

RUSSIAN BALALAIKA



Precisionsound Russian Balalaika SampleSet is a very detailed sampled Balalaika for NI Kontakt, EXS24, HALion and SoundFont. The recording was made in the "Usachevsky" studio at the University of Utah, and the instrument was played by Igor Iachimciuc and edited by Lars, KSP script programming was made by Iain Morland.

The Russian 3 stringed (*2 E strings and 1 A string*) Balalaika SampleSet contains 1 250 24bit mono WAV files and has been recorded in many articulations separately for both the E and A string. Articulations available for all formats are; Up, Down, Thumb, Flam, Mute, Unison EA, Unison EE, Tremolo (*3 variations but same speed*), Harmonics, FX1, FX2 and Fretnoises.

The SampleSet contains of 2 types of programs; "Solo" and "Group" (*NI Kontakt, EXS24 & HALion versions only*). The "Solo" programs are one single Balalaika and the "Group" programs are a mix of 3 different notes and articulations played at the same time to build a unison feel of 3 (*6 in NI Kontakt 3 and 4 if the String mix is set to 50% using the KSP script programs*) unique Balalaika players. Speed control of the tremolos is only available in the NI Kontakt 3 & 4 programs.

Sample formats

NI Kontakt 3 & 4

Balalaika Solo GUI



String

E <-> A knob control the mix between the E and A string. You can also control the E/A mix with modwheel (CC1). Articulation pulldown menu. You can also switch between articulations from the C1 to A#1 keys on your keyboard.

C1= Down C#1= Up D1= R Robin (*Between Up and Down articulation*) D#1= Thumb E1= Flam
F1= Mute F#1= Tremolo (*humanizes between Tremolo 1 2 3 version*) G1= Unison G#1= Harmonics
A1= FX1 A#1=FX2. Fretnoises are the same for all articulations, between C2 and B2.

Tremolo

Speed knob controls the speed of the tremolo. You can also control the speed with pitchbend wheel. The speed knob sets the baseline tremolo speed around which the pitchbend wheel introduces variation. Neither knob nor wheel affects the sound if the E1 Tremolo keyswitch is not selected.

Tone

Mid cut knob to cut/boost the “body” frequency register of the Balalaika.

Reverb

Level knob to control the reverb amount and a pulldown menu to select between Small, Medium and Large reverb types.

Note: all parameters displayed on the GUI are saved with the instrument. The pitchbend wheel position is not saved, and should be thought of as a performance tool.

Balalaika Group GUI



String

E <-> A knob control the mix between the E and A strings. You can also control the E/A mix with modwheel (CC1).

Spread knob controls the delay and fine tune between groups to add a spread effect to the Balalaikas. Articulation pulldown menu. You can also switch between articulations from the C1 to E1 keys on your keyboard.

C1= Group 1 C#1= Group 2

D1= RR 1/2 (*Round Robin Between Group 1 and Group 2 articulation starts with Group 1*)

D#1= RR 2/1 (*Round Robin Between Group 1 and Group 2 articulation starts with Group 2*)

E1= Tremolo

Fretnoises are the same for all articulations, between C2 and B2.

Tremolo

Speed knob controls the speed of the tremolo. You can also control the speed with pitchbend wheel. The speed knob sets the baseline tremolo speed around which the pitchbend wheel introduces variation. Neither knob nor wheel affects the sound if the E1 Tremolo keyswitch is not selected.

Tone

Mid cut knob to cut/boost the “body” frequency register of the Balalaikas.

Reverb

Level knob to control the reverb amount and a pulldown menu to select between Small, Medium and Large reverb types.

Note: all parameters displayed on the GUI are saved with the instrument. The pitchbend wheel position is not saved, and should be thought of as a performance tool.

EXS24:

4 programs 24bit WAV;

Balalaika A Solo, Balalaika E Solo, Balalaika A Group, Balalaika E Group.

Key switches for the Solo programs:

C1 = Down C#1= Up D1= Thumb D#1= Flam E1= Mute F1= Tremolo 1 F#1= Tremolo 2 G1= Tremolo 3

G#1= Unison A1= Harmonics A#1= FX1 B1= FX2

Fretnoises between C2 and B2

HALion v.1.1 to v.3:

4 programs 24bit WAV;

Balalaika A Solo, Balalaika E Solo, Balalaika A Group, Balalaika E Group.

Key switches for the Solo programs:

C1 = Down C#1= Up D1= Thumb D#1= Flam E1= Mute F1= Tremolo 1 F#1= Tremolo 2 G1= Tremolo 3

G#1= Unison A1= Harmonics A#1= FX1 B1= FX2

Fretnoises between C2 and B2

SoundFont (16bit):

23 programs;

Balalaika A Down, Balalaika A Up, Balalaika A Thumb, Balalaika A Flam, Balalaika A Mute, Balalaika A Tremolo 1, Balalaika A Tremolo 2, Balalaika A Tremolo 3, Balalaika A Harmonics, Balalaika AE Unison, Balalaika EE Unison, Balalaika FX1, Balalaika FX2, Balalaika Fretnoise, Balalaika E Down, Balalaika E Up, Balalaika E Thumb, Balalaika E Flam, Balalaika E Mute, Balalaika E Tremolo 1, Balalaika E Tremolo 2, Balalaika E Tremolo 3, Balalaika E Harmonics.

NI Kontakt 2 (No GUI version):

4 programs 24bit WAV;

Balalaika A Solo, Balalaika E Solo, Balalaika A Group, Balalaika E Group.

Key switches for the Solo programs:

C1 = Down C#1= Up D1= Thumb D#1= Flam E1= Mute F1= Tremolo 1 F#1= Tremolo 2 G1= Tremolo 3

G#1= Unison A1= Harmonics A#1= FX1 B1= FX2

Fretnoises between C2 and B2

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