

Best Of BOLDER Collection



Early Music

Owner's Manual

KRONOS
Music Workstation

BOLDER *Sounds*

Overview

Welcome to the Best Of Bolder Collection: **Early Music**

This Best Of Bolder - Early Music volume features seven instruments with 31 Kronos programs representing four different musical eras - the Medieval, Renaissance, Baroque and early Classical period.

- Baroque Lute
- Fortepiano
- Harpsichord
- Hurdy Gurdy
- Renaissance Guitar
- Renaissance Lute
- Theorbo (bass lute)

Demo Sequences

In your download is a demo .SNG file with seven demo sequences which can be loaded with your sounds called **Early Music.SNG**. Each sequence presents the seven instruments played in a solo setting.

Early Music Programs

Program	Name
U-G000	Baroque Lute Vel Sw
U-G001	Baroque Lute Flesh
U-G002	Baroque Lute Nail
U-G003	Baroque Lute SW#1
U-G004	Baroque Lute Ensemble
U-G005	Fortepiano
U-G006	Fortepiano Flanged
U-G007	Stereo Harpsichord
U-G008	Stereo Harpsichord 2
U-G009	8 + 4 foot choir
U-G010	8 foot choir
U-G011	Harpsichord Full Choir
U-G012	8ft & Lute SW#1
U-G013	Harpsichord Lute Stop
U-G014	Hurdy Gurdy Drones + Dog
U-G015	Hurdy Gurdy Bee Drones

Program	Name
U-G016	Hurdy Gurdy Drone Map
U-G017	Hurdy Gurdy Trump+Bee
U-G018	Renaissance Gtr Vel Sw
U-G019	Renaissance Gtr Flesh
U-G020	Renaissance Gtr Nail
U-G021	Renaissance Lute Vel Sw
U-G022	Renaissance Lute Flesh
U-G023	Renaissance Lute Nail
U-G024	Renaissance Lute SW#1
U-G025	Theorbo (bass lute)VelSw
U-G026	Theorbo (bass lute)Flesh
U-G027	Theorbo (bass lute) Nail
U-G028	Theorbo (bass lute) SW#1
U-G029	Hurdy Gurdy Dr + Dog LFO
U-G030	Hurdy Gurdy Dr Map LFO

The Plucked Early Music Instruments

Baroque Lute - This is a 13 course instrument. *Course* - meaning main strings. However each *course* has 2 strings (much like a 12 string guitar), with the exception of the highest string which is a single string. This gives the player a total of 25 strings to tune! As the lute evolved throughout history, more strings were added. This arduous tuning process is one of the reasons this instrument eventually disappeared from the musical landscape after the Baroque period.

It is a wonderfully rich and deep sounding lute. It has been sampled with both the flesh of the finger as well as the fingernail. These articulations are presented as velocity switched programs as well as using SW#1 to change between them. Following that approach, those articulations are presented individually as well. The traditional or authentic articulation would have been with the flesh of the finger only.

J.S. Bach wrote great compositions for this instrument. Sylvius Leopold Weiss of Dresden was also a virtuoso baroque lutenist and composer. The included sequence demo song *Baroque Lute Prelude* is by Weiss.

Renaissance Lute - This is a 8 course instrument. Again - the highest string is a single string, giving the player a total of 15 strings. It has a brighter tonal quality than the Baroque Lute and the bass range is not as extensive . The approach to the sampled flesh and nail plucked articulations is the same as explained above regarding the Baroque Lute.

The English lutenist John Dowland is considered to be the master composer of this instrument. Italian composer Francesco DaMilano also composed wonderful music for a 6 course version of this instrument. There is an immense amount of music composed for the Renaissance Lute. It is also the instrument in which the *tablature* system was introduced, still used by guitar players today.

Renaissance Guitar - This is a 4 course instrument with the highest course being a single string, making for a total of 7 strings to tune. Strings on all these plucked family instruments in this volume were made from gut material. Gut frets were also tied onto the neck of the instrument rather than being inlaid. Constructed of extremely thin pieces of wood, guitars of this period had a limited dynamic range that becomes softer in the higher reaches of the neck.

Theorbo - This is a bass lute with thundering low and silky high frequencies. This 15 *course* instrument is physically the second largest of the lute family (the Chitarrone being the biggest). Theorbo players frequently played from *figured bass* notation to act as a continuo instrument in accompanying Baroque Opera and other instrumental genres. This style of playing was highly improvisatory and quite similar to the way a modern jazz musician might interpret the symbols of a chord chart.

The Keyboard Early Music Instruments

Fortepiano - This instrument could be considered the missing link between the harpsichord and the modern piano. As the name implies, it could play both *forte* (loud) and *piano* (soft), with varying degrees of dynamics in between. It was the instrument for which Mozart, Haydn and early Beethoven composed their piano music.

The Fortepiano in this collection was sampled with four velocity layers. It has a bit of a hybrid sound blending the harpsichord and the modern piano. It also has plenty of punch and bite if one were use it in modern popular music. Experiment with this one out of its traditional context - it may surprise you!

Harpsichord - Programs are labeled by the word *choir* also meaning *stops*, *registers* or *settings* depending on who you talk to. The *foot* number refers to the length of the string. Presented here are 8 foot choir, 8 and 4 foot choir, full choir and lute stop settings. Also incorporated is the KRONOS ROM key release harpsichord Multisample.

About The Hurdy Gurdy

I am not quite sure what category to put this instrument in! It has a bowed sound, yet no bow is used. It certainly is a stringed instrument. Yet it has keys to trigger melodic notes called **Chanterelles**, and a rosined wheel to sound the strings. It has also been called a *Wheel Fiddle*.

Hurdy - means bottom (butt, arse, rear etc..) and *Gurdy* is (to turn), really meaning to dance. It is a Medieval dance instrument.

This particular Hurdy Gurdy has four drone strings -

Big Bumble Bee - the lowest bass drone.

Little Bumble Bee - low-midrange drone.

The Fly - midrange drone .

Trompette - the highest drone. A loose piece of wood can be attached to the Trompette drone to create a buzzing sound, this buzzing sound is called the *Dog*. This buzzing sound can be created either continuously or periodically in a rhythmic fashion.

The strings vibrate by a rosined wheel which is turned by a crank. Melody notes (*Chanterlles*) are produced on two strings, tuned in unison, by pressing keys which stop the string at the proper intervals for the scale. The other strings play a drone note. The instrument is held in the lap with a strap to hold it steady. The body of the instrument can be square, lute back (rounded), or a flat back with a guitar or fiddle shape.

If you need an instrument to evoke the smell of an old dank Medieval Inn or Castle, look no further!

(Hurdy Guurdy continued)

Program 014 - Hurdy Gurdy Drones + Dog consists of all of the above mentioned drones. The *Trompette* drone is set to a *Dog* buzzing sound with a short articulation for creating a rhythmic pulse or accent. There are no *Chanterelles* in this program, just drones.

Program 015 - Hurdy Gurdy Bee Drones consists of the drones Big Bumble Bee, Little Bumble Bee, and the Fly. The *Chanterelles* root samples span from C4 to D7.

Program 016 - Hurdy Gurdy Drone Map presents all drones distributed across the keyboard. The *Trompette* drone features the *Dog* buzz used in a sustaining manner, not rhythmically pulsed.

Program 017 - Hurdy Gurdy Trump+Bee features the *Big* and *Little Bumble Bee* drones as well as the *Trompette* drone with a continuous *Dog* buzz. The *Chanterelles* ascend starting at C4.

* KRONOS Hurdy Gurdy drone programs 029 and 030 have *LFO* in the title. This is to indicate that an LFO was employed to modulate the amplifier levels in order to emulate the turning of the crank with the rise and fall of volume. The LFO modulation is tempo-synched as well for sequencing purposes. The previous drone programs are left as is for a more uniform volume level and for sound design purposes.

A special thank you to my friends Charles Wolzien, Tom Wasinger, Dr. Howland Auchincloss and Bryan Prudhomme for their assistance with this library.

I hope you enjoy the KRONOS edition of the BOB Early Music volume!
Dennis Burns - Bolder Sounds - December 2013

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