
micron as controller for MM?

Posted by dirge - 2005/05/17 21:31

how well would something like the alesis micron work as a controller for the sfx-60? form factor-wise, the two side by side almost match the sfx-6. would one be able to use any of the programmable knobs for the MM? micron owners?

it seems that having these two might be worth it over the sfx-6. the micron is multitimbral and could utilize the other 6 tracks of the MM.

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Re: micron as controller for MM?

Posted by glaive - 2005/05/17 21:45

I'm sure the Micron would be a fine controller for the SFX-60. It really depends on what you want to. If you feel that you need more timbral options than you think the Mono will give, you then having the Micron would be great. Sequencing the Micron from the Mono would be a snap. You could make the Micron transmit on the Mono's Auto Track channel. That way, the track that is in focus on the Monomachine, be it internal or MIDI, would sound when you played they keyboard.

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Re: micron as controller for MM?

Posted by MokBor - 2005/05/17 23:04

It's a nice mate, i had the ion which is almost the same but with more knobs. Bare in mind you can do 4 parts multitimbral. So then you got 2 midi machines left ;-)

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Re: micron as controller for MM?

Posted by milkmansnd - 2005/05/17 23:39

the micron is great, but Alesis really needs to release some sort of graphic editor for it - there is a lot of potential in there, but its all buried in menus and there are just a few knobs to sort it all out. My roommate has one, and is kinda frustrated with the editing part - I mean, the presets are good - but I am positive that the machine has a lot more potential than that.

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Re: micron as controller for MM?

Posted by - 2005/05/18 07:57

sorry, wrong topic

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Re: micron as controller for MM?

Posted by MokBor - 2005/05/18 11:30

That what's the ion for ;-) I sold mine a few weeks ago. It's a nice machine but VA synthesis is not for me anyway. (digital :))

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Re: micron as controller for MM?

Posted by chiasticon - 2005/05/18 13:33

and just what do you think the MD and MnM are? they ain't analogue, buddy! ;-)

Re: micron as controller for MM?

Posted by MokBor - 2005/05/18 18:53

No i mean it's too analog for me :-) i love digital :-)

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Re: micron as controller for MM?

Posted by chiasticon - 2005/05/18 19:31

oh, right on. me too :-D

I just thought that you were implying the opposite; since you're all about the 303 sound and all...

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Re: micron as controller for MM?

Posted by MokBor - 2005/05/18 20:39

Yeah, that true.

I also like that sort of stuff, but the ion has the analog emulation of moogs, and that sort of vintage synths. Don't get me wrong it's a hell of a synth although it takes a lot of time to construct a sound, not like building one on the Mono.

So the ion just won't do for my MD freakyness :-) As I think of it, I don't care if it's analog or digital as long as it's making good sounds :-)

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Re: micron as controller for MM?

Posted by milkmansnd - 2005/05/18 20:43

but the ION sounds great too! I mean especially for the price!

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Re: micron as controller for MM?

Posted by dirge - 2005/05/19 12:43

so given that the price difference between the sfx-60 and the sfx-6 would effectively pay for the micron... is the convenience of having the keyboard attached on the sfx-6 worth the difference, especially when one could have a similar sized dedicated keyboard/synth in the micron for less?

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Re: micron as controller for MM?

Posted by glaive - 2005/05/19 15:14

For what it's worth, the integrated keyboard of the SFX-6 does more than play notes. You can get into all sorts of multi-trig transpositions and multi-map pattern selections with it. Also, the joystick is programmable for each track, and they can be effected all at the same time or individually. That being said, the portability of the SFX-60 is really cool, and you can get similar functionality with an external keyboard.

I guess the real question is what do you think the Micron offers you that the Monomachine does not? What are you trying to express through music?

Re: micron as controller for MM?

Posted by dirge - 2005/05/19 15:56

in that case, i guess i should rephrase my first post. can one take advantage of the same features of the sfx-6 by using the sfx-60 and a midi controller? if so, does the micron have the capability of using the programmable joystick with its assignable knobs/sliders and pitch bend?

my primary interest in the monomachine is the possibility of being able to program the primary structure of my songs on just the monomachine and possibly add other synths with the mono's midi machine sequencer.

basically, i'm considering the MM as the primary instrument in my setup. The sfx-6 is rather expensive and one could just buy the sfx-60 and a micron. as a controller, the micron is roughly the same width, depth and height as the keyboard half of the sfx-6 plus I would have an extra synth.

I can't think of any cheap dedicated midi controller that is as compact as the micron and is a 3-octave full size keyboard.

however, if the sfx-6 has some factors that make having the keyboard attached (simplicity of workflow can be valuable) that would make paying the extra, then i would look for an sfx-6. i'm just trying to figure out what i would be missing out on if i didn't obtain a sfx-6 (most likely used, if can find one).

sorry for the length and any redundancy, but i figured it would be best to explain my position.

thanks everyone!

Re: micron as controller for MM?

Posted by glaive - 2005/05/19 16:21

dirge wrote:

in that case, i guess i should rephrase my first post. can one take advantage of the same features of the sfx-6 by using the sfx-60 and a midi controller? if so, does the micron have the capability of using the programmable joystick with its assignable knobs/sliders and pitch bend?

Yes, you can program a controller to access all of the SFX-6's functions, but the workflow is not the same. It is simple and integrated in the SFX-6, and more fiddly with a controller. This may or may not make a difference to you.

my primary interest in the monomachine is the possibility of being able to program the primary structure of my songs on just the monomachine and possibly add other synths with the mono's midi machine sequencer.

The Mono will be great for this. If live performance tweakability is not a concern for you, then the tabletop version would be fine.

I can't think of any cheap dedicated midi controller that is as compact as the micron and is a 3-octave full size keyboard.

I was controlling my old SFX-60 with a MicroKontrol, and, even though I could get the same results with the MK, now that I have the SFX-6, I can see the beauty of what the Elektron designers achieved in the larger instrument.

however, if the sfx-6 has some factors that make having the keyboard attached (simplicity of workflow can be valuable) that would make paying the extra, then i would look for an sfx-6. i'm just trying to figure out what i would be missing out on if i didn't obtain a sfx-6 (most likely used, if can find one).

There are compelling arguments for both the tabletop and the keyboard versions of the instrument, but, having had both, I like the keyboard version more. I feel it to be the better performance platform. Then again, I am doing shows that are 100% Monomachine. I still wish I had the tabletop, though, because it's easy to carry around and put in your lap when you go someplace, like a coffeeshop or what not.

sorry for the length and any redundancy, but i figured it would be best to explain my position.

Don't sweat it! That's what this forum is for. ;)

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Re: micron as controller for MM?

Posted by chiasticon - 2005/05/19 17:10

yo dirge....if you're interested, someone just posted to the Yahoo group that he's selling his SFX-6. it's a beta unit (perfectly functional; that's what mine is in fact). he's looking to get \$1550 or best offer for it. he mentioned cross-posting here, but if he doesn't, try checking the group out.

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