



CHOIR
ESSENTIALS

Stevenson
SAMPLING

ABOUT STREZOV SAMPLING

STREZOV SAMPLING © is a division of STREZOV MUSIC PRODUCTIONS LTD. – a company created by George Strezov – orchestrator, composer and orchestra/choir contractor in Sofia, Bulgaria.

We have been sampling since December 2012 when we started out with Storm Choir 1 and throughout that time we learned and incorporated a lot into our products. Our team is passionate about sample libraries because at the end we are the first customers of the products – we are composers and arrangers working around the world. Our headquarters is based in Sofia, Bulgaria where we record the fantastic musicians and singers that breathe life into the tiny .wav files that we later include into Kontakt.

DISCLAIMER / PHILOSOPHY

We would like to note that, in our pursuit for more lively and natural samples, we tend to avoid a few things that are considered commonplace. We used some tuning inside Kontakt and manually edited all single tones in the instrument trying to make it as balanced as possible. However, our main goal is to keep the depth of the instrument dynamics. We embrace candid, lively samples that include some natural imperfections.

A MESSAGE FROM GEORGE STREZOV

Greetings everyone!

With heavy hearts, but still – we had to say goodbye to Storm Choir 1 – the library that originally put us on the world VST map all those years ago. Fully aware that this decision would impact some of the most vulnerable members of the community – the ones in need of entry level libraries, we knew we had to create something that can satisfy all their basic needs, as far as choirs are concerned. Always with this idea in mind, and utilizing everything we have learned about conceptualizing, recording and scripting choir libraries throughout our history, we are finally able to give all of you just that – a diverse, versatile, easily playable choir tool, able to perform in multiple fields on its own without any outside help.

Ladies and Gentlemen, we give you Choir Essentials! May this collection serve you well and bring you lots of fun and inspiration!

Kindest regards,

George

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Strezov". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left and then curves back under the name.

ABOUT CHOIR ESSENTIALS

Choir Essentials is a Kontakt library that uses and combines samples from our previous recorded choir libraries – Arva, Freyja, Wotan and Storm Choir Ultimate. Our goal was to create an all-round tool that combines all the best features from these products into one new simpler tool, which is “ready to go” in any composing situation.

Focusing on the ease of use we decided to shape the library with small but versatile number of patches and just some basic user controls so that you could get the best results right out of the box and without being overwhelmed by tons of options and controls to tweak.



As all of our other choir libraries, Choir Essentials consists of 3 microphone positions – “Close”, “Decca” and “Hall” all recorded separately, giving you the control over the sound. Each of these microphone positions can be turned on/off, muted or solo, or adjusted in volume and designated output.

You can use the Pan controls to place the signal in the stereo panorama. Use the Stereo Width control to adjust the width of the stereo field. When the two circles are overlapped at 100% , the signal becomes mono.

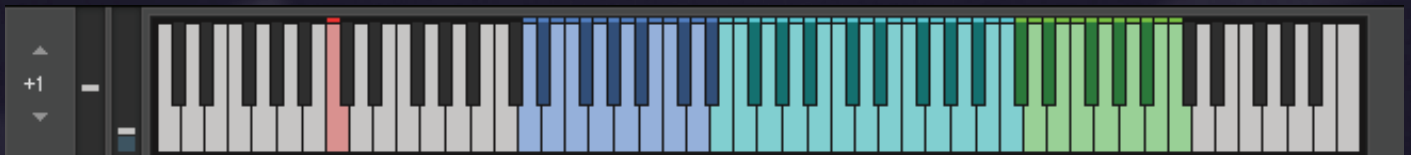
PERFORMANCE PATCHES

There are 4 Performance patches in the library, as each one consists of samples from our acclaimed choir libraries – Children performance patch (from Arva), Men performance patch (from Wotan), Women performance patch (from “Freyja”) and a Choir Ensemble performance patch (from “Storm Choir Ultimate”).

Each of these Performance patches consist of 5 syllables which are played in order as you trigger notes from your keyboard or DAW. By playing each patch, the default syllable cycle will be between these 5 syllables shown in the center panel. Each time you change a note or chord, the next syllable will be played. You have the option to exclude any of the syllables if you don't like the sound of it by simply clicking the circle before the syllable.

Each of the Performance patches have 3 different keyboard layouts which determine the way the different sections within the patch are placed on the keyboard. You could choose from the following:

- Normal (default) – both men and women sections positioned on their actual recorded and sounding octave pitch – default setting when opening the patch.
- Divided – both sections are moved apart in order not to overlap.
- In Octaves – both sections are overlapped and sounding in octave apart.



The color coding on the keyboard will help you see how the different layouts work as dark blue is the low section, light blue is the overlapping part and green is for the upper section.

You also have the option to adjust the amount of reverb with the “Reverb” slider, or you can turn it off completely if you'd like.

One other function within the Performance patches is the Velocity Dynamic Influencer. You can use this to adjust the amount of velocity influence on a single note's volume based on the individual note's velocity amount. This feature will increase or decrease the volume of a single note based on its value up to +/- 6dB. The higher the velocity from 64 will result in a louder note, the lower from 64 velocity will have a decrease in volume.

On the keyboard you will notice a keyswitch located on C0. This keyswitch will select the first syllable that should be played after resetting the Round Robin Cycle.

LEGATO PATCHES



In your Legato instrument folder you will find six patches. Two of those are taken from the Arva library (Children Altos and Children Sopranos), other two from Freyja (Altos and Sopranos) and two are from Wotan (Basses and Tenors).

The legato patches have a few additional options for you to choose from. You're able to turn ON/OFF the Legato overall, Overlapping Notes and Release samples functions (turned on by default). When the "Overlapping notes" is ON, you are using the polyphonic legato.

SUSTAINED NOTES – If switched on, all the played notes will be sustained, even if you release the key(s) from your keyboard. By default, it's assigned to MIDI CC#64 (Sustain Pedal) on all sustain/legato patches that do not have a divisi section, but you can use the RMB to assign it to a different MIDI controller.

NIENTE – If switched on, this will increase the dynamic range of the instruments by fading out the volume to $-\infty$ dB. **KS BASE KEY** – Hold down the LMB and drag up or down to set the base key for the keyswitches (on patches where they are available).

DYNAMICS – Click this button to start the MIDI learn function. The MIDI controller you choose will be used as a substitute for the MOD Wheel. Please note that you cannot detach the MOD Wheel from its original function, i.e. it will always control the dynamics along with the new controller.

ATTACK (AHDSR) – Set the AHDSR envelope’s attack portion of the short and sustain samples (not the legato transitions).

RELEASE (AHDSR) – Set the AHDSR envelope’s release portion of the short and release samples.

LICENSE AGREEMENT

When you purchase a product from “Strezov Sampling”, you obtain a unique download link for sound samples, loops and/or software from www.strezov-sampling.com.

However, we should point out that you ARE NOT obtaining ownership of the sound samples — you are purchasing only a valid license to use our products in your musical compositions — whether or not they are released commercially.

You agree to the full *Terms and Conditions* on our site.

PATCH LIST

PERFORMANCE PATCHES

- Children Performance
- Choir Ensemble Performance
 - Men Performance
 - Women Performance

LEGATO PATCHES

- Altos Legato
- Basses Legato
- Children Altos Legato
- Children Sopranos Legato
 - Sopranos Legato
 - Tenors Legato

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WITH THE FANTASTIC VOICES OF THE SOFIA SESSION CHOIR

Produced and conducted by
GEORGE STREZOV

Strezov