
iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by beachowl - 2013/06/25 00:04

Interested in peoples experiences of iPads for music-making; how they have and haven't enhanced it; what you expected and what you found.

I don't own any iProduct but the Samplr app alone is tempting me to buy an iPad to use purely as an instrument and sketch pad for ideas to complete in a DAW.

I'm not wanting to provoke opinions I've heard (and agree with) about iPads being outdated in a years time while our grandkids will save up for A4s. Or my own fears about getting caught in the-next-app-trap. Rather it's people's experiences of the interface and its effect on creativity and workflow that I'm curious about.

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Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by papertiger - 2013/06/25 02:00

hopefully Tarekith will chime in.

i'm still thinking about to answer your question. =)

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Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by void - 2013/06/25 02:12

imho the glass pad is nice for some types of interaction, and obviously it can display music interfaces in an attractive way. it will never replace proper knobs/faders/sliders though.

the CPUs are no slouch and the iOS Audio & Midi support is as decent as on OS X.
apple seem to be taking this tiny niche of music maker people somewhat seriously.

i'm also making an app for the Machinedrum, so if you have one, this might influence your decision in getting an ipad:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xSCrMi248uE>

:laugh:

note that in the video it's an iPad 1 which is now 3 years old, it's still working okay.

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Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by Fuseball - 2013/06/25 02:24

Whilst I didn't buy an iPad primarily for music making, I have bought quite a few music apps for it. Personally, I've not found it to be a workflow that clicks with me. Creatively it's a distant third behind synth hardware and even mouse and keyboard. I find the touch screen too imprecise to make sound editing enjoyable or natural. I'd consider using it as live performance controller for hardware synths though.

I'm a bit in awe of folks who can create with it. They're clearly wired differently to me! :)

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Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by boboter - 2013/06/25 02:41

Over the time, I bought almost all of the "bigger" apps. Synths, samplers, sequencers, controllers. And I don't really use any of them, even though there are some terrific apps out there. The only thing I used once in a while were some controller functions for Ableton. But that stopped when I got Push.

I really love my iPad and use it every day. Just not for making music. I'm the kind of guy that has to really learn a device inside out to create muscle memory. And I can't seem to make that happen with a touch screen. I never could "jam" with it. But it is really great for storing all kinds of manuals, so I always keep it close to my gear.

Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by MCL - 2013/06/25 02:47

Some of the synths sound really great, but I wish makers of these apps would take into account the interface of the thing and use it intuitively instead of spending time making it look like the real McCoy all the time.

I mean surely the touch interface lends itself to sliding gestures instead of turning a knob on a synth, yeah, It may look nice and just like a Moog knob, or an MS20 or whatever, but it can become overly fiddly to say the least which is a killer right away.

Some are overly cluttered from this approach as well (Magellan)

I like the interface of some though, like Figure, Samplr and Alchemy which employ a more sliderish based workflow which, for me at least, works better.

Although you can of course map midi controllers to the other apps in question.

But yeah, its just ok for me. More used as a sound designish type of thing on the train more than anything, all ends up as loops in the Octatrack or Live at the end of the day.

Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by sdesign - 2013/06/27 23:05

I mostly find it useful as a source of sounds more than anything, so create a loop in an iPad app (on train, sofa, anywhere), save it for later, then when at home you have a nice stash of your own loops to sample into the Octatrack for some loop mangling fun B)

I installed Propellerheads Thor on the iPad the other day, spent a good hour creating a my own patch and a nice sequence while on the sofa (apparently watching TV with my wife!), then later I just sampled it straight into the Octatrack to use in a track.

Here's a link to the Thor page on my website by the way ;-)
<http://www.idesignsound.com/thor-polysonic-synthesizer-ipad/>

Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by beachowl - 2013/06/27 23:13

Crikey, its impossible to watch VOID's clip without wanting MD too.

Thanks for the replies, interesting. I've no way of trying an iPad outside a store. I'm surprised there isn't more love for Samplr here given the concentration of OT fans, it seems insanely creative.

Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by GaryPHayes - 2013/06/27 23:53

I am starting to really integrate the iPad into my OTB elektron setup and use Magellan and Nave really for analog sounding pads to add some instant polyphony to a couple of A4s and MD. eg:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4m7KcY3Lz_4 I also use it to enter sequences into the A4s - the cool thing is the footprint is small vs a 3-4 octave keyboard. Still trying to find a good way to switch sounds easily as someone said above, and real time editing is pretty hard on all 'ott realism' interfaces...

Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by Tarekith - 2013/06/28 00:20

I've been messing with iOS music making since the iPhone came out, and recently have been doing ALL of my music making just on the iPad for a change. For me the real change that led me to feeling comfortable doing full songs was getting Auria, and the release of Audiobus.

Auria is the first DAW style app that works as I'd expect, and is actually fun to use on the iPad. Moving and resizing clips just by dragging your finger is actually a very natural way to arrange songs I find. And Audiobus lets me just jam away on all these fun synth apps, knowing i'm recording in Auria and can edit out the best bits later to use in a song. Just like I was doing on my desktop DAWs.

Prior to this I was mainly coming up simple grooves on my iOS app. Things like Figure, iKaossilao, Beatmaker2, and NanoStudio. Fun for quick ideas, but too tedious for me to really get into for doing complete songs.

Also, just recently picked up the QuNexus controller (see my review in the "Other GEAR" forum here), which makes playing iOS synths WAY more fun. No denying the power and sound of these, but I never did get on with playing a glass keyboard. Now i can play notes on the QuNexus and adjust parameters on the iPad, which makes for a much more natural workflow.

These two tracks were done 100% from start to mastered finish on just the iPad:

<http://tarekith.com/mp3s/Tarekith-Veloant.m4a>

<http://tarekith.com/mp3s/Tarekith-TH1.m4a>

I'll have a third going up later today or tomorrow. Also, here's a link to my blog, where I talk a lot about using iOS apps for making music, what I like and don't like, etc:

<http://tarekith.com/category/ios/>

Happy to answer any questions here too.

Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by analept - 2013/06/28 00:56

for me Ipad is really useful.

I hate computer but not Ipad, i don't have to wait 5 minutes before start making music...

of course there's some great synth like magellan, animoog, Imini, ...

but there's also useful app like the sequencer genome, powerfull and simple or an app like midi designer which let you "create" your own midi controller for your elektron boxes.

and like Tarekith, i'm using a lot Auria to record sounds and the only thing missing with that daw it's midi, but apparently it's coming very soon.

the ipad with real hardware is a great combination

Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by dixie237 - 2013/06/28 17:00

Another iPad user here. 4th gen.

I have mine hooked up to a Roland duo ex interface. I send midi clock into it (and the rest of my rig) from an Acme-4. Audio outputs from the duo ex into the mixer. Very cool sound quality. There are some great synth apps, Animoog, Alchemy, Thor, Sunrizer, Nave (to name a few). Add audiobus to that and start pingping stuff through Turnado, things get

interesting. This is all stuff I do in Ableton regularly. iPad lets me take that setup anywhere.

New to the iPad is again Sugar Bytes Thesys midi sequencer. I run that as a VST and its very powerful.

Auria multitrack is due (imminent...this week??) to have midi clock introduced as a pre release before full blown midi. That's big.

If you have the right interface (Auria website has a comprehensive list of tested interfaces) you could have a whole bunch of clocked hardware running into Auria and be recording seperate tracks all synced (assuming a later iPad. Later the better).

I havent bought the Auria app yet as i've been waiting for the addition of clock, although have followed its every improvement.

Up till now ive been using 2x Zoom R24's for 16 track simultaneous recording. That'll change very soon.

If you want a "driver and computer free " (iPad isnt a computer really is it!!...you know what I mean :-)) recording environment with some good synths and effects, midi clock and decent midi sequencers its worth a serious look.

OS 7 due this Autumn looks as though it will push the audio side of things further.

Remember though you need to make the right interface choice, it needs to be class compliant (no drivers required) .That could get expensive if you need a lot of ins.

Plus the issue of thunderbolt v's 30 pin adaptors v Camera Connection Kits v Itunes v all that other crap to deal with with Apple, if you can cut through all that, its a serious tool now. No longer the toy from a couple of years ago.

Oh and I can use Lemur to control Ableton.....nice

Cheers
D :)

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Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by poonti - 2013/08/22 23:04

Just a heads up, Auria is half-price today only. I was waiting for either Auria or Cubasis to go on sale, and Auria has, so I picked it up on the iStore. I like it so far, seems well designed to me.

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Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by darenager - 2013/08/22 23:18

Hmm, anyone using the LE version, I only need 8 tracks let alone 24 or 48! Is the LE version worth getting? It also seems to be half price today.

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Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by Tarekith - 2013/08/22 23:27

Yes, definitely worth getting, you can always upgrade IAP if you need the full version too.

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Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by Poldenstein - 2013/08/22 23:34

I must say I am tempted. I like music apps. Some synth app are gorgeous, and the touch interface for sequencing has a

lot of potentialities - but I have yet to find the perfect iOS midi sequencer.
But.. Multitracking on an ipad? Memory on ipad is not exactly cheap, and impossible to expand. And the CPU for me is not up to the task. I am afraid that after some few tracks it will be all cracks and pops.

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Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by Tarekith - 2013/08/22 23:49

I think you're underestimating how powerful an iPad is. I did my last EP using just Auria on an iPad4, averaged about 12-14 stereo 24bit tracks, never had single issue with dropouts or crackling. The real slow down is the graphics, navigating slows a bit once you get above 12-14 tracks, but the audio still works fine.

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Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by beachowl - 2013/08/23 03:13

Thanks all, for the opinions, really useful.

ipad lost out to A4 this time around - no regrets, I'm having an absolute ball.

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Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by poonti - 2013/08/23 06:16

Just a warning re: Auria (although I haven't tried any of this yet): it supports Midi control/sync/clock, but not midi sequencing of plugins. Cubasis does support full midi seq I believe. I mostly wanted an audio sequencer for the iPad, so it fit the bill.

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Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by dubathonic - 2013/08/23 08:37

poonti wrote:

Just a heads up, Auria is half-price today only. I was waiting for either Auria or Cubasis to go on sale, and Auria has, so I picked it up on the iStore. I like it so far, seems well designed to me.

Thanks for the heads up! Tarekith, after reading your blog review, sounds like 12 bucks = worth a try.

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Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by dustin632 - 2013/09/04 23:13

There are some incredible Ipad apps. Samplr the Korg apps and Animoog are all really great. But I never use them! For me workflow is everything. I always come back to Ableton Live and Elektron gear.

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Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by namnibor - 2013/09/04 23:34

You can always simply use a great software app you love on iPad then just feed that output directly into your audio interface and then onto your DAW as a track audio/midi.

Believe it or not, Behringer just came out with a great iPad docking station called iStudio iS202, which I just ordered from ZZSounds for \$149. and it's like the old Alesis iODock on steroids with a lot more options and it can be used as an interface with inputs and has usb and DIN midi in/out but also has two audio outputs where you can do as I will be doing as I JUST bought the iPad 2 16GB to use with that soecifically for the new APP Waldorf has called NAVE. All in all, with \$349. at Target today for the iPad 2 16 GB, \$149. for the iStudio iS202 Dock by Behringer, and cost of this monstrous sounding synth NAVE at \$12.99 in App store; \$550. with tax on iPad, total, it costs as much as a Moog Minitaur and will be gateway to a more versatile and connected studio with plethora of other useful apps for making music....however, as I stated, still will be feeding all my hardware synths, A4, and iPad audio out to my Scarlett 18i20 then into Reaper DAW. I will be using the Keith McMillen QuNexus and Midi Express to use as an expressive keyboard for the NAVE App rather than the iPad screen keys...also plan to connect eh QuNexus to the A4 to see if I can input notes with velocity and after touch rather than the mini keys, saving the time of setting up plocks for those notes...will report back how it works once it all arrives.

Hope this helps. I know Behringer gear sometimes gets a bad rap but behringer just bought out AKG and another major company recently, and people I know in UK using this new iStudio are blown away by it's functionality verses price and what Alesis used to offer (Alesis iODock would not handle iOS about like 4 as no new updates and a lot of apps run iOS 6 or new iOS7)

You do not *need* to spend the big bucks on the iPad Retina Display models--FYI.

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Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by namnibor - 2013/09/05 02:42

GaryPHayes wrote:

I am starting to really integrate the iPad into my OTB elektron setup and use Magellan and Nave really for analog sounding pads to add some instant polyphony to a couple of A4s and MD. eg:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4m7KcY3Lz_4 I also use it to enter sequences into the A4s - the cool thing is the footprint is small vs a 3-4 octave keyboard. Still trying to find a good way to switch sounds easily as as someone said above, and real time editing is pretty hard on all 'ott realism' interfaces...

LOVE your music~!! Made very happy to see you using the new Behringer iStudio iS202, as I had *just* ordered one today primarily for Waldorf Nave App Synth and resistance was indeed futile and today just bought an iPad 2 16GB for first time to use with the iStudio and Nave, and the QuNexus and Midi Expander are on their way as well!!!!

How goes it with the iStudio? The price to extreme feature rich ratio made it a no brainer! I am an all hardware guy but the NAVE was first time ever I heard something worth getting an iPad just for it! Still will be feeding audio into my Scarlett 18i20 and recording audio mainly into Reaper.

Have a question; I plan to use the QuNexus with the iStudio and Nave but wondering if you are able to PLAY NAVE from the analog Four's mini keys and if so, is this just iStudio midi out to A4 in? Also, do you use a midi routing box to sync all that hardware? Thanks in advance!

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Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by Tarekith - 2013/09/05 02:45

You should be able to feed Nave MIDI from anything with even a cheapo 1x1 MIDI interface from Amazon, that's what I use. Patiently waiting for the new iConnect4 thingy to come out though, that will be really useful to have.

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Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by namnibor - 2013/09/05 04:16

Tarekith wrote:

You should be able to feed Nave MIDI from anything with even a cheapo 1x1 MIDI interface from Amazon, that's what I use. Patiently waiting for the new iConnect4 thingy to come out though, that will be really useful to have.

Thanks! I actually have some rather 'old school' but incredibly still utilitarian midi routers that do not even have USB to clutter-up the flow of things that use simple sliders on the rack unit. One is called the Kawai MAV-8, which is an 8 out/4 in midi router. The other was made by Digital Music Corp. the MX-28S, 2x8 midi patch bay, that it too uses simple sliders so when working OTB, no need for all the USB midi Timepiece stuff to complicate things when it's pretty easy to do on the fly when one has several rack hardware synths or otherwise.

However, I plan to use my soon to arrive KMI QuNexus and the KMI Midi Expander to *try* to see if I can use this more expressive after touch/velocity, modulation keys to input notes into the A4 as an experiment to set-up "played dynamics" rather than having to place plocks after the fact. QuNexus will also work with Nave on iPad in the new Behringer iStudio iS202, iPad 2 just ordered today.

My gas exploded but all I can think is I am pretty set for gear for Winter months now! plenty of time to learn the MnM mk1 or possibly sell and buy a second A4....man, this is the best instrument to come out for quite a while from my perspective!!! Really exciting times to be back into music again rather than where I was in my military career for way too long!!!!

Thanks a lot! learning a lot from this forum and look forward to next evolution of this forum with Elektronauts very soon!

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Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by Tarekith - 2013/09/05 05:14

If you want to drive Nave from the A4, then you need to get MIDI into the iPad, and currently that can only be done via the USB camera Connctor Kit Apple sells, and a compatible MIDI USB interface. That's why I mentioned the USB options.

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Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by namnibor - 2013/09/05 07:00

Tarekith wrote:

If you want to drive Nave from the A4, then you need to get MIDI into the iPad, and currently that can only be done via the USB camera Connctor Kit Apple sells, and a compatible MIDI USB interface. That's why I mentioned the USB options.

I need to clarify as was feeling ill when I wrote that.

1. The brand new Behringer iStudio that I ordered, is like the now out of date Alesis iODock, but much more feature rich and iPad slides into it, has midi DIN in/out, USB and USB can do midi/out as well, has two XLR/TRS input channels, with one with hi-z preamp on one of channels but both can take line signal, has two TRS outs to go out to powered monitors or to inputs on an audio interface to feed a DAW or could even feed into Analog Four External Input, 2 RCA inputs as well, powered by A/C included AND can be battery powered for on the go/DJ, works stand alone or can work as an audio interface for PC/MAC, has 6 knobs on left side of iPad for hands on input vol, output vol, balance between for direct monitor in DAW, two headphone out puts and separate volume for each.

THIS has *just* made it to a few online retailers and have been waiting for it since NAMM and the iStudio iS202 can send midi to any hardware synth or receive to drive iOS Synth App internally. Works on iPad 1, 2, 3 but *not* newer retina display models with Thunderbolt and will certainly work with our gear.

2. I was more thinking about e Analog Four, using the QuNexus along with it's Midi Expander, which is the nexus between it and any midi hardware and use the QuNexus's expressive after touch, velocity, and modulation configurable CC's keys to input notes just like any cheap midi controller, using a track's internal analog voice on A4 to lay down a player's expressive moment rather than having to do it all via PLocks after the fact.

My thing is, there's a LOT of crap-tastic midi controllers out there and because I will be using the QuNexus to play Nave connected to iStudio at times, changing the routing when I want or as entirely isolated scenario to the Analog Four-- should be worth the try. Especially since Diane from Keith McMillen Instruments stated via the editor for QuNexus one can configure the midi cc's with much flexibility. Just think connected hardware synth to QuNexus needs to be on midi channel 2 from one download of 10 pages was able to glean before my stuff arrives and have full registered access.

Yes, I know the mini keys are really great and cool but being primarily an expressive player and for the ambient surreal

soundscapes am working on, think it would help my particular work flow.

Went route of the new Behringer iStudio iS202 because have enough cables around and find the IK Media stuff and other's akin kind of fiddly, and am also accommodating my unique mobility issues as a recently disabled and retired military officer veteran from our crazy psychic wars.

Appologize if I was not as clear as I should have been in previous post. The Nave can sound pretty analog on it's own and if anything, I would run Nave output from iStudio through Waldorf Miniworks 4-Pole analog filter, if need be.

Here is GARYPHAYES, whom I was responding to on his use of similar set-up a few posts up doing on YT that's actually using the new Behringer iStudio iS202 for the Nave and his set-up of 2- Analog Four's and other gear and check out his other videos...really great stuff: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4AjpjPUf3A>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FpXkFEzeeW4>

Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by GovernorSilver - 2013/09/06 04:53

I've had an iPhone for a few years now, but didn't get more serious about making music/sound art with IOS apps until I got my iPad. It's become my favorite way to make music during my daily train ride.

Two must-have apps are Audiobus (inter-app audio routing) and Audioshare (audio file manager, also serves as a quick-and-dirty recorder if you stick it in the Output slot of Audiobus).

Onscreen piano keyboards are a pain because the black keys are smaller than the whites, so its easier to accidentally hit the wrong note when the train suddenly shakes. I prefer alternative interfaces for note entry like sequencers, the iFretless apps' guitar fretboard-like layout, Orphion, and Gestrument. I am however eyeing the upcoming Miselu C.24, which is a keyboard for the iPad that folds into an iPad case - looks like a great fit for on-the-train usage:

<http://www.kickstarter.com/projects/miselu/c24-the-music-keyboard-for-ipad>

Gestrument and Poly are my current favorite apps for generative music.

As for multitrack recording, there are plenty of users who record and mixdown on Auria, Cubasis, etc. You just have to do the common sense stuff like switch to Airplane Mode, kill all background apps that you don't need, tweak your audio buffer frame size, etc.

My workflow changes from project to project. Currently I am processing some audio I took from a Youtube video of after-storm footage, trying to make that into a piece. I'm using it with Turnado, which is, like our beloved Octatrack, great for radically altering audio.

Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by Bathrobe - 2013/09/20 17:32

Tarekith wrote:

If you want to drive Nave from the A4, then you need to get MIDI into the iPad, and currently that can only be done via the USB camera Connctor Kit Apple sells, and a compatible MIDI USB interface. That's why I mentioned the USB options.

i thought the a4 does not drive external synths.

but if it does then you could also connect the a4 to a mac or pc(using the free rtpmidi) via a midiinterface and route the midi via wifi (adhoc or router) to the ipad.

or the other way around. playing musix pro on the ipad to controll hardware synths.

What i really like right now is controlling Nerve on my notebook with the Lemur template from Steve Duda.

That workflow really feels like controlling a machinedrum or octatrack, except for for the noisy and clicky stepbuttons and encoders.

Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by namnibor - 2013/09/20 18:24

Bathrobe wrote:

Tarekith wrote:

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That workflow really feels like controlling a machinedrum or octatrack, except for for the noisy and clicky stepbuttons and encoders.

The *sequencer on the A4* will not output/drive external synths via midi (yet)! If you hook-up a hardware synth module/rack/whatever to the midi out port of A4 you can PLAY that external module with the A4 mini keys--just have to make changes on that external synth you want for tweaking parameters, changing programs, and also of course, making sure your midi channel set-up is configured correctly to receive on that synth. I only did it "accidentally" and surprised the heck out of me but have also remembered reading over past 8 months as a lurker on this forum that it could be done as aforementioned.

I can report that the new Behringer iStudio iS202 works flawlessly as a dock with many great features and seems really well made. UNLIKE the Alesis ioDock, the Behringer iStudio can handle both MIDI and yes, SYS EX data, meaning not only your apps, but integrating external synth racks/modules via either internal audio within apps and Audiobus App, or via midi via DIN midi in and outs, you can also have the USB connected to your PC/MAC for midi into your DAW of choice OR audio out from the iStudio via two separate channels placed/input to your audio interface or a hardware multi-track recorder--however one works...even feeding an Octatrack, or running through effects bus on A4, etc.

Still learning the QuNexus and Midi Expander from Keith McMillen Instruments and will just say it's an amazingly expressive way to play NAVE and someone in Europe told me it's quite wonderful with Animoog as well as THOR. Remember that the QuNexus has cv/gate in and 3 separate cv outs, making a great midi/cv nexus and further extend the A4 cv track possibilities.

All the above are relatively inexpensive peripherals and these are USD\$ prices: Behringer iStudio \$149. QuNexus \$149. Midi Expander \$49. collectively, cheaper than buying a good midi controller keyboard.

I do not recommend the Akai Synthstudio for iPad because you are locked into using their program/app and it not only does not work properly and have not updated anything, but the MPC style pads simply do not work on anything more than their own inclusive program and probably reason it's now so cheap. There's other options out there that allow iPad to rest on a midi controller keys, but most only have midi over usb for PC/MAC with either no midi DIN at all or only midi out DIN port only.

Lastly, by end of year, Behringer will have Apple Certified the iS202L, which is exactly the same as the iStudio iS202 but made for iPads with newer Lightening connector. The former works with 30 pin iPad 1,2,3

Check out Vanderson on YouTube using the iStudio with his set-up http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5R_C4WgbGbA

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AIUjIncu9bY>

Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by recyclinglostcities - 2013/09/21 05:16

Just thought I'd add in a little discovery I made recently: you do not need an iDevice to integrate your iPad into your workflow.

I'm running an old Alesis MultiMix8 (with USB 1.1) and a USB/midi adaptor into a powered USB hub, which goes out to the iPad via the CCK. With this setup, I can run audio into the mixer to sample in Samplr, use Lemur as a midi controller,

and play or sequence my iOS synths with my external gear from the same connection. Yesterday I was experimenting with using an acoustic guitar via Midimorphosis to play parts on the MNM.

It isn't as elegant as some of the dock solutions out there, and I can't charge iPad in this setup. However: 1) it works, which doesn't seem to be the case with a lot of the things marketed for the iPad, 2) there isn't really much on the market to work with the iPad 4 anyhow, and 3) it gives me one slight advantage over a more desirable solution like the iConnectMidi4+ in that I don't need a computer to pass audio in or out of my setup.

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Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by namnibor - 2013/09/21 05:41

Really cool solution! No, nothing has to be "elegant" but like you, I did not want to be slaved to having to run signal through my PC and DAW in order to use my iPad2, and with the iS202 I have not had the need to do that due to fact I primarily record audio rather than midi but when that is needed for say, some DAW automation, at least it's there.

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Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by Ozone - 2013/09/21 16:15

I have had the iS202 for about 5 months now. Works well, audio quality better than the headphone out and compact / reliable. Midi works great and sysex abilities make the Alesis dock seem half baked for midi applications.

Before this I used the cck with a hub connected to a sound card and midi interface. Yah it worked but felt so dicky and unprofessional. I hated that the cck would fall out of the iPad 3 at the slightest movement, and having USB cables going everywhere wasn't pretty. Plus no ability to charge iPad while in use.

My only (non audio) based gripe with the iStudio is that they included a composite video out, which works fine, but really should have been a HDMI adaptor instead.

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Re:iPad user opinions on workflow

Posted by namnibor - 2013/09/21 18:22

Good to hear! Behringer has the midi and sysex experience under them with the BCR and that too was important to me because Alesis may have made some good products in past, after the Andromeda Analog Synth, what followed were indeed innovative synths such as the Ion and Fusion, but the midi, sysex, and NRPN end of things was and is left a bit incomplete.

Last night my iPad 2 decided it was time to update to iOS 7 when I was connected to iTunes and it made me even happier knowing went with iS202 because do not know how quick IN-MUSIC, the parent company of Alesis, Akai, Numark even update their software.

Cool thing about Behringer is it does not require a driver or software other than the iPad itself.

Yeah, the composite video outs could have been HDMI but am thinking that either would have made it more expensive or longer road than it already took in acquiring official Apple Certification, of which, they are still awaiting Apple Certification for their iS202L for iPads with Lightning connector and by the way, THAT dock will be exactly LIKE one we have BUT will NOT have any video out option, so *at least it's there* but honestly do not see a scenario where I will use it but again, nice to have that option.

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