

# cm/recommends

The best new gear from the last three issues...



## Propellerhead **Record** £229

Rating 9/10

Reviewed **cm143**

Contact Sound Technology, 01462 480 000

Web [www.propellerheads.se](http://www.propellerheads.se)

**What is it?** A self-contained recording program that can also 'merge' with Reason (if you also have it installed) to form one super-app. The big selling points of Record are its fuss-free interface, rock-solid performance, excellent on-the-fly timestretching and a terrific-sounding mixer that emulates an SSL console. There's a built-in 'songwriter's' ROMpler, as well as awesome virtual guitar and bass amps from Line 6.

**Verdict** "At its best when used alongside Reason, but this is a very solid start for Record"



## Apple **Logic Pro 9** £399

Rating 10/10

Reviewed **cm143**

Contact Apple UK, 0800 0480 408

Web [www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com)

**What is it?** An update to Apple's ever-popular Mac-only DAW, this one took us by surprise, as it was entirely unannounced prior to launch day. Logic Pro 9 remains part of the Logic Studio bundle, and highlights include enhanced audio editing functions, all-new virtual guitar amps and effects, and the beautifully implemented Flex Time system, which enables you to warp audio as you see fit.

**Verdict** "Logic Studio remains fantastic and feature-stuffed, and Logic Pro 9 is perhaps the best all-round DAW"



## Akai **APC40** £399

Rating 10/10

Reviewed **cm141**

Contact Akai Pro, 01252 341 400

Web [www.akaipro.com](http://www.akaipro.com)

**What is it?** The best controller we've ever used, the APC40 is a dedicated device for controlling Ableton Live. You can launch clips, control levels, tweak panning and send amounts, manipulate plug-ins and lots more. The backlit buttons and LED-encrusted knobs make it a doddle to keep informed about what you're actually doing, and the whole thing is so damned intuitive that the inclusion of a manual is really just a formality. Astounding!

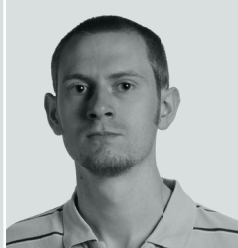
**Verdict** "Without peer in the Live controller market, this is essential for Ableton Live users"

## What we've been using this month



Ronan Macdonald  
Editor

With Logic Pro 9's Flex Time system, Apple have finally got with the program and introduced elastic audio to the DAW that I call 'home'. Where's the 64-bit and OpenCL support, though?



Lee du-Caine  
Deputy Editor

Some say it's unnatural, but I'm addicted to playing the *Blockbusters* theme on my C-Thru Music AXIS-49 - the logical note layout is certainly helping to bust my writer's block.



Tim Cant  
Multimedia Editor

I've been risking heartbreak by messing around with a real player - NI's new Kontakt Player, specifically. It's not particularly emotionally available, but it certainly has a large soundbank.



Craig Hitchings  
Production Assistant

I'm absolutely pumped to be using Vengeance-Sound's excellent Multiband Sidechain - I've even been sidechaining my guitar creatively with drum tracks.