



HOMELESS PIANO

for Kontakt 7

Destroyed Grand Piano With Its Unheard Music

by Atom Hub

"During my urban exploration wanderings, I stumbled upon an abandoned recreational complex - a large lodge made up of two main buildings, surrounded by several smaller holiday cabins. To my considerable surprise, inside one of the buildings - beyond the crumbling ground-floor kitchen and the guest rooms on the upper floors - I discovered a former common room holding an unexpected sight...

A ruined, shattered grand piano, overturned and lying upside down in the middle of the room.

Its detached keyboard lay a short distance away on the musty carpet. Scattered across the floor were fragments that had once belonged to this noble musical instrument. A nearby balcony window stood wide open, allowing a fresh breeze to drift inside through a tattered curtain that swayed back and forth.

Silence.

Broken only now and then by the creaking of old beams or the sound of wings as a bird briefly fluttered into one of the rooms.

I stepped up to the piano and tried to brace myself against it, wondering if I could manage to tip it onto its side. It was incredibly heavy, but it moved. My mind was made up. Over the next two weeks, I returned to the piano several times - backpack loaded with microphones - to try and capture the sound of its exposed strings and battered body.

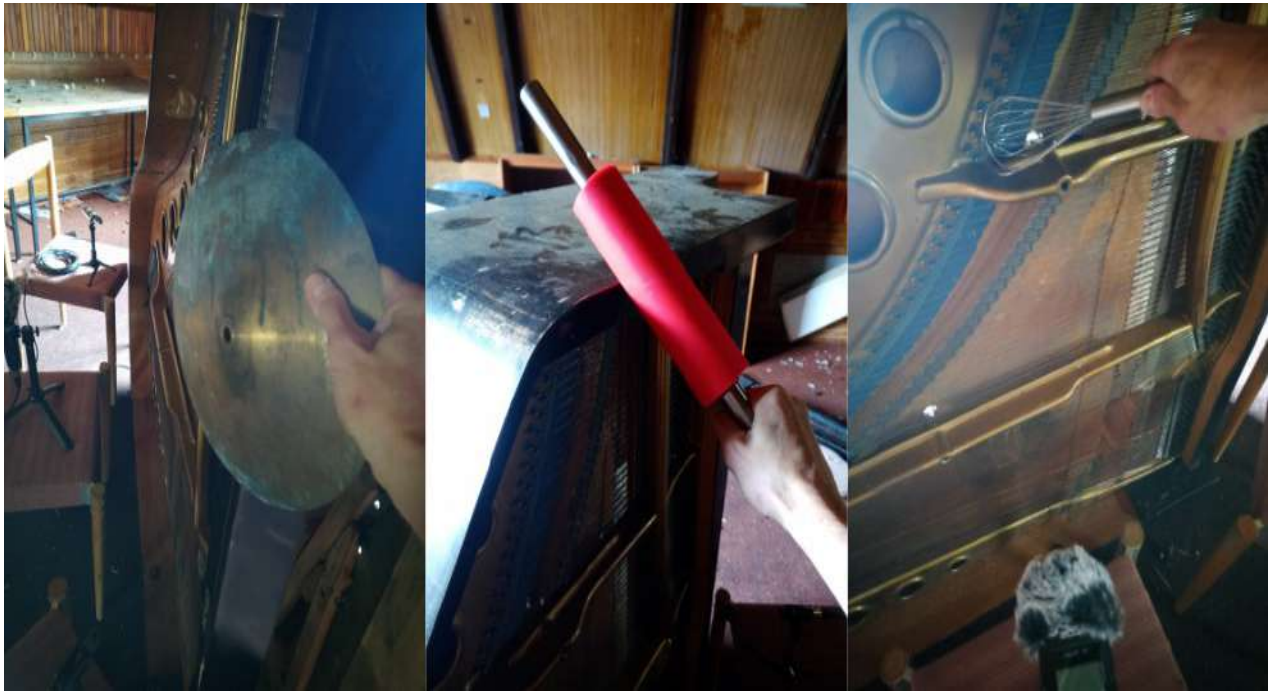
And now, you can discover and share with the world music that was never meant to be heard again - music that was destined to remain forever trapped within its lifeless frame."

BASIC CHARACTERISTIC

- A 7 octave grand piano for creating nostalgic, melancholic, weird & strange piano music
- Additional collection of atonal and percussive sounds & effects
- All sounds recorded with a condenser microphone, resulting in a high-quality mono signal + a pair of other condensers from a distance giving sound more room, darkness & stereo width
- Percussive sounds & atonal sound effects recorded also with a pair of contact microphones, resulting in a stereo sound image
- Completely untuned, original set of keys as well as slightly and fully tuned sets

SPECIFICATION

- 16 bit / 44,1 kHz wav format
- 1,84 GB installed
- 12 basic original patches (tone sets)
- 130 derived single patches
- 30 multi patches
- Kontakt 7.10.9 and above full version required



ABOUT HOMELESS PIANO

"Homeless Piano" is a Petrof grand piano discovered during an urban exploration trip in a dilapidated holiday cabin deep in the woods. The instrument was missing its keyboard and top lid; I positioned it on its side before recording it. It contained 84 intact strings that were more or less out of tune. During the sampling process, I played the strings using the pads of my fingers, resulting in tones with a natural, long sustain.

The piano was recorded simultaneously using two sets of microphones: a condenser microphone positioned roughly in the center of the instrument, and a pair of other condensers placed several tens of centimeters away. The first microphone provides a clearer, fuller-sounding mono signal, while the pair adds a more dimensional, darker stereo component - an effect further enhanced by emphasizing the panning of individual notes, ranging from lower notes on the left to higher notes on the right. You can adjust the balance between them via the user interface.

In addition to the traditional grand piano sound, I brought along several tools and objects - such as a rolling pin, a drumstick, a cymbal, and a wire whisk - to coax a variety of sound effects and percussive sounds from the instrument. These were recorded using a condenser microphone, supplemented by a pair of contact microphones attached to the piano's resonating body. Contact microphones create the impression that the listener is positioned right "inside" the sound. As with the tonal sounds, this allows you to adjust the balance between the signals from these two sources.

The tones and sounds in this library are organized into several groups. In some, the samples are left in their raw, original state, while in others, they have been retuned to expand the library's versatility for various musical purposes. You can create eerie, off-key, or dramatic sounds for dark or horror-themed productions, as well as evocative, near-perfectly tuned tones for romantic or nostalgic scenes. You can find more details on this in the "Patches" section.

WHO IS IT FOR?

This library is perfect for anyone looking for a piano with an unconventional, quirky, or imperfect sound. It is a fresh, original instrument that will spark your imagination and add just the right ingredient to your composition.

USER INTERFACE AND CONTROLS



First, you can see some knobs, faders and tabs in the picture. Let us say something about them. Please look at the picture above.

SWITCHES (A) - tabs with the effect names (EQ, TAPE etc) serve as the ON/OFF buttons for the effects. When the effect is activated, the tab turns yellow.

Note: Envelope tab has only informative function and can not be switched on or off.

KNOBS (B) - All the effects have several parameters, which can be adjusted by turning these knobs. They use a vertical mouse movement, with the lowest to highest value from the left to the right.

KEYS (C) - The keys containing musical content are colored blue.

VOLUME FADERS (D) - The volume faders operate the level of the volume of the four sample groups. They also utilize a vertical mouse movement, with the lowest value at the bottom and the highest when fully up.

PAN FADERS (E) – These are corresponding to the nearby volume faders. These faders utilize a horizontal (left-right) mouse movement.

TUNE KNOBS (F) - Located under the pan faders, these knobs utilize a vertical mouse movement lowering the pitch when sliding down and raising it when sliding up.

Note: press CTRL and click with your mouse cursor over the fader (PC users) or command-click (MAC users) when in need of a quick reset to the default pitch or pan position)

SAMPLE GROUPS

GREEN MIC - condenser mic, close, mono

RED MICS - pair of condensers in a distance, or contact mics attached, stereo

TIP: Try changing the ratio of "GREEN" and "RED" and you will get different sound colors

EFFECTS accessible from the user interface

1. REVERB - gives the sound a spacious feel
2. LO-FI - degrades the bit depth of the signal
3. TAPE - simulation of a reel, various kinds of degradation of the sound
4. EQ - Low, Mid and High frequencies adjustment
5. ENVELOPE (ATTACK and RELEASE knobs) to adjust start and length of a sample
6. STEREO - makes the sound thinner or wider and spreads it out to the sides
7. FILTER - filters out higher frequencies, making the sound darker, more or less resonant
8. LIMIT - limits the signal, if it is being too loud and overdriven
9. DELAY - Psyche Delay effect repeating the signal in a unique way

TIP: Sometimes it is better to use the "LIMIT" button, other times to reduce the overall volume of the preset

NOTE: hovering your mouse cursor over each knob or tab will display a help text in the bottom part

of the window (if you have the “info feature” - (i) pictogram - activated in Kontakt by pressing "F9") Be also aware of the possibility of setting any knob to its default position by pressing CTRL and clicking with your mouse cursor over it (PC users) or command-clicking (MAC users)

PATCHES

Homeless Piano contains 12 basic patches in the BASIC subfolder of the "Instruments" folder. You will find it divided into three subfolders – PIANO, FX and PERCUSSION.

The PIANO folder contains the tonal content of the library, original sample material of the grand piano preserved in the condition in which it was sampled – rough and untuned „Original State“ patch.

There is a bit tuned version - „Slightly Tuned“ - to still preserve some „ugliness“, but being a lot more playable.

And finally there is „Tuned“ version that has been regularly tuned and „Tuned Smooth“ which has some „a bit sticking out“ samples removed and replaced to provide you with even smoother sound.

Note: However, you should still view these adjustments as approximate. Their goal was not to turn the Homeless Piano into a "beautiful-sounding instrument," but simply to give you a bit more flexibility in how you utilize its "imperfection." Its sound will still remain lo-fi, quirky, and full of flaws and imperfections.

FX folder - contains 4 original sets of atonal sounds produced by scratching, rubbing, or striking the piano strings with fingers or various implements.

PERCUSSIVE folder – contains 4 original sets of percussive sounds produced by tapping or banging the body of the piano with a hand or various implements.

In the DERIVED folder you will find 130 additional patches derived from the patches of the Basic category using all the various effects accessible from the user interface. These can immediately find a place in your production, or again - serve as a starting point for altering them to your liking.

Note: The Derived patches names contain the name of the sample set, which tells you from which basic ones they were derived, for example „Original State - Fading Jelly“ or „Tuned Smooth - Gentle & Dusty“. It is important, because it tells you whether you work with untuned or tuned samples.

Then you will find another 30 patches in the MULTI folder - these are combinations of more than one patch, giving you even more sound designs to use immediately.

Load and explore these patches, alter them and save the results in the "User" folder to store them safely, preserving the original patches intact.

LIST OF PATCHES

BASIC

-  Homeless Piano Original State
-  Homeless Piano Slightly Tuned
-  Homeless Piano Tuned Smooth
-  Homeless Piano Tuned

-  Homeless Piano Percussion 1
-  Homeless Piano Percussion 2
-  Homeless Piano Percussion 3
-  Homeless Piano Percussion 4

-  Homeless Piano FX 1
-  Homeless Piano FX 2
-  Homeless Piano FX 3
-  Homeless Piano FX 4

MULTI

-  Abandoned Love
-  Apparition On The Staircase
-  Brain Fog
-  Calling 911
-  Cold Castle Corridors
-  Complex Delusion
-  Creeping Evil
-  Dancing In The Afterlife
-  Dusty Romance
-  Evil Twin
-  Ghost Piano
-  Ghosts Of An Old Barn
-  Harvest Moon Ambient Piano
-  Haunted House
-  Chameleon
-  Inside The Milkshake
-  Into The Unknown
-  Kami Summoning Ritual
-  Metro 2026
-  Midnight Urbex
-  Nostalgic Past
-  Oymiakon
-  Piano In A Sweater
-  Piano With A Veil
-  Postcard From Pripyat
-  Space-Time Alphabet
-  The Puppet Moved
-  The Thing
-  Urbex Ballet Class
-  Wrapped In Hiss



DERIVED

 FX 1 - Insect Bullets 2 Octave Down	 Percussion 1 - Taiko III	 Tuned - Ambient Dusty Piano
 FX 1 - Insect Bullets	 Percussion 1 - Taiko	 Tuned - Ambient Piano
 FX 1 - Lizard Breath	 Percussion 1 - Tom's Percussion	 Tuned - Ambient Very Dusty Piano Fluttering
 FX 1 - Metal Birds 2	 Percussion 1 - Tribal	 Tuned - Ambient Very Dusty Piano
 FX 1 - Metal Birds	 Percussion 2 - Atari Bombing	 Tuned - Behind The Sanatorium Window
 FX 1 - Strange Echoes	 Percussion 2 - Cuckoo	 Tuned - Cozy Hissing Nostalgic
 FX 2 - Making Fire By Striking	 Percussion 2 - Hypewriter	 Tuned - Crystal Palace
 FX 2 - Pyromaniac 2	 Percussion 2 - Little Pebbles	 Tuned - Fading Memory
 FX 2 - Pyromaniac	 Percussion 2 - Molecules	 Tuned - Gamelan Marbles
 FX 2 - Screws & Strings	 Percussion 2 - Skier's Dream	 Tuned - Chorused Shiny & Stereo
 FX 2 - Unidentified Mass Moving	 Percussion 3 - Foley Palette	 Tuned - Chorused
 FX 3 - Pistolette On Steroids	 Percussion 3 - Chain Mechanism 2	 Tuned - Christmas
 FX 3 - Pistolette	 Percussion 3 - Chain Mechanism 3	 Tuned - Needles
 FX 3 - Reverbed	 Percussion 3 - Chain Mechanism	 Tuned - Old Documentary
 FX 3 - Scissors	 Percussion 3 - Metal Waves	 Tuned - Quite Nice Piano
 FX 3 - Unrest In The Pipeline	 Percussion 4 - Coal Loading	 Tuned - Something's Off
 FX 4 - Apples & Oranges	 Percussion 4 - Kitchenware Disaster	 Tuned - Underwater Scenery
 FX 4 - Detonation In The Pipeline	 Percussion 4 - Kitchenware Travels	 Tuned - Your Awfulness
 FX 4 - Electro Bubbles	 Percussion 4 - Kitchenware	 Tuned Smooth - Abandoned Saloon
 FX 4 - Knock Knock	 Percussion 4 - North Pole Idyllic Scene	 Tuned Smooth - Broken Radio Pad Choking
 FX 4 - Shuffle Them	 Slightly Tuned - Blown Away By The Wind	 Tuned Smooth - Broken Radio Pad
 Original State - Acid Room Piano	 Slightly Tuned - Circus Organ	 Tuned Smooth - Bumblebee Bass
 Original State - Blurred Vision	 Slightly Tuned - Dramatic Castle Tones	 Tuned Smooth - Carwolves
 Original State - Cross-Eyed Room Piano	 Slightly Tuned - Dusty Beauty	 Tuned Smooth - Distorted & Dusty Tape Mono 2
 Original State - Demonic Response	 Slightly Tuned - Dusty Room With A Mirror	 Tuned Smooth - Distorted & Dusty Tape Mono
 Original State - Devil Thirds	 Slightly Tuned - Dusty Room	 Tuned Smooth - Distorted & Dusty Tape
 Original State - Electromagnetic Flooding	 Slightly Tuned - Jewelry Box	 Tuned Smooth - Dusty Tape Pad
 Original State - Fading Jelly	 Slightly Tuned - Lucifer's Harp Rubbing	 Tuned Smooth - Flashes Of Tonality
 Original State - Freezing Cold	 Slightly Tuned - Music Box	 Tuned Smooth - Forgotten Melodica
 Original State - Hell's Bells	 Slightly Tuned - Psychedelic Breakfast	 Tuned Smooth - Gentle & Dusty & Modulated
 Original State - Infected Clarinet	 Slightly Tuned - Psychedelic & Dusty	 Tuned Smooth - Gentle & Dusty
 Original State - Left-Right Fumes	 Slightly Tuned - Pure & Nasty Stereo	 Tuned Smooth - Hissing Pad
 Original State - Lost In Metro	 Slightly Tuned - Pure & Nasty	 Tuned Smooth - Chocolate Pad
 Original State - Medieval Treatment	 Slightly Tuned - Rock Organ 2	 Tuned Smooth - Let Me Pour You Some Tones
 Original State - Mental Cell	 Slightly Tuned - Rock Organ 3	 Tuned Smooth - Mourning Fluffy
 Original State - Musty Notes	 Slightly Tuned - Rock Organ 4	 Tuned Smooth - Multidimensional Pan Flute
 Original State - Prison Bars	 Slightly Tuned - Rock Organ	 Tuned Smooth - Nice & Clean Enhanced Stereo
 Original State - Schizo Clock	 Slightly Tuned - Running Downstairs	 Tuned Smooth - Nice & Clean
 Original State - The Pad Of The Distant Past	 Slightly Tuned - Seventh Church	 Tuned Smooth - Reversed Like
 Original State - The Piano Has Been Drinking	 Slightly Tuned - Shiny & Chirping	 Tuned Smooth - Rocking Out
 Original State - Train From Nowhere Pad	 Slightly Tuned - Silent Movie Pad	 Tuned Smooth - Spikes
 Original State - Trembling Room Piano	 Slightly Tuned - Urbex Beauty In Entrance Hall	 Tuned Smooth - Wavering
 Percussion 1 - Table Tennisoid	 Tuned - 50's Gamelan Reverbed	
 Percussion 1 - Taiko II	 Tuned - 50's Gamelan	

Enjoy the HOMELESS PIANO!

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