PANTOMIME 4 **311073CAMIII** 







#### PANTOMIME 4

*VST3, AU & AAX for Mac 10.15+* 

VST3 for Windows 11+

Version 1.0.1

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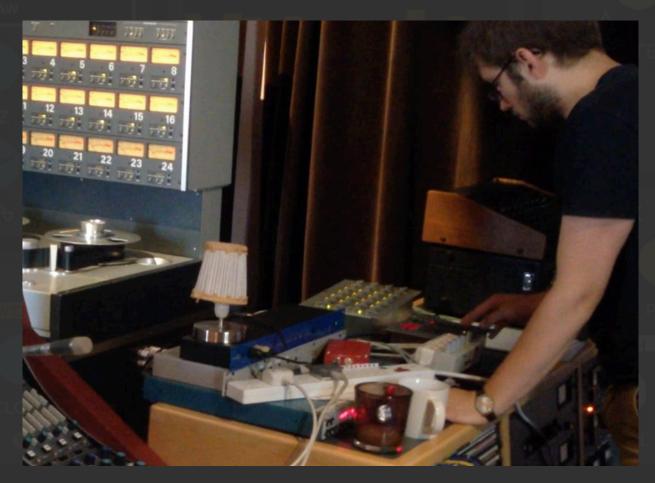


### MAJETONE PANTOMIME 4

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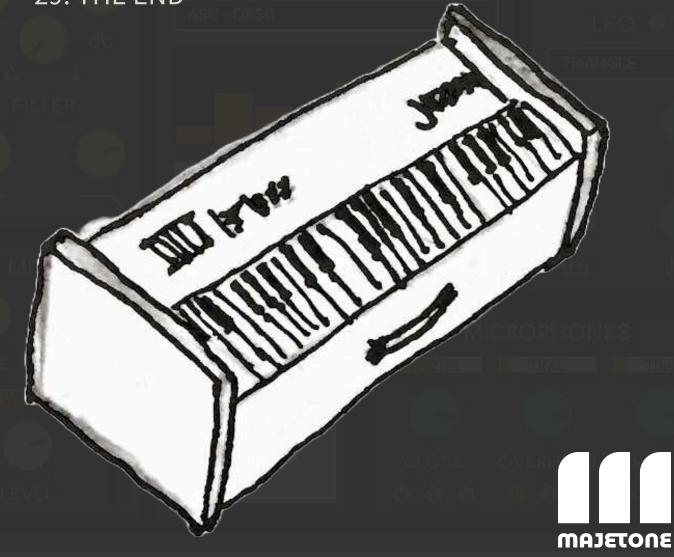


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#### MAJETONE - PANTOMIME 4

Possibly the HARDEST thing about plugin development is naming it.

When I first started making kontakt instruments in 2020 I made a bunch of freebie instruments - The Jazzman, Freedbaker etc etc. I always thought it would be good to update these and bring them inline with where I see Majetone going. For It to still be free- obsensibly acting as a demo for the larger libraries I offer (*Dream Kit: Zenith, for example*).

BUT what do you call it? I couldn't really come up with any great ideas until one day re-watching The Mighty Boosh.

I'm not sure how much The Mighty Boosh made it outside of the UK - it seems like it's a very English comedic, surrealist sensibility. I'd recommend seeking it out. It's gold!

In the episode 'Howard's Note' - Howard believes he's found a new note in between B & C - naming it 'Howard's Note'. To do this, he took a "saw tooth wave from a Pantomime 4" - and I thought - that's a really good name for a synth. Why doesn't that exist?

For Howard. For Vince. The Shoe and the Dying Crab.



PANTOMIME 4 is a 2 Oscillator Synth (with a sub oscillator)

Like Dream Kit: Zenith everything has been re-amped at Otterhead Studios - perhaps uniquely giving you Close (dry), Overhead (close rooms) and Room mic control.

I've taken the initial recordings from those free instruments - Jazzman & Freedbacker and augmented them with some new choices:

DISYNTEGRATE
FP TAPE SINE
FREEDBACKER
JAZZMAN LONG
JAZZMAN PITCH
JAZZMAN TAPE
JAZZMAN
PETER CRISS
WAVE SAW
WAVE SINE
WAVE SQUARE
WAVE TRIANGLE







#### **INSTRUMENTS**

#### **DISYNTEGRATE:**

This came from an experiment largely derived from William Basinski's disintegration loops - I fed my jen sx 1000 into an AKAI tape machine 10 times - it didn't quite go as I'd hoped, but putting the variations of the disintegration on to the overhead & room channel and it created something I was not expecting.

#### FP TAPE SINE:

I have been messing with crap cassette tape machines for YEARS and this Fisher Price tape machine from the late 80s may be the crappest. Tape warble. Hiss. It's magnificent.

#### FREEDBACKER:

This was my first kontakt instrument back in 2020 - super simple, I'd tried to improve this over the years, but the unpredictability of the stretched note just couldn't be beaten. I still love it.

#### JAZZMAN:

The Jazzman was a keyboard made by Italian company Crumar. I found it at a carboot sale, it was broken (only one sound worked) so I sampled it. It has a really lofi rhodes quality. As in the original kontakt instrument, there's four variations: original, tape, pitch and long, but with the improvements of the plugin gui and room - it's so much more useable!

#### PETER CRISS:

An ode to my favourite band: Don Caballero and the track: "The Peter Criss Jazz".

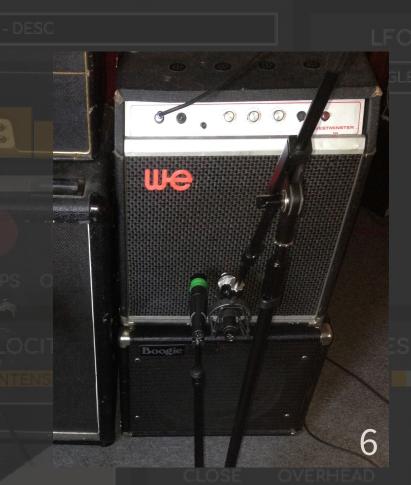
The track begins with a sine like keyboard sound. It could be a keyboard, it probably is a keyboard - but - I've always imagined it was a guitar (played by Ian Williams).

For years I've tried to figure out what this sound is and I \*think\* it's guitar harmonic volume swells, swelled into a gate so you get a hard chopped attack on a sustained sound. So this instrument is that, I'm not really sure how close it is but sometimes imagining how something is done and probably getting it a million miles off can be really interesting. It probably wasn't that at all. Love that album.

# don caballero american don

#### WAVE:

No synth would be complete without waveforms - Sine, Saw, Square and Triangle - the crucial difference is that these have all been re-amped. Basque in the glory of loud physical synths.



#### LOOKS FAMILIAR?

Yes! I've been asked a lot about DREAM KIT: ZENITH

The number one question was is there a demo?

In short, no.

It's too big an instrument (21gb!) to do a demo but I wanted a way for people to try the workflow.

**PANTOMIME 4** 

features an identical layout, but with different sounds.

If you like this instrument, you may like DREAM KIT: ZENITH here's a 10% off code for making it this far!:

#### RTFM10

"They say there's a fine line between madness and genius. Dream Kit: Zenith sits very comfortably on the genius side."

Sound on Sound October 2025



#### THE PHYSICALITY OF SOUND

When I was younger, I played drums in a band. In 2010 we played a festival called *'Urban Explorers'* in Dordrecht, Holland.

It was a long day for us, we started it in Prague, drove to Berlin, caught a flight to Amsterdam. I played 2 gigs with 2 bands, The Pattern Theory & Declining Winter.

Later Tim Hecker was playing in an old power station, I wanted to sleep but my friend Paul insisted I watch Tim. Thanks Paul.

It was at the end of a 2 week tour that included our van catching fire and a million other mishaps. I laid on the floor as Tim's music washed over me, like waves.



The Pattern Theory c. 2010



It was as close to a spiritual experience as I've had.

As artists, we were all staying in the same place and went out for beers the next day, I possibly bored Tim with my questions and he described the effect as 'The Physicality of Sound'.

That was the start of an obsession with 'The Physicality of Sound'. As I got in to recording, this translated to Room mics. Context. Space. Many of these sounds are small, but suddenly re-amped they become larger than life, otherworldly.

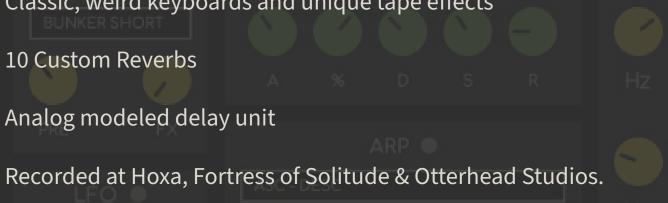
## MICROPHONES WIDTH TIME TIME CLOSE OVERHEAD ROOM 9 9 9 9 9 9 9

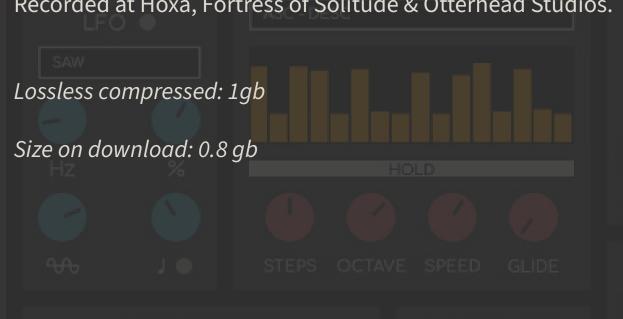
That is why every sound has Close, Overheads & Room. Re-amped in the glorious live room at Otterhead Studios.



Otterhead Studios, Live Room, Rugby UK 2024

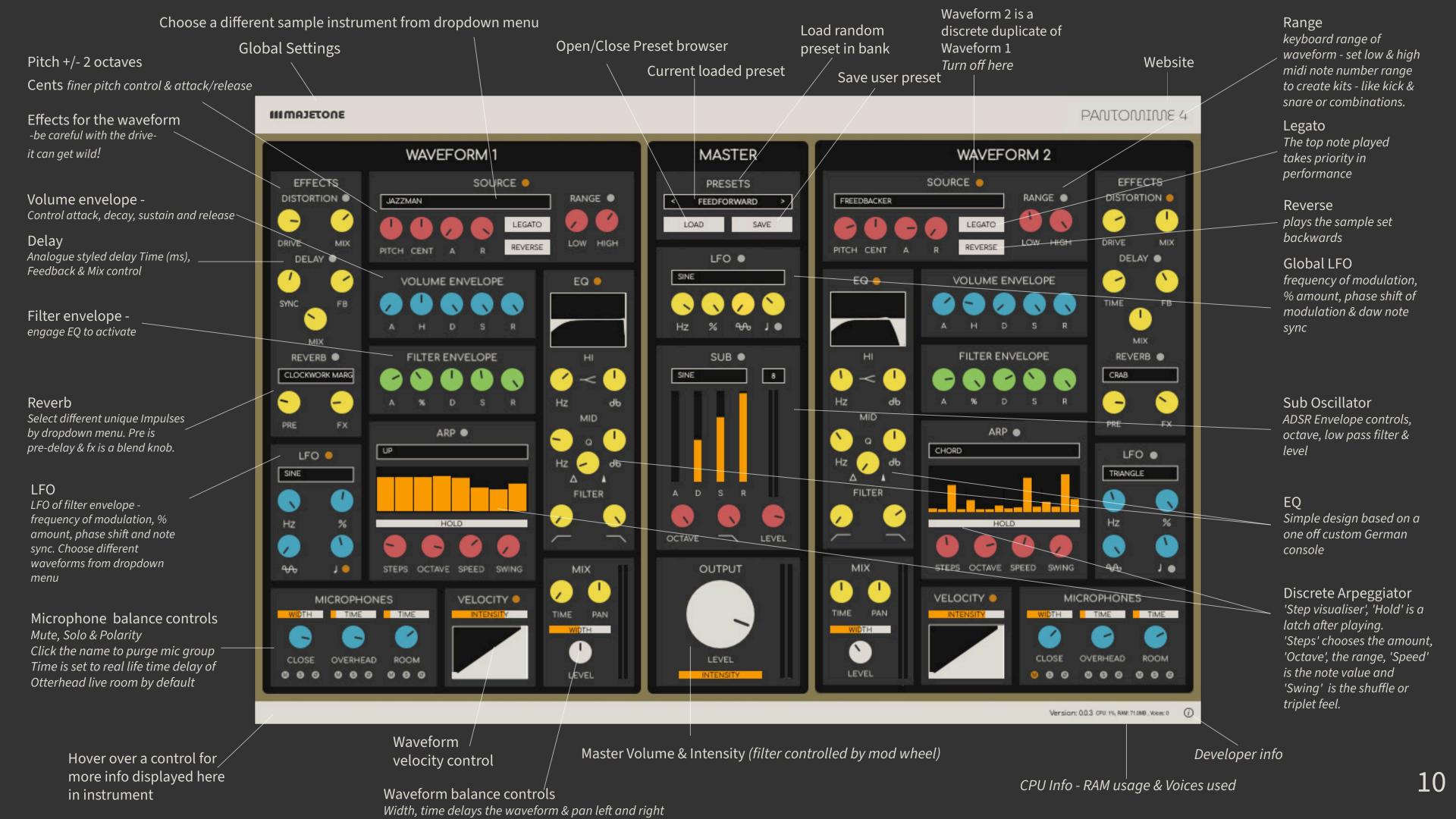








Recording Baritone Guitar at Hoxa c. 2014







DISTORTION - harmonics makes everything come alive!

DRIVE - adds saturation MIX - parallel amount

Be careful with levels when adding distortion.

DELAY- More space, movement! A custom Majetone bit of Analogue modelled DSP from an obscure vintage unit

TIME - delay in MS

PRESS 'TIME' to tempo sync delay

FEEDBACK - amount of repeats

MIX - parallel amount

DELAY •

REVERB- a collection of Majetone impulses - named and referencing The Mighty Boosh sketch. London Studio is the original studio where Jazzman and Freedbacker were tracked







WAVEFORM - Choose one of the 12 sample instruments (dropdown menu)

PITCH +/- 2 Octaves (hold shift for macro moves)

CENT - microtuning +/- 1 Octave

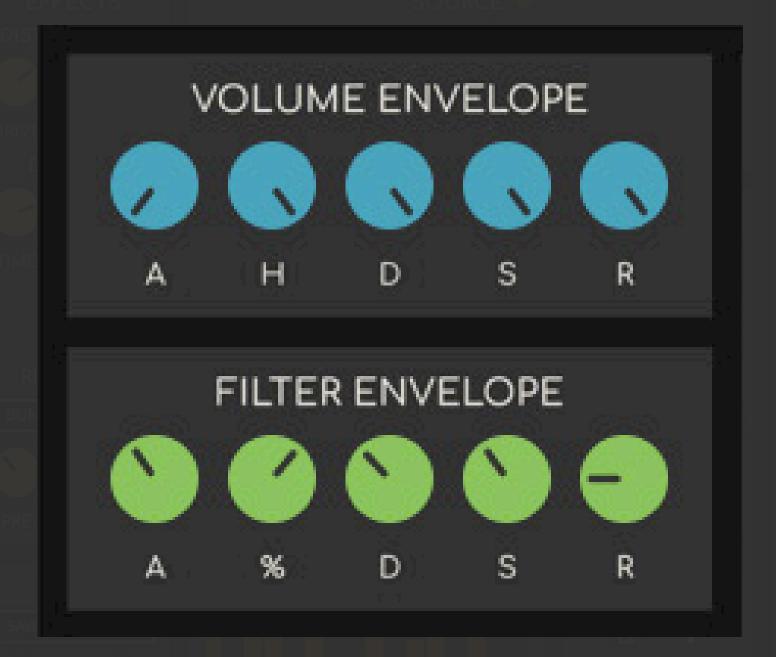
ATTACK / RELEASE - Envelope control of Cent tuning

LEGATO - chooses the most recent note to play out

REVERSE - Reverse the chosen waveform

RANGE - Set the midi playable range for the waveform.





#### **VOLUME ENVELOPE**

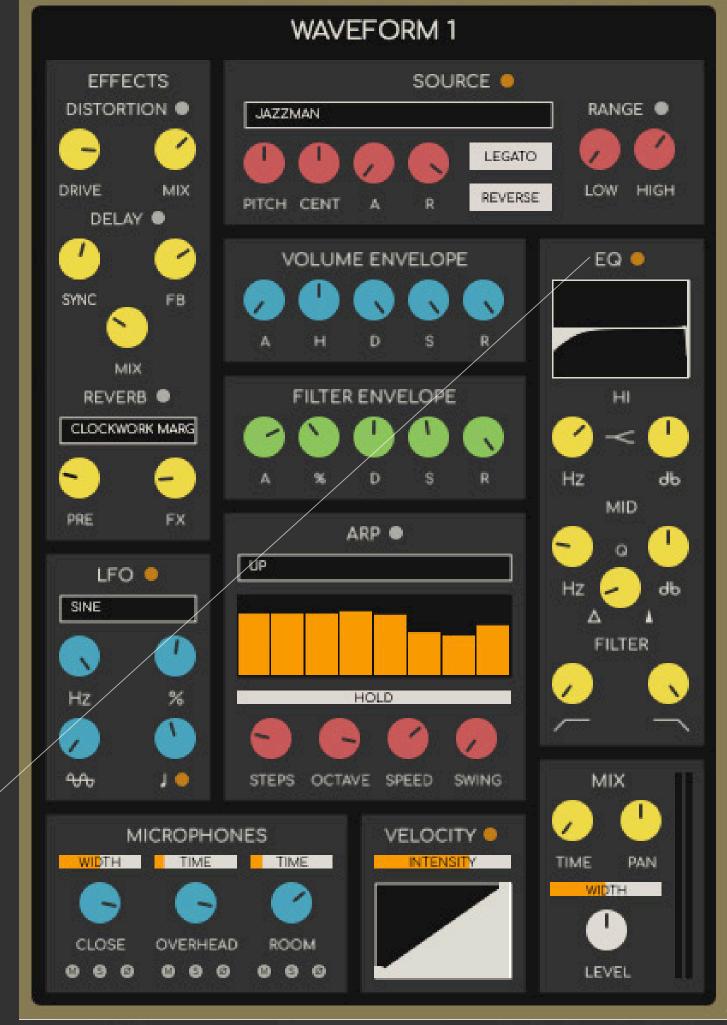
Attack, Hold, Decay, Sustain & Release

settings of the envelope

#### FILTER ENVELOPE

Attack, Amount, Decay, Sustain & Release

settings of the envelope (turn on filter by selecting the EQ)



ARP
Discrete Arpeggiator for waveforms

Dropdown menu -

UP DOWN UP - DOWN DOWN - UP RANDOM CHORD

ARP ●

UP

V UP

DOWN

UP - DOWN

DOWN - UP

RANDOM

CHORD

STEPS OCTAVE SPEED SWING

HOLD - Latch after notes played

STEPS - Amount of steps in the sequence

OCTAVE - Amount of reach the arpeggiator has

SPEED - The note division of the sequence

GLIDE - blending between notes in sequence





#### **MICROPHONES**

CLOSE - Close microphones with Width control

OVERHEADS - Overhead Microphones (either AKG C414 eb or Extinct Audio Valkyr) 2ms delay

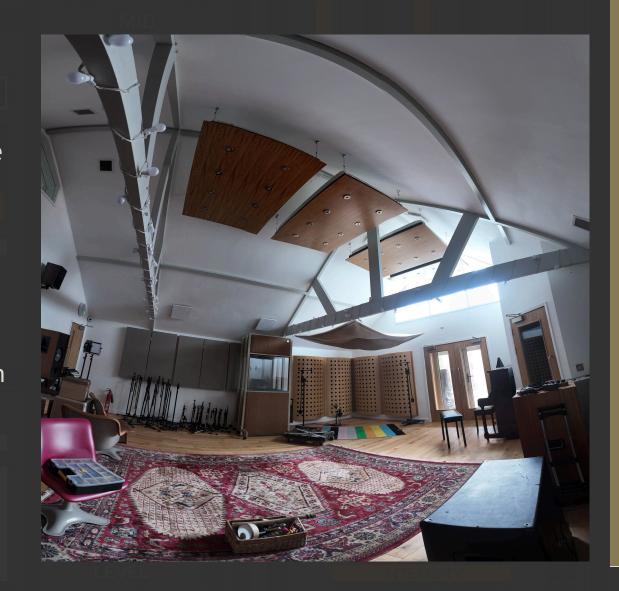
ROOM - Room Microphone (Coles 4038 or Reslo Ribbons) 5ms delay



The time delays applied to the distance mics mirror the reality of the room at Otterhead.

If you wanted it to be super tight the mics can be moved with the delay. The phase relationship may change so you can alter that on each channel with the invert switch: Ø

Each channel has Solo, Mute & Polarity invert & by clicking the channel name you can purge those mics (for example: if you're not using room mics)





#### LFO

Dropdown Menu of LFO frequency -

SINE TRIANGLE SAW SQUARE

The Ifo is related to the filter envelope & filter (eq)





Recording Freedbacker

Hz - Frequency of oscillation

% - Amount

Variable phase of oscillation

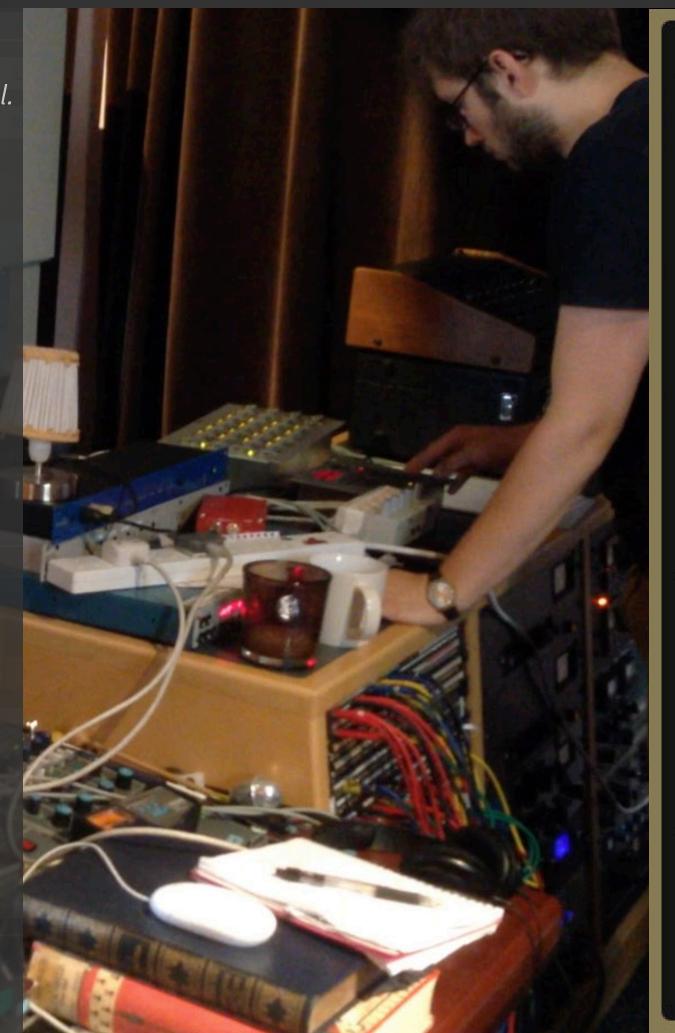
Sync - note sync \*interestingly, this isn't discrete so you can apply sync and then add variation with the frequency knob\*



#### **VELOCITY**

INTENSITY - the amount of velocity control. The graph changes the ramp in relation to the velocity of the samples.











Recording Disyntegrate

Variable mid range

Hz - Frequency

HI - Hi Shelf

Hz - Frequency

db - *Amount -/*+

Q - Width

db - Amount -/+

Filters

Hi-pass filter 6db per octave curve

Lo-pass filter 6db per octave curve (controllable by filter envelope & lfo)



MIX

TIME - time delay of the waveform channel

PAN - Pan of the channel

WIDTH - 0 = Mono, 100 = Stereo, 200 = Wide Stereo

LEVEL - amount going to master

Waveform 2 is a discrete mirror of Waveform 1







#### MASTER /GLOBAL CHANNELS

LFO

Global Ifo volume envelope

Dropdown menu of LFO frequency -

SINE **TRIANGLE** SAW SQUARE

Hz - Frequency of oscillation

% - Amount

Variable phase of oscillation

Sync - note sync \*interestingly, this isn't discrete so you can apply sync and then add variation with the frequency knob





Master

Level - Output level

Intensity - Global filter, factory mapped to cc1 control for performance control



available waveforms:

Dropdown menu voice amount select 1-8

Envelope:

generator

Attack, Hold, Decay, Sustain & Release Octave -/+ 1 Octave Lo Pass filter



Mixing at Otterhead Studio 2022/2023.

#### **PRESETS**

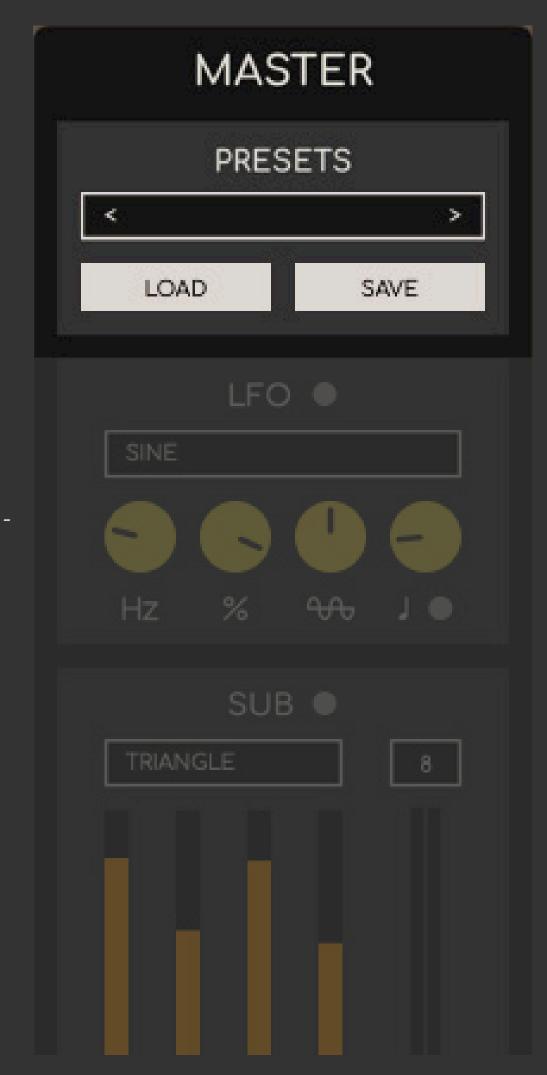
Current preset loaded

<>- scroll through presets

Load - Brings up the preset menu

Save - Saves over current settings in the User Presets Folder

Save in the preset browser (press load) acts as a 'SAVE AS' click the + to add your own preset or bank



Here's a few of my favourites:

FEEDFORWARD - This is the preset that loads when you first open the instrument - the Jazzman Keybaord with a layer of feedback

PETER CRISS - The sound of Guitar Harmonics swelling in to a gate - I heavily drew inspiration from Don Caballero's American Don - Is this how Ian Williams did it on the track "The Peter Criss Jazz" I have no idea, but I like to imagine it was.

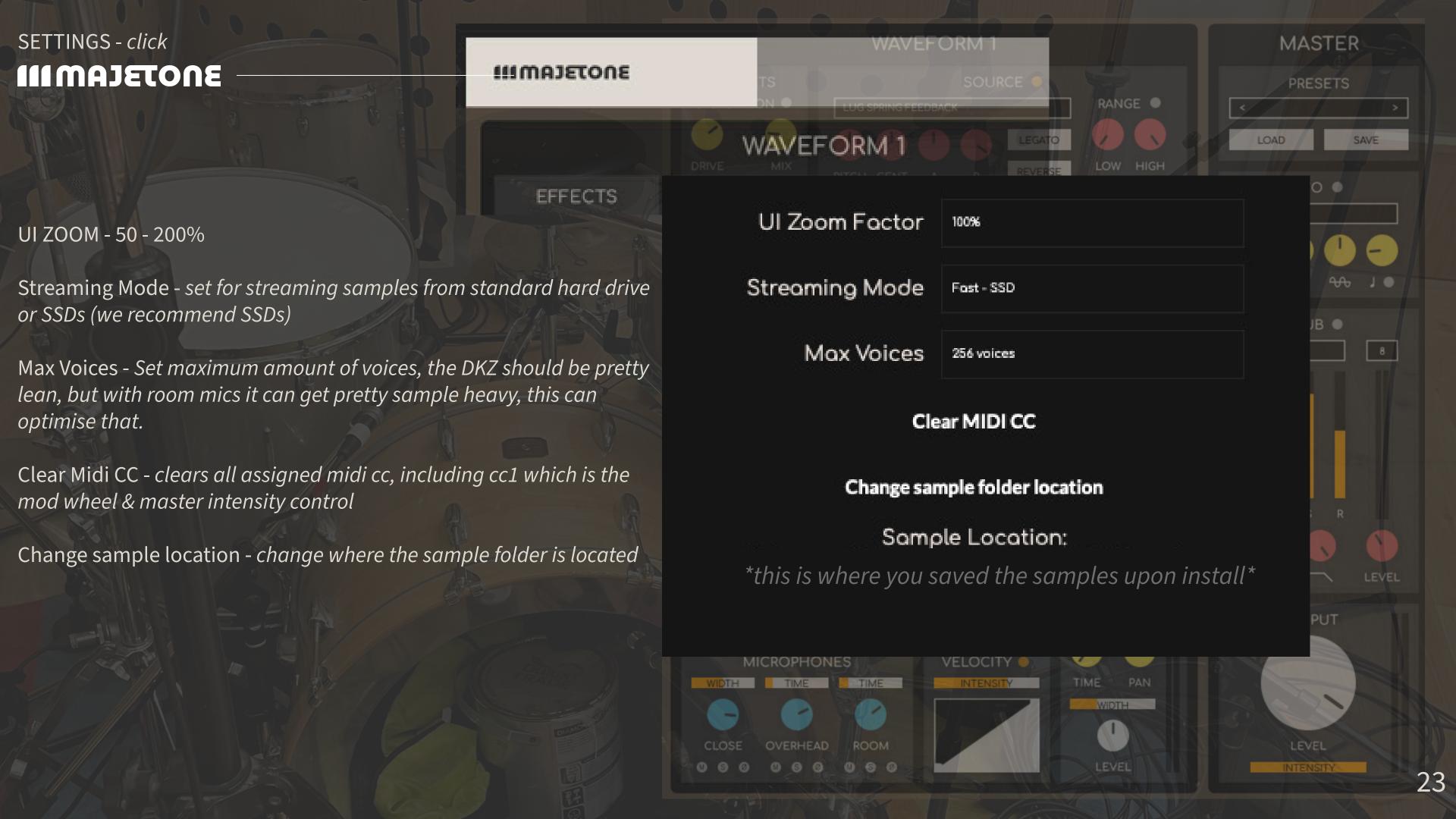
REVERSE BAY PARK - It's building like a gritty pad, with the pristine sine wave as the attack.

MASERATI - Named after another favourite band and their cyclical guitar riffs. RIP Jerry Fuchs.

ODE TO JEFF - My friend Jeff had a musical project called 'Juffage' - there was one track I remember on myspace that had this super cool arp thing, is it similar to this? Not quite sure, but definitely an ode to Jeff.

To access the favourites menu, load the preset menu and hit the heart.







I always planned to use Dream Kit:Zenith as a framework for future instruments and I've had a few people mention they'd like a demo of it. I can't really do that, it's 21gb on download and just too big to download and do as a demo.

I thought what if I took all of my free instruments from Kontakt, re-amped them at Otterhead, made them better and presented them in the same layout. I then realised it's been 5 years since I released the Jazzman - I've learned a hell of a lot since then, how to run a business, how to market stuff, code, how to make better instruments, all that stuff.

The Jazzman at the time was right at the far edge of my abilities - I couldn't even work out how to do graphics so I just drew them by hand, same with the freedbacker. Pantomime 4 is a cool instrument, theres fun experiments, tape stuff, synth stuff

Anyway, I hope you make great stuff with it, Lot's more stuff to come!

Best wishes,

James

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Email: james@majetone.com Website: www.majetone.com

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Mac OS: VST3, AU, AAX 64 bit only



Windows 11: VST3 64 bit only



Requires at least 2gb of hard drive space

Mac OS 10.15+ Windows 11+

#### Daws tested:

Pro Tools, Reaper, Ableton, Logic, Nuendo Rosetta compatible with Intel & Silicon Not compatible with Reason or any 32 bit programmes.

The Mighty Boosh is awesome and i've made this with love and respect. I hope you find Howards Note.



#### SUOTSCHUIN PANTOMIME 4 WAVEFORM 1 MASTER **WAVEFORM 2** SOURCE . SOURCE . EFFECTS EFFECTS PRESETS RANGE • RANGE . DISTORTION . DISTORTION . FREEDBACKER FEEDFORWARD MIX REVERSE LFO • DELAY DELAY . VOLUME ENVELOPE VOLUME ENVELOPE EQ . EQ . TIME FILTER ENVELOPE REVERB • FILTER ENVELOPE SUB • REVERB . 8 ARP . LFO . LFO . TRIANGLE OUTPUT MIX MIX VELOCITY . VELOCITY . MICROPHONES MICROPHONES Version: 0.0.3 CPU: 1%, RAW: 71.0MB , Volces: 0

#### PANTOMIME 4

VST3, AU & AAX for Mac VST3 for Windows Version 1.0.1 © Majetone ltd 2025

Credits:

Recorded, Engineered, Mixed, Performed, Edited, Coded by James Yates in 2025

Assisted by Ellis Powell-Bevan

Recorded & Mixed at
Otterhead Studios, Rugby UK,
Hoxa Studios, London UK,
Fortress of Solitude, Somerset UK.

Original.GUI design by Bureau de Fatigue altered for Pantomime 4 by James Yates

With thanks to Oscar & family, Jimmy Hogarth, Al Lawson, Ellis Powell-Bevan, Sam & Benni @ Make Noise Pro Audio and the many who've all helped with development of this.

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Made with Juce 8.0 & HISE

Manual written and designed by James Yates Proof read by Al Lawson (legend!)

#### PANTOMIME 4 **311073CAMIII**







LINKS

https://majetone.com/

https://www.otterheadstudios.com/

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