

cm/recommends

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



Native Instruments £299 **Maschine Mikro** PC MAC

Rating 9/10
Reviewed **cm**172
Contact 2Twenty2, 0845 299 4222
Web www.native-instruments.com

What is it? A slimmed-down version of Native Instruments' mighty Maschine groovebox, this package combines a more compact controller with the exact same software as the full-size variant, all weighing in at a reduced price point. Pretty much all the functionality - and all of the fun - has been retained in one form or another, and we even preferred the pads on this more portable effort.

Verdict "This shrunken Maschine is everything you'd expect it to be, and crucially, it retains the fun factor of the big 'un."



Dmitry Sches **Diversion** \$180 PC

Rating 9/10
Reviewed **cm**173
Contact Via website
Web www.diversion-synth.com

What is it? A soft synth that puts quality at the top of its priority list, this debut effort from Dmitry Sches really impressed us with its super-clear and very modern sound. On the features front, you get four oscillators with novel X/Y timbre controls, frequency and ring modulation, some of the most comprehensive filters we've ever seen, and some excellent-sounding effects. Oh, and there are over 200 great presets.

Verdict "Recommended to preset lovers and hardcore sound designers alike, this is a great, thoroughly contemporary synth."



iZotope **Ozone 5** £169/£539 PC MAC

Rating 10/10
Reviewed **cm**174
Contact Time+Space, 01837 55200
Web www.izotope.com

What is it? A mastering suite with seven modules, Ozone 5 overhauls pretty much every aspect of what was already one of the best such products we'd ever encountered. Now available as standard and Advanced editions, some of our favourite additions are new EQ curve shapes; a splendid new maximiser mode, IRC III; knee control for the dynamics; a stereoiser effect; and individual plug-ins for the Advanced version.

Verdict "This massive update takes Ozone to another level, keeping apace with the best of today's mixing and mastering software." **cm**

What we've been using this month



Lee du-Caine
Editor

I'm normally quite eco-conscious, but environmental concerns have gone out the window this month as I've pumped my tracks full of Ozone, iZotope's excellent mastering (and mixing!) suite.



Tim Cant
Features Editor

I've always been a lad with an eye for a pleasing curve, and DDMF's IIEQPro has got more curves than you can enthusiastically shake a stick at. When I'm done ogling its lovely form, I'm glad to hear that it sounds rather good, too!



Caity Foster
Production Editor

I've been letting my more traditional creative side free with Notion, an iPad app that allows you to keep the London Symphony Orchestra in your pocket. From sonatas to sarabandes, there's been no stopping the music...