

## Royal Reed Organ for NI Kontakt 5.5.1+



The Royal Reed Organ is our flagship harmonium library, with 18 independent registers and a realistic air pump. It has a powerful low end, sweet high voices, and a warm midrange timbre. It's based on a sophisticated suction air harmonium from the 1920s. Capable of everything from simple accompaniment to complex lead lines, the Royal Reed Organ suits acoustic, classical and sacred music in traditional and contemporary styles alike.

The Royal Reed Organ features:

- Eight individually sampled upper registers
- Ten individually sampled lower registers
- Chromatic release samples
- Realistic air pump effect
- Expressive modulation controls
- 40 presets
- 1033 stereo 24-bit WAV samples
- 1 program for NI Kontakt 5.5.1+ with scripted performance controls and GUI

## Introduction

The Royal Reed Organ for NI Kontakt 5 is our flagship harmonium library. The instrument source is a 400-pound suction air harmonium from the 1920s. It was made by the piano and reed organ company Östlind & Almquist (1888-1962), a purveyor to the Swedish royal court. This harmonium features a whole range of high quality voices, from the low end 16' Sub basses, all the way up to the 2' Piccolo.

The list of stops is impressive, and enables a great variety of timbres. Every stop has dedicated controls for on/off, volume, and fine tuning. The keyboard is divided into two areas, with stops to control the voices on either side of the split.

Our goal was to be true to the original design, but also to extend its features in the digital realm. In our version, you can precisely set the effect of the air pump on the sound, and shape the timbre of the registers using your modulation wheel and aftertouch.



This sample library ships with 40 presets that vary in character and complexity. Whether you're into songwriting, traditional folk music, classical, sacred or experimental music, we hope these presets will give you a really good start with the library.

The Precisionsound Team

The Royal Reed Organ requires the full version of Kontakt 5.5.1+, and will not work with the free Kontakt Player, or with earlier versions of Kontakt. If you are running an earlier version of Kontakt, please update it through the Native Instruments Service Center before loading the Royal Reed Organ.

If you use Vienna Ensemble Pro to host Kontakt, please select *Preferences > Plugins > Rescan All* in Vienna Ensemble Pro after updating Kontakt through the Native Instruments Service Center.

## Registers Page



The first page of the interface enables you to combine and mix organ registers, adjust dynamics, and set the organ pump effect.

### Upper Registers

The Royal Reed Organ has eight upper registers. Each register has three dedicated controls. The screenshot on the right shows the controls for the Piccolo 2' register.

*Fine Tune:* sets the pitch of the register, between +/-30 cents.

*Volume:* sets the level in decibels of the register.

*On/Off:* enables or disables the register.



- ① The note range for all upper registers is C4 – G6 inclusive.

## Lower Registers

The Royal Reed Organ has ten lower registers. Each of these has three dedicated controls. The screenshot on the right shows the controls for the Subbas D 16' register.



*Fine Tune:* sets the pitch of the register, between +/-30 cents.

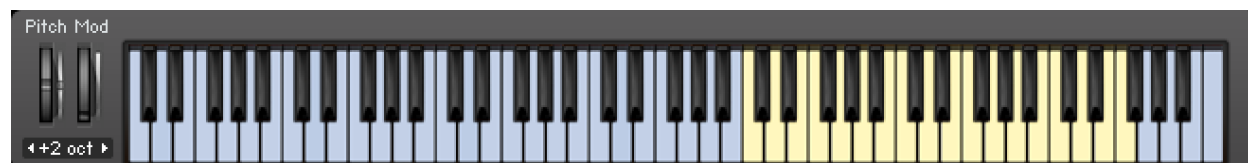
*Volume:* sets the level in decibels of the register.

*On/Off:* enables or disables the register.

- ① The note range for the Subbas D 16' and Subbas 16' registers is F1 – C3 inclusive. For all other lower registers, the note range is F1 – B3 inclusive.

## Key Colouring

The range of the currently enabled registers is shown on Kontakt's on-screen keyboard. For example:



*Upper registers on*



*Upper registers on, and lower Subbas D 16' register on*



*Upper registers on, and lower Fagott 16' register on*



## Envelope

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

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

*Start:* sets the point at which playback begins in each recorded note, up to 500ms. Values above 0ms smooth the percussive character of note attacks.



## Release

*Volume:* sets the level in decibels of the release samples that sound when a note stops playing.

This dial has a range of -36dB to +6dB. Turn it fully left to disable release samples.



## Velocity

*Sens:* 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, which is typical for an organ. At 100%, the volume of the sound is strongly affected by how hard you play.



## Pump

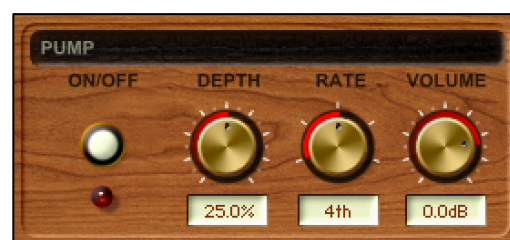
The pump effect recreates the organ mechanism by combining modulation of volume and tone with synchronised recordings of the air pump in action.

*On/Off:* enables or disables the pump effect.

*Depth:* sets the extent to which the organ sound is modulated by the pump.

*Rate:* sets the speed of the pump. Five tempo-synced speeds are available: bar, half-note, 4<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>.

*Volume:* sets the level in decibels of the pump noise.



## FX Page



The second page of the interface gives you access to sound shaping effects and modulation controls.

### EQ

*Lo Gain*: sets the volume of low frequencies, between +/-12 decibels.

*Mid Gain*: sets the volume of mid frequencies, between +/-12 decibels.

*Mid Freq*: sets the centre of the frequencies controlled by the *Mid Gain* dial, from 600Hz to 7kHz.

*Hi Gain*: sets the volume of high frequencies, between +/-12 decibels.

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

## Stereo

*Width:* sets the stereo image of the instrument. At 0%, you hear the instrument's natural sound, recorded in stereo.

Turning the dial counter-clockwise towards -100% narrows the stereo image, until the sound is mono at -100%.

Turning the dial clockwise towards +100% stretches the stereo image for an extra-wide effect.



## 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".



## Chorus

*On/off:* enables or disables the chorus effect.

*Amount:* sets the volume in decibels of the chorus effect.

*Depth:* sets the intensity of the chorus effect.

*Speed:* sets the rate at which the chorused signal is modulated in time.

*Phase:* sets the offset in degrees between the chorused signal and the dry signal.



## Delay

*On/off*: enables or disables the delay effect.

*Level*: sets the volume in decibels of the delay effect.

*Time*: sets the gap in milliseconds between delay repetitions.

*Feedback*: sets the extent to which repetitions generated by the delay are fed back into the delay, to produce more repetitions. At 100%, the delay continues regenerating indefinitely.



*Tone*: sets the high-frequency damping of the repetitions generated by the delay, where 0% provides no damping, and 100% provides full damping for a darker sound.

*Spread*: sets the stereo image of the repetitions generated by the delay, where 0% is mono, and 100% is full stereo for a ping-pong delay effect.

## Piano-Forte

The Piano-Forte controls are unique to the Royal Reed Organ, enabling adjustment of the instrument's timbre in a natural-sounding way, using either the Kontakt interface or your MIDI controller. Piano-Forte simulates changes to the air pressure that powers the organ.

*Piano-Forte*: sets the instrument timbre. Values above 12 o'clock increase the bite of the organ. Values below 12 o'clock soften its character.



*Modulation Piano* and *Modulation Forte*: set whether the current modulation sources will decrease or increase the Piano-Forte value from its current setting. These buttons are mutually exclusive. The modulation sources are described below.

- ① When set to *Piano*, the modulation sources will decrease Piano-Forte from its current dial setting – in other words, soften the timbre. When set to *Forte*, the modulation sources will increase Piano-Forte from its current dial setting – in other words, brighten the timbre.

*Mod wheel*: activates the modulation wheel (MIDI CC1) as a modulation source for Piano-Forte.

*Aftertouch*: activates aftertouch (MIDI channel pressure) as a modulation source for Piano-Forte.



## Credits



Recording: Daniel Näsström

Sound editing and GUI Design: Lars Westin

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

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

The manual was written by Iain Morland.

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