### Arabic Oud - "The Queen of Instruments"

**Awaken the Sound of the Arabian Nights**

In Arabic music, the Oud is considered one of the oldest musical instruments; in fact, in the Middle East it plays an important role in musical tradition. Although the origins of this instrument are uncertain, the popularity of the Oud has spread across the Mediterranean, North and East Africa and the Middle East, where it is still very popular to this day. In the Western World, the Oud is probably best known as the forerunner of the European lute.

The **Arabic Oud** Library was created in close collaboration with the renowned musician and Oud virtuoso Bassam Ayoub. **Bassam Ayoub** performed and recorded all playing variations with the main emphasis on achieving an authentic sound, both for melodic playing and rhythmic accompaniment.

The Arabic Oud offers three different, meticulously recorded Oud instruments with breathtaking **39 articulations** and brings one of the oldest string instruments to life right under your fingertips. The versatile sound spectrum of the Oud can enrich any kind of music and the **integrated microtunings** are very appealing to professional **Maqam** performers! Because of its wide range of playing styles, the Arabic Oud is ideal for both studio and live performances.

#### **The Engine**

The Arabic Oud transports the sound of the Middle East into todays DAW-based production environment. The **Engine Player's** carefully programmed interface makes it really easy to work with the library, allowing you to be inspired by the sound of the Arabic Oud and unleash your creativity.

The Arabic Oud user interface gives you access to the most important and commonly used **microtunings** of oriental music: Bayati, Rast, Saba and Seka. Each tuning offers two variants (Normal and Syriac Church) as well as free choice of the root key.

The **Keyswitches** allow you to switch between the different playing techniques to create incredibly realistic performances. There are two types of keyswitches: latch and hold. While **Latch** Keyswitches remain active after the key is released, **Hold** Keyswitches remain active only as long as they are pressed and held by the player - after the key is released, the playing mode changes to the last selected Latch Keyswitch.

The green **Midi Song Keys** above the playing area provide short Midi sequences which showcase the numerous playing possibilities of the Arabic Oud. (See the Info tab for more information about the correct spped and tunig for each midi performance)

#### **Arabic Oud Live Performance**

Each of the three instruments of the **Arabic Oud** is also available as **Lite** version. These patches contain the very essential articulations to perform the Oud realistically in a live environment. All keyswitches start at C1, which is why the Lite version is fully playable on most 49-key MIDI controllers without transposing.

#### **Bassam Ayoub**

Syrian-born Bassam Ayoub, musician and singer, has toured with various bands across many Arabic countries and Europe. He has worked with countless artists, as well as with renowned oriental keyboard and expander manufacturers such as Korg, Farfisa and Limex. Arabic Oud is the result of his extensive experience in sampling oriental instruments bringing playability and realism to the next level with Engine 2.

**Works with Engine Version 2.6.0.33 or higher!**