Hollow Sun
Hand Crafted Sample Libraries

NEBULAE II

USER GUIDE

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for purchasing Hollow Sun's Nebulae II. It features samples from a wide range of synths and keyboards, analogue and digital and mixed and layered, mixed and merged using Antares 'Infinity' and other sample editing techniques to create outstanding, atmospheric pads.

ABOUT THE PADS

Once upon a time, a 'pad' was a simple analogue synth sound - typically a smooth, rounded string patch with the filter reduced. The term 'pad' was used as it was used to pad out the track - there but not there... you're not aware of its presence but the track sounds empty without it.

However, with advances in synth technology and functionality, the term took on new proportions as samples were layered to create hybrids and instead of simple analogue oscillators, it was possible to layer almost any sound on top of another.

At first, with products such as the D50 and M1, it was just piano and strings or bells and choirs, etc., but more adventurous programmers took this to new heights over time by layering all manner of sounds to create evolving soundscapes of textures that weave around each other and move spatially and are almost a complete composition in their own right.

The new definition of 'pad' is a sound that can transport you musically and sonically and advances on the old concept of 'space music' as pioneered by artists such as Isao Tomita, Jean-Michelle Jarre, Tangerine Dream and others - sounds that have a truly 'other worldly' element that make you feel that you may be weightless in an alien environment.

HOLLOW SUN's 'Nebulae' is a collection of definitive pads that cover every base from 'old school' mellow analogue smoothness and string pads, breathy vocal pads to early layering techniques to floating, atmospheric textures and alien landscapes including many from the early days of 50s sci-fi movies.

In almost all cases, long and detailed multisamples are employed but some use a single sample across the keyboard to exploit the unique formant shifting effects you can get with this. Most of the sounds are sampled with multi-effects designed to complement the basic sound.

But not every sound is a complete film score! There are also simple and robust pads in there from smooth strings to airy voices to fill out your tracks with subtlety.

PAGE TABS

At the bottom of each synth are three tabs which select different operating areas. Click on the tabs as required.

MASTER PAGE

Here, you can set parameters related to velocity, keyboard range and tuning. It is functionally identical for every sound in the collection.

VELOCITY

VELOCITY CURVE   Select from a variety of different velocity curves.

VEL > VOL   Set velocity sensitivity to taste with this control, even off.

INPUT

RANGE   Set the keyboard range for the selected instrument. Click LEARN and play a low and then a high note on your MIDI controller to set the range.

TRANSPOSE   You can transpose the instrument with this control.

TUNING

COARSE   Tune the instrument in semitone steps.

FINE   Fine tune the instrument in cents.

PITCHBEND

DOWN   Set the interval (in semitones) for downwards pitch bend.

UP   Set the interval (in semitones) for upwards pitch bend.

CONTROL PANEL PAGE

This is the meat and potatoes of all the sounds' operation, where you can shape the sounds' tone and envelope and add autopan effect. The controls are chosen to allow the most flexibility from the sounds with a few simple changes. The controls are:

LEVEL

LEVEL   Sets the level of the sounds. Although normally kept at 0.00dB, this is useful for increasing or decreasing level to compensate for changes in cut and boost in the tone controls.

TONE

BASS   You can cut/boost the low frequencies with this control.

MIDDLE   You can cut/boost the mid frequencies with this control.

TREBLE   You can cut/boost the high frequencies with this control.

AUTOPAN

SPEED   Set the rate of the autopan effect.

DEPTH   Set the amount of the autopan effect here.
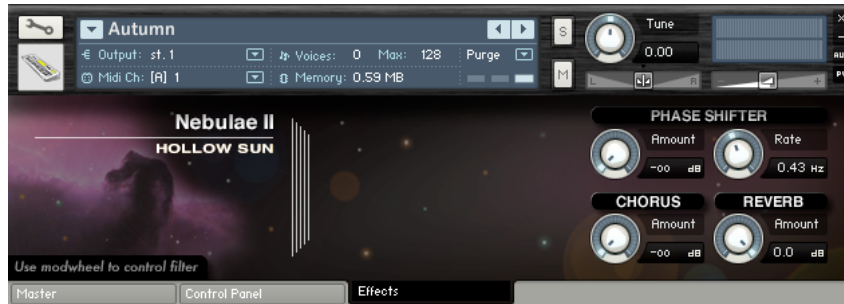
ENVELOPE

ATTACK   Set the attack time for the sound.

RELEASE   Set the release time for the sound here.

NOTE: *Use the modwheel to open and close the filter for the sounds.*

EFFECTS PAGE

If the CONTROL PANEL is the meat and potatoes for each of the sounds, the EFFECTS page is the dessert trolley!

The page is identical for all the instruments. The controls are as follows:

PHASE SHIFTER

AMOUNT   Set the amount of phase shifting effect here. It is fully variable and gradually introduces more effect as the control is turned clockwise.

RATE   Sets the speed of the phase shifting effects.

The phase shifting effect is stereo. It uses an LFO where one channel is inverted so while one phase shift is rising in one channel, the effects is descending in the other. This gives a very 'swirly' sound.

CHORUS

AMOUNT   Sets the amount of chorus effect, often popularly heard applied to pads to fill them out.

REVERB

AMOUNT   Sets the amount of reverb applied. This uses the simple reverb effect (to keep CPU usage to a minimum) and is set to a hall ambience appropriate for the lush pad sounds and big layered textures.

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The small print…

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THANK YOU.

USING THIS WITH THE FREE KONTAKT PLAYER

You CAN use this collection with the free Kontakt Player and it will play and work perfectly but with the following restrictions:

- There is a time limit. This varies according to the version of the Player you have.

- You can edit the sounds to your requirements exactly as though you have a full working copy of Kontakt but you cannot save any edits or tweaks you make.

- When the Player times out, you can restart it immediately and continue (although you will, of course, have to reload everything).

To enjoy Hollow Sun's Vintage String Synth Collection to its full, it is recommended you buy a full version of Kontakt.