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XILS 3 LE

XILS-lab launches 'Limited Edition' soft synth

Grenoble, FRANCE: Due to overwhelming demand, XILS-lab has released a cost-conscious (€30.00 EURO) so-called 'Limited Edition' (full-featured, 'frozen' version) of its XILS 3 soft synth plug-in as of May 22, 2010...

XILS 3 LE is a Mac (OS X 10.3.9 and later; Audio Unit, VST, RTAS — Pro Tools 7.0 and later) **and PC** (Windows 7, Vista, and XP; VST, RTAS — Pro Tools 7.0 and later) **compatible matrix-style soft synth plug-in, based on the legendary EMS VCS3, a 1969-vintage monophonic three-VCO (voltage-controlled oscillator) analogue modular system** that arguably did more to change the face of the-then burgeoning British electronic music scene than any similar such instrument of its time; designed by Dave Cockerell (who went on to find further 'fame and fortune' as the brains behind Akai's popular S series of samplers), the VCS3 — nicknamed the 'Putney' in the US (after EMS' original HQ located in the namesake leafy London suburb) — quickly found favour with Europe's *avant-garde* (BBC Radiophonic Workshop, Brian Eno, Jean-Michel Jarre, Klaus Schulze, Tangerine Dream, *et al*), as well as more mainstream rock acts like Pink Floyd (*Dark Side Of The Moon*) and The Who ('Won't Get Fooled Again') as a result of its relative affordability (approximately £330.00 GBP), portability, and supreme sound source flexibility — thanks to its internal 16x16 pin matrix patch bay, reverberation unit, power amplifiers, and two speakers! Come 1979, unable to compete in an age of 'newfangled' programmable polyphonic synthesizers from Yamaha, Oberheim, and Sequential Circuits, the venerable VCS3's days were numbered — though today it's purportedly possible to have one custom-built in Germany for several-thousand Euros!

40 years after the VCS3's introduction, **XILS-lab's Xavier Oudin** — himself no stranger to soft synth development (Arturia anyone?) — **successfully 'cloned' its sought-after sound** (warm-sounding analogue-style oscillators; analogue curve-matching two- and self-oscillating four-pole dynamic filters; fast envelopes; noise generator; spring reverb; and ring modulator) **for the computer-based musical masses with the XILS 3, including a virtual version of the pin matrix, offering more routing possibilities than any other commercially available soft synth with over 450 'connection' permutations, plus an 'onboard' sequencer based on the once-groundbreaking, 1971-launched EMS Synthi Sequencer 256** (complete with five-octave, velocity-sensitive keyboard; 42-bit memory; forward and reverse play modes; and extensive — for its time — editing).

Says Oudin: **"Keeping the character of the VCS3 — doing a virtual instrument which sounded as close as possible to this model, but creating a new virtual synthesizer with its own character was my goal. I wanted to add a sequencer, and it was obvious to look at EMS products; their sequencer wasn't as simple as other sequencers of the time — such as those by ARP, for instance, because it had numerical memories at its heart, so 256 steps were available — not just eight or 16. I rethought this concept to make it easier to program in the computer world — a variable number of steps from two to 128 in order to easily create complex rhythms. Like the original, programming is achieved via the (virtual) keyboard (or any MIDI-connected keyboard) — advantageous and fun to use in a live performance!"**

Protected by a serial number — no USB dongle required, XILS 3 LE is a so-called 'Limited Edition' of the dongle-protected XILS 3 — effectively the first version (1.0.5) 'frozen in time' (without the new features introduced in v1.1.0 — namely, two new envelopes, LFO, S&H, sequencer editing, and new matrix connections) **for a reduced price of €30.00 EURO.** (A special upgrade is available to those wanting all the latest and future features of the award-winning XILS 3 for €109.00 EURO... note: this requires a USB dongle — iLok or eLicenser — to run.)

XILS 3 LE is available directly online (www.xils-lab.com) for €30.00 EURO!

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About XILS-lab (www.xils-lab.com)

Based in Grenoble, France, **XILS-lab** is a new music software company, founded by Xavier Oudin. Having developed some of the best-known virtual instruments and effects plug-ins in the market for various companies over the last 20 years, Oudin believes that a virtual effect or instrument is not only a mathematical algorithm, designed by and for PhD engineers, but a musical machine for musicians. XILS-lab likes to make virtual instruments and effects that inspire its users!