straight from the 1970s. You need this.
- Psychedelic Rock Singing Flute - and this too.
- Retro-Bollywood Bansuri - don't worry, it can pass as a bass shakuhachi too
- Spaghetti Western Mariachi Trumpet - classic kitch or cultural treasure? You decide.
- Spaghetti Western Ocarina - because you need an ocarina
- Spaghetti Western Pan Pipes - same reason as above

BASSES

- 60s Psychedelic Fuzz Bass - bass through a fuzz box, the way it was intended to be played.
- Beatnik Coffee House Upright Bass - perfect for all your Beatnik needs.
- Dirty Surf-Rock Bass - perfect for your Surfing or Biker movie needs.
- Giallo Gangster Bass - #1 choice of vintage Italian-movie bad guys.
- Low Budget Rock Bass - just a bad-sounding bass, frankly.
- Super-Crappy Mutron Funk Bass - makes Low Budget Rock Bass sound good. But funky, in a "horribly recorded blaxploitation film soundtrack" kind of way.

GUITARS

- 60s Fuzz Lead Guitar - ready for your next "Manson family-like evil hippie cult" cue.
- 60s Trippy Hippy Guitar - a Summer of Love classic for 70s-style Free Love cues.
- Acid Trip Electric Sitar - guru-approved.
- Deconstructed Shafty Guitars - you too can create your own Shaft-style wah-wah guitar loops.
- Spaghetti Western Electric Guitar - what electric guitars used to sound like before hippies got their hands on them.
- Spaghetti Western Nylon String Guitar - possibly too good to be in this product, but...
- Super-Fly Mod-Wheel Wah - you always wanted to use your Mod Wheel as a wah-wah pedal.
- Vibrato Surf - 50+ years later, still a cool sound. Thanks, Pulp Fiction.

KEYBOARDS

- Acid Trip Descending Synth - actual sound of a bad acid trip
- B-Movie Psychedelic Rock Organ - first of several cheesy organs in this product
- Blaxploitation Mutron E7 Clavinet - the first auto-wah effect, available in a pedal
- Blaxploitation RAT-Pedal E7 Clavinet - good funky or bad funky - you decide
- Chase Scene Synth Arp - run for your life - it's the 70s
- Cheesy Step-Mod Synth - tacky but popular synth sound from long ago
- Cheezy Farfisa - the name says it all
- Dusty Rhodes - retrieved from a town dump so you know its got to be good
- Filthy Wurlitzer - see above
- Giallo Accordion 1 - bass and chords to the left, melody notes to the right, like a real accordion but not.
- Giallo Accordion 2 - one more accordion patch than you need.
- Giallo Accordion 3 - make that two.
- Horror Movie Pipe Organ Bass Pedals - popular old Horror film soundtrack cliché and Vincent Price theme song instrument of choice
- Horror Movie Pipe Organ - more cliché presets for your enjoyment
- Horror Movie Toy Piano - appropriately creepy, and ideal for those cliché "haunted baby's room" scenes...
- Lo-Fi Action Synth Arp - recaptures the pre-pre-set era of bad synth programming
- Low Budget Scary Synth Bass - scary in more ways than one
- Low Budget Synth Lead - truly abominable
- Old Vox Continental Organ - thankfully, the last of the cheesy organ patches
- Sci-Fi Computer-FX Synth - what computers (and alien spaceships) really sound like
- Sci-Fi or Horror Movie Theremin - your choice of exploitation-genre usage.
- So-Seventies Synth Lead - dated and proud of it

VOCALS, STRINGS & FX

- 1970s Cheap Synth Strings - why use good-sounding strings when you have these?
- 1970s Cheesy String Machine Chord Synth - same as above, but with chords
- Cliche Asian-Cue Gu-Zheng - guaranteed 100% politically incorrect
- Grindhouse Soundtrack Clips 01 - recorded from Public Domain exploitation movie soundtracks. 100% kitchy and also 100% cool.
- Grindhouse Soundtrack Clips 02 - see above.
- Grindhouse Vocal Bits 01 - recorded from Public Domain exploitation movie soundtracks. Unintentionally hilarious.
- Grindhouse Vocal Bits 02 - see above.
- Horror Movie Music Box - same idea as Horror Movie Toy Piano, but possibly even creepier
- Kung Fu Fighting SFX - 100% authentic fight sounds.
- Kung Fu Gu-Zheng - not politically incorrect unless you want it to be.
- Monster Movie Orchestra - ideal theme music for your favorite teenage-monster or imminent murder victim.
- Melodramatic Violin Section - suspenseful and very old-movie-ish. Play chromatically and amaze your friends.
- Misc Grindhouse FX - a grab-bag of semi-useful FX recorded from Public Domain exploitation films.
- Spaghetti Western Soprano - with apologies to Ennio Morricone.
- Spaghetti Western Whistling - it's Good, Bad, and Ugly.

CREDITS

Producer and Director

Steve Sechi for FUNK/SOUL PRODUCTIONS

Kontakt Scripting, GUI, graphics, co-defendant

Dan Bennett

1970s-Style Synth Programming

Mike Kiraly

Additional Samplists and Co-Conspirators

Kostas Varotsis

Tony Sarno

Jary Mall

Gary Ferraro

Don Harris

Bill Harris

Seth Glassman

Joe McGinty

Special thanks to Kostas for letting us use that sample! Everyone should buy at least one copy of Kostas' "Tension: Orchestral Elements & FX" because it's so cool.