

GRAND HARP

MANUAL




CINEMATIQUE INSTRUMENTS

Thanks for purchasing Grand Harp.

How to install?

To install, unzip and drag the instrument folder to any hard drive. Launch Kontakt 5 and load the .nki instrument. Please do not move any file! By installing the product you accept the enclosed product license agreement. For any kind of questions please contact us at : support@cinematique-instruments.com

The Instrument

The Grand Harp or better known as Concert Harp or Pedal harp is a large modern harp, designed primarily for classical music. The Grand Harp is a descendant of ancient harps such as a Celtic Nylon Harp. The harp found its early orchestral use as a solo instrument in concerti by many baroque and classical composers. It began to be used in symphonic music by Hector Berlioz.

The Grand Harp has a wide range of tones which is six and a half octaves (47 strings) starting typically from C₁ and ends up at G₇. The lowest strings are made of copper or steel-wound nylon, the middle-lower strings of gut, and the middle to highest of nylon, or more or all gut.

The Articulations

The normal and typical way to play the Grand Harp is to play it with the fingertips of the first four fingers, but there are a lot more kinds of playing techniques available. In our version of the Grand Harp we concentrated on six different articulations which are:

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| Plucked: | Plucking the strings with the fingers is the principal technique. |
| Fingernail: | That articulations creates a sharp and slightly penetrating sound. You produce that by plucking the strings with fingernails. |
| Pré de la Table: | Prè de la table produces a dry and nasal sound. The sound is sometimes compared to that of the Japanese koto or the guitar. To produce a pré de la table sound the fingers pluck the string in a normal manner but close to the soundboard. |
| Xylophonic: | Xylophonics is a muted sound with a clearly distinguished pitch. It sounds wooden dry and percussive. To produce |

xylophonic sounds one hand mutes the strings by pressing them with the fingers close to the soundboard. The other hand plays the strings normally.

Prepared:

This prepared articulation produces a dissonant and percussive sounds which is best suitable to produce avant-garde or experimental sounds and noises. We prepared all the the strings with brackets and paper which had the effect that the sound was muted as well as a weird vibrating noise was added to it .

Harmonics:

The Harmonics (flageolet) gives a very warm and gentle sound. It is a popular effect in harp music.

The Content

As always we set a high focus on capturing the notes in a very realistic and organic way, thus we recorded the Grand Harp with several big condenser around the instrument. All main articulations are provided in four times round robins and up to 5 velocity layer, recorded in stereo 24 Bit. Only the Harmonics articulation was recorded in one round robin.

The Grand Harp comes up with a very gentle and warm feel. It sounds realistically and inspiring.

We have included all six articulations in one patch so that the user can easily and quickly change the articulation. You can do that either by mouse or keyswitches.

Furthermore we added reverb and sustain control sliders as well as a tiny but powerful arpeggio with a separate voicing options and a very useful glissando mode. Finally we added an auto-velocity button which sets the note length automatically. This is extremely handsome.

The functions in detail



Arpeggio activates the arpeggio mode (see more details below)

Glissando activates the glissando mode (see more details below)

Reverb controls the amount of a big hall

Reverb Type select the reverb type

Sustain controls the length of the notes

Auto Vel activates the auto velocity mode which automatically sets the length (sustain) of the notes in relation to the velocity. This feature is very handsome and gives a realistic feel

Articulation Selector here you can chose between the six different articulations (above you find a detailed description about every articulation)

Arpeggio Mode



Arp Table:

This is an arpeggio with 8 steps. The upper bars let you set the velocities for each of the eight steps.

With the numbers under below you can set the relative notes which are assigned to each step.

“1” represents the lowest note that is currently held “2” the second lowest and so on.

The arp system supports up to 5 pitches, every key pressed after that will be ignored. While the arpeggiator is running the modwheel can be used adjust the overall velocity relatively.

2x / 1/2:

These buttons are playing the arpeggio in double- or halftime.

Glissando Mode



In this glissando mode please use the modwheel to play glissandos. The tempo and the direction how you turn the wheel controls the glissando in the same way. By setting the Glissando Vel number you control the velocity of the glissando notes.





http://cinematique-instruments.com/inst_grandharp.php

Thanks to René, Max, Jumpel and Niklas.

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