

Madrona Labs Aalto + Sensel Morph Thunder presets: notes

Here are a bit over thirty patches made specifically for Aalto and the Sensel Morph's Thunder overlay. To make setup simple, all of these presets use the first Morph preset from its default preset map. To send this setup to your Morph, just open the SenselApp and click "Send Map to Morph."

The two hex pads on the Thunder overlay are set up to send out MIDI controllers on MIDI channel 1 based on pressure. In MPE mode, channel 1 acts as the main channel and so the pressure affects all notes that are playing. The left hex pad (A) sends controller #22 and the right one (B) controller #25. The patches below use these for reverb, pitch bend and other effects.

To install the patches, copy the "Aalto+Morph" directory into your Aalto patches folder. On Mac OS, that folder is (home)/Music/Madrona Labs/Aalto. On Windows, it's (home disk)AppData/Roaming/Madrona Labs/Aalto.

enjoy!

Key presets

aalto+morph default:

This is a good starting point for making Aalto+Morph patches. It clearly maps all five of the Morph's dimensions of MPE control to simple changes in the sound.

pitch: oscillator pitch. Aftertouch/pressure: gate level. y: oscillator shape (square / sine / saw). left hex pad: reverb. right hex pad: delay.

audio rate pan: y: pan rate. z: pan amount. try two or more notes on the same pad!

FM noise: a lot going on here. Starting with noise + delay, we add FM for a wider palette. Left hex pad: reverb. Right hex pad: pitch bend.

hazy horns: pitch control of waveguide makes a pipe-like sound. y: mod index. left: reverb. right: detune.

marimba x3: three notes on each strip! It's done using the sequencer. y: note select. pressure: sustain.

morph cello: hit hard for bow attack. y: string position. left and right pads: nothing. hook them up to something! The right and left pad signals come out the "mod" and "x" outputs of the KEY module.

morph horn: simple horn sound. increase pressure to add noise.

naïve FM: considerate tones. left pad: octave shift + noise.

old growth: high harmonics in the trees. pressure: volume / FM / q. y: res cutoff. left: pitch bend. right: ratio dive.

pachinko: a sequenced arpeggio. y controls sequence offset. left pad: timbre. right pad: feedback.

pliable gleeps: weird but friendly FM barks. y controls sequence offset again. left hex pad: ratio shift. right pad: feedback.

plush lobby: curated collections of notes through four independent delays controlled by pitch. y: scrubs note in sequence. left pad: reverb. right pad: feedback.

pointy birds: o pointy pointy. y: sequence offset and pan. left: pitch and FM ratio. right: delay

radio birdchild: lush and spacey. y: tweet pitch . pressure: tweet speed. left: noise + feedback. right: pan.

secret santa: a noisy and versatile patch. FM tones with noise. y: ratio. left: reverb. right: ringing.

simple timbre: just three cords in this patch. volume, pitch and timbre.

solemn freakout: sink into some tones and delay. Left hex pad: ratio and feedback. right: delay time.

square haze: clear yet fuzzy. y: FM amount. left pad: noise. right: ratio dive.

star struck: mellow West Coast tones with long decay. left hex: outer space. right hex: FM frequency.

string howls: rich strings with vibrato. left : reverb + distortion.

string res: filter y and press for resonance. left: noise + space.

Sync presets

Note: all presets starting "sync" sync to your host clock and quantize the sequencer to ratios of the clock. You will only get sounds from these if you are running Aalto in a host with the transport running.

sync bongo pressure: pressure controls sequence rate! y: pitch. left: reverb. right: flange.

sync paint can drums: sounds like tapping on stuff. Big stereo spread. Press harder to speed up and open filter. Lots of rhythms to be found.

sync proto-techno : a simple sequence. y: timbre. left: sequence length. right: octave shift.

sync res gallop: let's go! y controls sequence rate. Left hex pad: turns sequence steps down to 1, if you like. Right pad: octave shift.

sync sequence acid drips: y: seq speed. pressure: filter. left: reverb. right: feedback.

sync sequence pluck: y controls sequence rate! left hex: pattern length + filter. right: pitch shift up.

sync sequence res: a simple sequence at a fixed rate. Substitute your own. Some notes are attached with glide. Y control over filter is gratifying.

sync sphere: compu-tronic! left hex pad controls seq. rate and the number of steps. Right pad: octave shift.

sync vacation: getting crazy with cables. sounds like old broken equipment. lots of freaky connections.

sync washing machine: y: ratio. left: reverb. right: feedback.

sync wet FM sequence: y controls rate. left hex pad: tone + even faster sequence

rate. right: feedback and delay time.

The last two

under pressure: deep FM tones. pressure: mod index. y: breathiness. left: feedback. right: delay time

timbre harp: y: complex oscillator timbre. left: feedback. right: feedback + howl.