

PREHISTORIC STRINGS



USER MANUAL



"Discover how to visit the past and bring yesterday's stories into our lives today"

Gillian Hovell

The Crow Hill Company thanks you for your purchase. Designed by professional composers with the sonic connoisseur in mind.

We're a small team and have worked hard to make everything as intuitive as possible. Our hope is this user manual can offer further help to best explain how to install and use our plugin.

In order to help you make music, your music, we have taken time to make this affectionate user manual get the best out of your purchase.

However if you find yourself still stuck with anything we have a great set of FAQ and videos at:

thecrowhillcompany.com/faqs

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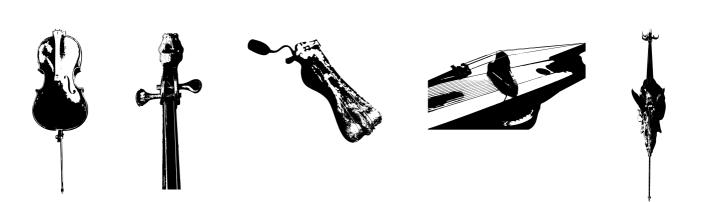
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WHATS IN THIS BOX MR CROW?

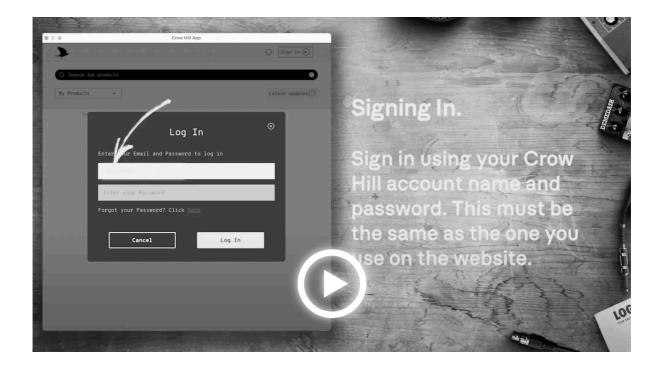
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A TOTALLY UNIQUE STRING LIBRARY BUILT FROM ONE-OF-A-KIND BESPOKE INSTRUMENTS TO GIVE YOUR STRING COLLECTIONS HORNS, TEETH AND A FEW ANCIENT BONES THROWN IN FOR GOOD MEASURE.

As part of our ongoing relationship with our friends at BLEEDING FINGERS, we're delighted to bring to you Prehistoric Strings. It's a string library like no other made from totally unique inventions; hybrid monstrosities to create tones that are primordial, haunting, and staggeringly beautiful in their truly primitive nature.





Installation of Crow Hill products couldn't be easier courtesy of our dedicated installer app.

Make sure you have this downloaded as you will require this to install Glass Strings.

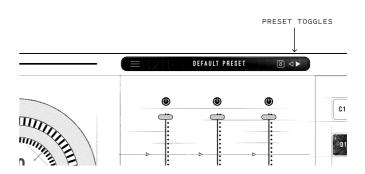
We've also prepared a simple overview of how the app works but also a suite of quick installation guides specific to your choice of DAW.

Everything you'll need is located here:

thecrowhillcompany.com/crow-hill-app

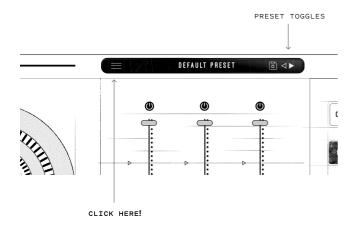
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All of the treasures found in this collection work directly in your D.A.W. If you want to get up and running quickly or audition some presets, simply load the plug-in, navigate to the top preset panel, and click the menu to see the fully integrated expression browser.



Whilst we'd encourage you to mess around with all the controls. The preset toggles will move you forward and backward through the different presets.

THE BROWSER WINDOW

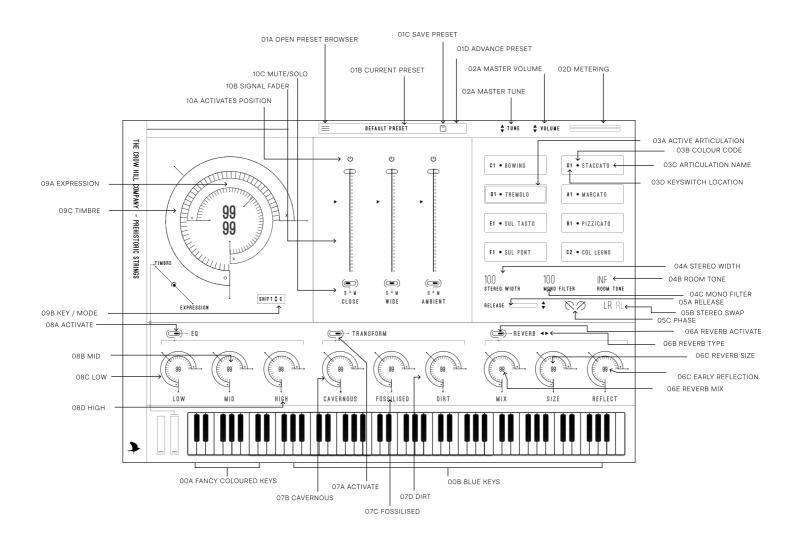


Whilst you can work your way through the presets using the arrow toggles there is also a way of getting to where you want even faster. By opening the preset browser panel.

FRONT PANEL OVERVIEW

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00 KEYBOARD

00A FANCY COLOURED KEYS - Denotes keyswitch location(s) 00B BLUE KEYS - The range of the articulation keyswitched

01 PRESET WINDOW

01A PRESET BROWSER - Opens preset browser

01B CURRENT PRESET - Indicates preset selected

O1C SAVE PRESET - Saves changes you have made to user location

O1D PRESET TOGGLE - Advances to next / previous preset

02 MASTER CONTROLS

02A MASTER TUNE - Tunes whole instrument

02B MASTER VOLUME - Changes volume of whole instrument

02C METERING - Shows you when you overall output level

03 ARTICULATIONS / KEYSWITCHES

03A ACTIVE ARTICULATION - Shows articulation determined by 00A

03B COLOUR CODE - Shows which Key colour belongs to that articulation

03C ARTICULATION NAME - Articulation (double click to select)

03D KEY-SWITCH LOCATION - Displays key location (click to select)

04/05 ADVANCED MASTER CONTROLS

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{O4A}}$ STEREO SPREAD - Adjusts Stereo Width of the instrument

04B ROOM TONE - Amount of included Room Tone (aka Noise)

04C MONO FILTER - Adjusts frequency at which signal folds to mono

05A RELEASE - Adjusts release envelope times (applies to longs only)

05B PHASE - Inverts phase of the instrument

05C STEREO SWAP - Swaps the channel assignment of the instrument

06 REVERB

06A REVERB ACTIVATE - Bypasses or activates effect

06B REVERB TYPE - Toggles Reverb Algorithm

06C REVERB SIZE - Adjusts time manipulation of the Reverb signal

06D REVERB REFLECT - Adjusts overall decay length

06D REVERB MIX - Midday = 50/50 dry/mix

07 TRANSFORM

07A BYPASS - Switches off the harvest

07B CAVERNOUS - It's not a reverb, it's not a delay, what is it?

07C FOSSILISED - Epic transformations that echo the sands of time.

07D DIRT - Or "Dad", a whole mid-life crisis in one simple dial.

08 EQ

08A ACTIVATE - Switches EQ on or off

08B MID - Boosts / Cuts amount of mid-range

08C LOW - Boosts / Cuts amount of low frequencies

08D HIGH - Boosts / Cuts amount of high-range

09 PERFORMANCE CONTROLS

08A EXPRESSION - Attenuates your performance (defaults CC11)

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{O8B}}$ KEY/MODE - (Gestures only) pitch shifts to key/mode you're playing in

08C TIMBRE - Crossfades dynamic layers or utilises dynamic filtering

10 MICROPHONE MIXER

10A ACTIVATES - Switches on/off signal (indicates when live)

10B FADER - Adjusts signal volume

10C SOLO/MUTE - Toggles Solo/Mute

TROUBLESHOOTING

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I Can't Hear Anything!

As much as we all love John Cage, we are sure you want to hear your instrument. Included in each instrument are a few utilities that can be used to diagnose some likely causes.

Each plug-in has a combination of ways to control the overall volume.

- Ensure Expression (CC11) is at its maximum value.
- If included, check that the mixer controls are not set to -Infinity or muted (m).
- Check that your Master Output Volume is not set to its minimum value (- Infinity).

This can be quickly checked by looking at the Volume Meter, which should be moving while sound is passing through your instrument.

Still no luck?

If you have tried the above and still hear nothing, the onscreen MIDI keyboard can be directly played by Left-Clicking a piano key in the user interface.

If you can now hear the instrument then the issue is likely the connection between your MIDI keyboard and your workstation's associated track.

Ensure there are no loose connections, triple-check your MIDI input settings, and remember to arm your track.

Help! My Plug-In's interface is entirely blank.

Don't worry. Looks can be deceiving, this means the plug-in is unable to locate the audio (.blob) files.

Ensure your external drives are connected and restart your digital audio workstation (D.A.W).

Unable to locate your .blob files, lost track of where you installed them, or had the misfortune of misplacing a drive? Simply re-run the installer to be up and running in no time.

We recommend frequent back-ups of your system, as well as archiving your instrument installer files to ensure a speedy recovery should it ever be needed.

How Do I Relocate My Instruments Audio Files?

The simplest way to relocate your instrument's audio files (.blob) is to delete the previous files (where you previously installed your .blob's) and re-run the installer, selecting the newly desired install location.

This ensures no files are accidentally removed and will automatically overwrite any pre-existing instrument files.

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