

Gothenburg Reed Organ  
for NI Kontakt & EXS24



The Gothenburg Reed Organ is a flexible and detailed instrument that captures the character of multiple organ registers for you to combine and play.

The Gothenburg Reed Organ features:

- 410 stereo 24-bit WAV samples
- 1 program for NI Kontakt 3-5
- 7 programs for NI Kontakt 2
- 7 programs for Logic EXS24
- Pump and button effects

## Introduction

### Sweden and Reed Organs

As a part of an extensive keyboard manufacturing industry, organ factories in Sweden may have numbered as many as three hundred between the years 1850 and 1950. Almost every little city had their own factory or workshop. The instruments were widely distributed, and they were used in churches and in classrooms for group singing. The reed organs were made in various sizes, from small chamber or portable instruments, to large organs with bass pedals and a multitude of registers.

They were made in various types, but their common denominator is the use of reeds (like in accordions and harmonicas) to produce the sound, either by suction air (the most common type) or by compressed air. Depending on the type, the playing technique is different – suction air organs tend to have a softer sound and a slower attack, compared to the compressed air instruments. There are pros and cons with both!

New times demanded new instruments. During the 1950s, electronic organs were made on a larger scale, and in a few decades most of Sweden's acoustic keyboard factories died out. Many of the old instruments are now lost, and sadly many people consider them to be rubbish. But there are also counteracting trends – some people are starting to use the organs again (not least in folk music), and associations are striving to preserve the instruments, the heritage, and the knowledge.

### About the Gothenburg Reed Organ

The Gothenburg Reed Organ is a midsize chamber organ with suction air made by "Göteborgs Orgelfabrik". It was designed by G.Langegård, probably in the 1940s.

For those of you who love the sound of Precisionsound's Langegard Pump Organ, we're now taking a big step forward. We went back to the same instrument but re-recorded it. The Gothenburg Reed Organ consists of new samples – of every single register of the organ. This means extended possibilities to create the voice character you're looking for.

The Gothenburg Reed Organ is a truly virtual recreation of the Langegard, with flexibility beyond the original instrument, and over four hundred samples. You can mix the registers together by volume, not just by switching them on/off, and you can also fine-tune the registers against each other for a big sound. You can vary the volume with an LFO, adjust the stereo image, and more.

## Gothenburg Reed Organ for NI Kontakt 3,4 & 5

*The file in NI Kontakt 3, 4 & 5 format requires the full version of NI Kontakt and does not work fully with the free Kontakt player!*

### Gothenburg Page



On the front page of the GUI, named “Gothenburg”, you can adjust the dynamics and stereo image of the sound. From left to right, the controls are:

#### Envelope

*Attack*: sets the time in milliseconds for the sound of the organ to reach full volume when a note is played.

*Decay*: sets the time in milliseconds for the sound of the organ to die away to silence when a note is released.

#### Releases

*Volume*: sets the volume in decibels of the samples that play when a note is released.

#### Response

*Velocity*: sets the relationship between how hard you strike the keys (MIDI velocity) and the volume of the sound. At 0%, the volume of the sound is unaffected by how hard you play. This is the default behaviour for an organ. At 100%, the volume of the sound is strongly affected by how hard you play, which is more like a piano.

#### Stereo

*Width*: sets the stereo width of the organ samples, where 0% = mono, and 100% = natural stereo.

## Registers Page



On the Registers page, you can choose and combine organ sounds. Each organ sound represents a unique register setting on the Gothenburg Reed Organ.

The buttons and dials on the left of the page adjust the organ sounds in the **Lower** keyboard range, from F0 – E2 inclusive. Three sounds are available here: Euphon 4, Diapason 8, and Echo 8.

The buttons and dials on the right of the page adjust the organ sounds in the **Upper** keyboard range, from F2 – F5 inclusive. Three sounds are available here: Clarinet 8, Melodia 8, and Choral 8.

For each organ sound, the following controls are provided:



The rectangular button turns the sound on/off.

The *Volume* dial sets the level in decibels of the sound.

The *Tune* dial sets the tuning of the sound, between -/+ 30 cents.

- ① If all the buttons on this page are off, the instrument will make no sound when MIDI notes are played between F0 – F5.

## Sound Effects

Beyond the register range, we have mapped some sound effects of the organ in operation. These are always playable even if all register buttons are off.

You'll find bump and button sounds between F-2 – E2 inclusive, and pump sounds between F#5 – C#7 inclusive.

## Modulation Page



On the Modulation page, you can apply an LFO (low frequency oscillator) to the volume of the organ. Additionally, you can increase the intensity of the LFO using the modulation wheel on your MIDI keyboard. From left to right, the controls are as follows:

*On/Off*: this button activates or deactivates the LFO.

*Free/Sync*: this button switches the rate of the LFO between tempo-synced values and values in Hertz.

*Rate*: sets the speed of the LFO. The appearance of this dial depends on the *Free/Sync* button. In Free mode, values between 0.01Hz – 10Hz are possible:



In Sync mode, values of 1/64, 1/32, 1/16, 1/8, 1/4, 1/2, and 1, 2, 3, and 4 bars are possible:



The actual duration of each value in Sync mode is determined by the current tempo.

*Range*: sets the maximum amount of volume modulation that can be created by the LFO.

*Depth*: sets the current amount of volume modulation, as a percentage of the *Range*.

*CC1 Mod*: sets the maximum increase in modulation when raising the modulation wheel (MIDI CC1), as a percentage of the *Range*.

① If *Range* is at 0%, then *Depth* and *CC1 Mod* will have no effect.

## FX Page



On the FX page, you can shape the tone of the sound, and apply a high-quality convolution reverb. From left to right, the controls are as follows:

### EQ

*Lo Gain*: sets the volume of low frequencies, between +/-6 decibels.

*Mid Gain*: sets the volume of mid frequencies, between +/-6 decibels.

*Mid Freq*: sets the centre of the frequencies controlled by the *Mid Gain* dial.

*Hi Gain*: sets the volume of high frequencies, between +/-6 decibels.

① The Lo and Hi EQ frequencies have been pre-tweaked by Precisionsound to suit the instrument.

### Reverb

*Level*: sets the volume in decibels of the convolution reverb effect.

*Type*: changes the impulse response of the convolution reverb. Seventeen impulse responses are available, ranging from short springs to churches and cathedrals. You can also disable the reverb by setting this menu to "Reverb off".

## Credits



Recording by Daniel Näsström

Sound editing by Lars Westin

Kontakt scripting by Iain Morland <http://www.iainmorland.net>

GUI Graphics by Lars Westin

This product includes impulses from the free Bricasti M7 library by Acousticas, used under license.

The Gothenburg Reed Organ manual was written by Iain Morland, with introductory text by Daniel Näsström and Lars Westin.

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