

# Virtuosic Violin - User Manual

By Auddict

The *virtuosic violin* by Auddict is a content-rich instrument, with many different articulations, legato modes, and other features, and much like a real violin, takes a little care to ensure you get the most out of the instrument. Luckily, everything in this instrument has been skilfully programmed to ensure everything is easily and readily accessible, to minimize any "learning time", and let you get on to writing music with *virtuosic violin* as soon as possible.

## Phrase Builder

The phrase builder module is a little concept we have developed to ensure that musical phrases can be carefully shaped and crafted. You can select the "attack" of a phrase, and from there on, switch between any of the available legato modes.

### Attack

For example, with the virtuosic violin, you can select one of the following phrase "attacks":

1. Normal - This uses the normal sustain sample. A normal bow.
2. Stutter - A short quick stuttered note before the main note (same pitch)
3. Crescendo - A true-sampled bowed crescendo/build into the main sustain note
4. FP - A loud sharp attack, followed by a sudden drop to a softer dynamic, followed by a crescendo/build back to the normal dynamic/volume.
5. Marcato - A more pronounced, hard attack.

These are selectable via the first five (red) keyswitches on the keyboard, and will sound only at the beginning of each musical phrase you play, and will not return as long as you continue to play legato.

### Legato

Once you have selected your attack for a particular phrase, you can choose which legato to use. There are four available modes. The first two are crucial to creating a realistic violin sound - the slurred legato, and the bowed legato.

Slurred legato, is the transition from one note to another simply by the player playing a new note without changing bow direction or consistency. Bowed legato involves the play changing the bow direction for the new note, creating a more pronounced transition.

Both of these are important, as the violinist will continually have to change bow direction throughout a piece, so you will have to tactfully use these. A good way to start out, aside from listening and observing great performers, is to use the bowed stroke on more accented/on-beat notes, tactfully. Experiment with the sound!

## **Release**

At the end of the phrase, you may choose to use the true release samples we have available, which can be turned on and off at the bottom of the instrument GUI. These simply play the real decay of the note which was recorded in the original hall. A sort of natural reverb tail when a note is released.

## **Mic Positions**

There are three available, mixable mics/positions available with this instrument. These are the ribbon mic, condenser mic, and stage pair.

When recording a musician in a studio or hall, it is important, in order to obtain the perfect performance and recording for your project, that you can audition different mics, and we wanted to incorporate a similar creative freedom in this instrument. So, you can now choose between a very beautiful, warm and rounded ribbon mic sound - something we absolutely love, and are slightly biased to! - and also a very clean large-diaphragm condenser mic which faithfully re-produces the crystalline details of the instrument. You may even choose to mix these positions, and pan them around to see what sort of interesting perspectives, effects and stereo images you can achieve.

There is also a stage pair which can be widened and narrowed by dragging the microphones at the bottom of the GUI.

## **One-shot articulations**

On the right of the instrument, we have a vast selection of one-shot articulations, separate from the phrase builder and legato portion of the instrument. They include harmonics, tremolo, trills, various combinations of grace notes, some octave swipes, pizzicato, spiccato, staccato-on-string (staccato played without removing the bow from the string) and chords.

We can't say much more here other than try them out! The "longs" are longer sustained notes, and "shorts" are shorter articulations, such as spiccato. The longs also have true release samples, which again you may choose to turn on and off via the control in the bottom left of the GUI.

## **Controlling Dynamics**

You can control the dynamics of the longs with either the mod wheel (MIDI CC1) or expression (MIDI CC11), depending on what you have selected with the button in the bottom right, and you can control the shorts' dynamics with velocity.