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## to many synths, not enough input

Posted by sovietpop - 2013/08/08 00:28

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Does anyone have any recommendation for a good mixer to route my hardware synth ?

Unfortunately i don't have a big budget right now (new dad) and i am looking for something flexible like a 4 bus + aux so i can route my synths to the Octatrack or the daw for recording.

I understand most mixer only have mono aux send so its no good on stereo channel if i want to use an aux to feed the Octatrack. Is there any cheap line mixer that could to the job ?

I don't really need preamps and EQ to be honest, just a way to route my hardware synths without trouble without using the computer if i want to.

A patch bay would be cheaper i guess but i will need a bunch of cables anyway + the patchbay so i am not sure if its that much cheaper.

Thanks for any advice.

I have :

- 1-Elektron A4
- 2-Elektron Octatrack
- 3-Elektron Monomachine
- 4- Elektron Machinedrum
- 5- Korg ms20 mini
- 6- sq80
- 7- Creamware Noah
- 8- DSI tetra (probably going for sale)
- 9- Nord Modular G2

And i would like to use the input of the Octatrack and the Nord G2 for FX.

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## Re:to many synths, not enough input

Posted by skylab001 - 2013/08/08 00:38

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A mackie LM3204, the best hardware keyboard mixer in my opinion, and I'm not biased or anything because I have one for sale in the buy/sell/trade right now. :laugh: really though, they are great every input is stereo, but can be used mono as well.

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## Re:to many synths, not enough input

Posted by chad@pa - 2013/08/08 00:57

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While possibly limiting you could easily daisy chain your Quadrinity of Elektrons so that the A4, MnM, and MD go into OT inputs AB.

Audio:

MS20mini -> MnM -> MD -> A4 -> OT AB

MIDI OUT/THRU:

OT -> A4 THRU (A4 CV out to MS20) -> MnM THRU -> MD

Then create a similar daisy chain into your G2 Modular with the remaining gear. Depending on how you want to sync devices and chain.

Daisy chaining can be fun, maybe a bit of a head scratch at first but it does seem like your devices have enough external inputs to do it, leaving your OT as your master mixer device.

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Good luck & Cheers,  
Chad

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## Re:to many synths, not enough input

Posted by sovietpop - 2013/08/08 02:07

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skylab001 wrote:

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Ho ! looks like what i need ! :)

Too bad i'm in Canada ....

I guess its kinda heavy ? Would you ship it to Canada ?

Thanks for the suggestion .

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## Re:to many synths, not enough input

Posted by sovietpop - 2013/08/08 02:13

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Hey thanks for your suggestion.

Maybe i could try something like that.

But its not ideal for multitrack recording though its a great idea for live.

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## Re:to many synths, not enough input

Posted by EmTeX - 2013/08/08 03:09

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i had the same "problem" to find a mixer for my hardware gear. (MDUW mk2, OT, A4 + Kp3, Boss Re-20) but after some research i bought a midas venice u16. this mixer has all i nedd + 8x8 usb soundcard in midas quality (too bad midas isn't bulit in the uk anymore but they still sound awesome)

i have all my seperate outs from the MD on mono Channels on my mixer for direct dub action with the send fx stereo out from md to a stero in on the mixer

OT and A4 stereo to the mixer

sometimes the a4 goes thru the Ot for some resampling

i like this way of working

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## Re:to many synths, not enough input

Posted by skylab001 - 2013/08/08 05:44

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I honestly don't remember it being that heavy, but it's lived in a rack in the studio the entire time I've had it. I would consider shipping it to Canada. PM me if you want to discuss it in more detail.

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## Re:to many synths, not enough input

Posted by sovietpop - 2013/08/16 22:08

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skylab001 wrote:

I honestly don't remember it being that heavy, but it's lived in a rack in the studio the entire time I've had it. I would consider shipping it to Canada. PM me if you want to discuss it in more detail.

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Thanks skylab001, i was considering the Mackie but its not exactly what i am looking for finally.

I will probably pull the trigger for a second hand StudioLive 16.4.2 for 970 \$.  
I think its a really good price for a mixer with 16 channels / 6 aux and 4 sub with firewire.

Maybe its a little overkill for studio use but its the only thing i found in my price range  
if i want flexible routing and im gonna be able to replace that maudio fast track ultra 8r.  
I guess i could just use a sound card for 16 channels but its going to cost me about the same and a mouse is needed for routing stuff.

I will probably take it tonight but i have to think a little more about it.

thanks.

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## Re:to many synths, not enough input

Posted by anselmi - 2013/08/17 23:58

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some of the big mackie onyx will give you a lot of routing and better yet up to 16 recording channels via firewire

this is great to have it all mixed in hardware and then just record everything in a single take but still got independent tracks in your computer for further processing and mixing

I think that is you can stretch to ths budget it worth the extra money

the Allen & Heath Zed R16 is another excellent option...more expensive thought

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## Re:to many synths, not enough input

Posted by sovietpop - 2013/08/19 22:40

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Fixed my problem !! :)

I've bought a second hand absolutely mint Presonus LiveStudio 16.4.2 for 970 \$

-6 aux (post and pre + can also be stereo linked for any channels) and 4 sub groups so i can route audio to my Octatrack, Nord G2 and A4 and ms20

-It sounds amazing TBH and the preamps are very nice.

-32-in/18-out FireWire is enough for me and there is plenty of routing option for all my gears.

-Its not too big and weight around 23 lbs so its kinda mobile.

-Lots of light, looks like a control panel from Nasa when its dark and i like that :P

-Converters are nice, anyway its better than my Maudio Fast track ultra 8R

- For the price i am very happy, the R16 looked amazing but its too costly for me unfortunately.

Anyway thanks for all the advice and no more synth for me, i have enough, don't need more gears, i am serious, no more synth ..... must resist and be strong. yep

cheers

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## Re:to many synths, not enough input

Posted by DeckardTrinity - 2013/08/20 06:19

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The Presonus is 16 mono or stereo channels in?

I've had my eye on the Behringer X32 Rack (\$1500) ever since it was announced at NAMM this year. Sounds like the perfect solution for the routing problem (which I share), but want to wait til enough people field test it first before I decide to replace my Alesis 16 channel USB 2.0 mixer.

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## Re:to many synths, not enough input

Posted by dionysiananarchy - 2013/08/20 09:17

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i have a great soundcraft mixer i am selling, over 20 ins, 4 aux sends, plus main outs,

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## Re:to many synths, not enough input

Posted by sovietpop - 2013/08/20 12:45

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DeckardTrinity wrote:

The Presonus is 16 mono or stereo channels in?

I've had my eye on the Behringer X32 Rack (\$1500) ever since it was announced at NAMM this year. Sounds like the perfect solution for the routing problem (which I share), but want to wait til enough people field test it first before I decide to replace my Alesis 16 channel USB 2.0 mixer.

Yhea, the x35 rack looks awesome tbh but too bad there is no combo jack (only xlr) so you need a DI box for each unbalanced synth plus xlr 1/4 cables ?

Edit : in fact there is 3 stereo line in only.

Edit2: maybe

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