Rob Papen eXplorer-10



Rob Papen Inspiration Soundware announces the availability of the all-encompassing eXplorer-10 - the latest incarnation of its inspirational bundle, boosted to 33 plug-ins (including the option to add 10 legacy products, such as the original Blade, RP-Distort, and SubBoomBass) with the welcomed introduction of RAW-2, improving the virtual instrument and effect plug-in developer's critically-acclaimed cutting-edge EDM (Electronic Dance Music) synthesizer aimed at harder musical styles with a focus on 'distorted' sounds by giving it an even grittier-sounding edge while also benefitting from additional features, alongside SynFex, an all-new go-to virtual FX synth suited to anyone creating contemporary music, games content, and movie music, or simply adores FX sounds; speaking of sounds, the boosted bundle also comes complete with BLUE-III eXplorer-X and Albino-3 Legend XPS soundsets (also available for purchase individually) - as of March 7…

Anyone already appreciative of Rob Papen's so-called 'distortion' synthesizer since its introduction over 10 years ago might still be appreciative of its historical background, so let us step back, briefly, in time - to 2014. This was when company founder and sought-after sound designer Rob Papen attended the Dutch Dancefair on his home turf to demonstrate his namesake software products; he later left with

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an almost fully-formed idea for what would become an all-new virtual synth, thanks to producer Sebastian Hoff (a.k.a. DJ Promo) and producer Freek Vergoossen (a.k.a. DJ Free-K) collectively making an approach to propose a synthesizer that focused more on ‘distorted’ sounds with an easy-to-use layout. RAW resulted from a creatively-charged collaboration with the two producers in question, its edgy sound subsequently supporting many notable productions, whether leaning towards harder musical styles or otherwise.



On the face of it, then, RAW-2 effectively represents Rob Papen getting out the soft sandpaper, so-to-speak, to give RAW a virtual rub-down, resulting in an even grittier-sounding edge while also benefitting from additional features. RAW-2 retains its predecessor’s feature-packed OSC 1 and OSC 2 sections, each with an X/Y field to distort the waveforms (using phase distortion), while users can continue to draw their own ‘waveforms’ to be used as LFO waveforms, enabling the creation of unique ‘wobble’ sound movements — perfect for dubstep and other EDM styles. An additional feature well worth noting now is the ‘Ribbon Controller’ carried over from the likes of BIT-2, allowing RAW-2 users to, likewise, dynamically change their sound with its innovative tempo-based SPRING BACK feature. Although all of Rob Papen’s superb-sounding filters are included in RAW-2, EQ, WAVESHAPE, DISTORT, and LOW-FI have all been added on a per-voice synthesis level to allow for further flexibility. Further effects such as CHORUS, FLANGER, PHASER, STEREO DELAY, and Rob

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Papen’s proprietary high-quality REVERB all add to the superlative sound sculpting possibilities on offer, while the super-cool 32-step sequencer/ arpeggiator and, last but by no means least, a preset bank manager are all included as standard. Speaking of which, RAW-2 comes complete with an abundance of new presets alongside the the original RAW presets, with contributions from several well-known DJs and producers for instant inspiration.



An all-new virtual FX synth appropriately called SynFex is included in eXplorer-10; everybody has heard the noise rises and low drops that have become so prevalent in today’s film and contemporary music, so SynFeX ensures that its users need not waste time searching for an appropriate tempo-based audio FX sound. Indeed, its MOVEMENT section allows anyone to quickly adjust their rises and drops to suit their needs. Reveals Rob Papen: “Each SynFeX preset holds at least three variations that are available by simply selecting a different type of MOVEMENT; most of the FX sounds are tempo-based, and, by changing the speed, you can adjust the tempo of the MOVEMENT. This section also has controls to adjust how the MOVEMENT changes - for example, >FILTER FREQUENCY, >PITCH, >VOLUME, >PAN, and so on, but more creative control of the sound is possible when using the ‘Ribbon Controller’ that even has a tempo- based SPRING BANK feature for introducing smooth dynamic changes to the sound. If you like to create your own FX sounds, SynFeX has plenty of features to offer. The source audio material can be analogue-

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modelled noise, tuned noise, synced noise, waveforms, and built-in samples, and you can load your own samples! Setting Sample as SOURCE allows you to switch to Granular playback mode and even add an additional NOISE MIX and a SUB oscillator. The FILTER section offers 32 filter types, as well as Ring and Amp modulation. A dedicated LFO can be tempo-based as well, while LOW-FI, MOD-FX, DELAY, and a top-tier REVERB are also on offer; the order of the FX in series can be adjusted in the PATH section. Then there is a four-path MOD matrix for addressing the 'Ribbon Controller' or any other target. SynFeX comes with various play modes, and the bank manager helps you to quickly find the type of preset you seek."

And as if all that was not enough to be getting on with, eXplorer-10 also comes complete with BLUE-III eXplorer-X and Albino-3 Legend XPS soundsets (also available for purchase individually), the former created by Gerald Arend (a.k.a. Klangwelt) and Rob Papen himself, resulting in 130 exciting new presets for BLUE-III (included in eXplorer-10 as a phenomenally powerful virtual instrument representing an amazing journey into 'Cross-fusion synthesis'), while the latter adds over 850 presets converted to the also-included Albino-3 Legend (effectively resurrecting Albino-3, originally released as a groundbreaking virtual instrument many moons ago as the result of a collaboration between virtual instrument developer Peter Linsener and a certain Dutch sound designer and musician later lending his notable name to the well-respected Rob Papen Inspiration Soundware musical marque).

If including PRISMA (available for free after registering), eXplorer-10 is available - as an all-encompassing 33-product inspirational bundle of 64-bit AAX-, AU-, VST-, and VST3-compatible virtual instrument and effect plug-ins for Mac (OS X 10.15 or higher, ARM processor compatible) and 64-bit VST- and VST3-compatible virtual instrument and effect plug-ins for PC (Windows 7 or higher) with 64-bit AAX compatibility available for PT 12 or higher (PC) - at a consumer price of €499.00 EUR/$499.00 USD from authorised Rob Papen dealers worldwide or as a download directly from Rob Papen for those same prices via its dedicated webpage. (Owners of eXplorer-9 can upgrade to eXplorer-10 for €74.00 EUR/$74.00 USD, owners of eXplorer-6 through to eXplorer-8 can upgrade to eXplorer-10 for €99.00 EUR/$99.00 USD, and owners of eXplorer-1 through to eXplorer-5 can upgrade to eXplorer-10 for €149.00 EUR/$149.00 USD.) RAW-2 is available - as a 64-bit AAX-, AU-, VST-, and VST3-compatible virtual instrument plug-in for Mac (OS X 10.15 or higher, ARM processor compatible) and as a 64-bit VST- and VST3-compatible virtual instrument plug-in for PC (Windows 7 or higher) with 64-bit AAX compatibility available for PT 12 or higher (PC) - for individual purchase at a consumer price of €99.00 EUR/$99.00 USD from authorised Rob Papen dealers worldwide or as a download directly from Rob Papen for those same prices via its dedicated webpage. (Owners of RAW can upgrade to RAW-2 for €39.00 EUR/$39.00 USD.) SynFex is available - as a 64-bit AAX-, AU-, VST-, and VST3-compatible virtual instrument plug-in for Mac (OS X 10.15 or higher, ARM processor compatible) and as a 64-bit VST- and VST3-compatible virtual instrument plug-in for PC (Windows 7 or higher) with 64-bit AAX compatibility available for PT 12 or higher (PC) - for individual purchase at a consumer price of €49.00 EUR/$49.00 USD from authorised Rob Papen dealers

worldwide or as a download directly from Rob Papen for those same prices via its dedicated webpage. BLUE-III eXplorer-X is available for individual purchase as a soundset for BLUE-III at a consumer price of €25.00 EUR/$25.00 USD from authorised Rob Papen dealers worldwide or as a download directly from Rob Papen for those same prices via its dedicated webpage. Albino-3 Legend XPS is available for individual purchase as a soundset for Albino-3 Legend at a consumer price of €25.00 EUR/$25.00 USD from authorised Rob Papen dealers worldwide or as a download directly from Rob Papen for those same prices via its dedicated webpage.

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