

ART VISTA™

SUPERGRAND

MANUAL

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SUPERGRAND

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User Manual – Interface Controls

Introduction

SUPERGRAND is a hybrid piano sample combining two bestselling Art Vista pianos and their special qualities into a completely new instrument where the whole is greater than the sum of its parts.

The rich singing tone of the Malmsjö GVI sample is combined with the ubiquitous sound of the Steinway "B" sample from Art Vista Virtual Grand Piano 3 to various degrees - from a Malmsjö sound with a Steinway edge, to a Steinway sound with a touch of Malmsjö, never producing exactly a Malmsjö nor a Steinway sound. The combination of the two pianos with such diametrically different sounds allows for piano sounds ranging from intimate to flamboyant.

The suitability of the Art Vista Malmsjö has been proven in numerous Hollywood movies, and the sound of the Art Vista Grand Piano 3 grand piano can be heard on many pop and rock recordings. SUPERGRAND, with a combination of both, offers a widened range of usability as well as a unique piano sound.

The pianos that were sampled are a 1894 Malmsjö 6ft parlor grand and a 1960 Steinway "B" (Hamburg).

Interface Controls – Main View



1. **Presets** – selects the current preset. The SUPERGRAND presets offer some variation in piano voicing, room color, reverb, and mic position.

These presets are simplified versions of the presets available in Art Vista Virtual Grand Piano 3.

2. **Behavior** – the “Natural” setting makes the piano behave like a real piano - with no dampers in the top 1 ½ octaves. The “Hi Dampers” setting provides the behavior of some digital pianos – where dampers are also affecting the top octaves.
3. **Keyboard** – provides calibrations for different keyboard controllers. If your specific controller is not included, try with a controller setting from the same brand that you are using. Generic presets are also included.
4. **Hybrid Mix Level** – the hybrid mix level dial determines the balance between the two piano components. At the extreme left setting you will hear a Malmsjö sound with a Steinway edge, and at the extreme right setting you will hear a Steinway sound with a touch of Malmsjö.
5. **Exciter** – adds a slight stereo effect and a boost in the high frequencies.
6. **High Attenuation** – attenuates the highest 1 ½ octave.
7. **Microphone Position** – emulates the microphone position of the mic picking up the bass and mid strings. Turning it clockwise will gradually attenuate the bass frequencies from the lower strings and up. If you record a piano jazz trio you would not want too much of those frequencies because they would compete with the sound of the bass. Using the microphone position control will allow a full-bodied tone in the mid and upper range of the piano while filtering out the “mud” from the bass strings.
8. **Mud Cut** – filters frequencies around 250 Hz and lower across the whole keyboard. The Mic Pos control and the Mud Cut control may be used in combination to tailor the piano sound to the mix. Turning clockwise will cut the frequencies.
9. **Hall** – controls the level of the release sounds and natural ambience from the recording venue. If turned off, the effect will be that of a completely “dry” studio recording.
10. **Pedal** – sets the default level of the sounds of the dampers opening and closing and the sustain pedal going up and down. When playing, artificial intelligence controls the actual level. For example, if you hit the last fff chord of a Rachmaninoff piano concert, let the tone fade out, and eventually release the chord with the sustain pedal, Supergrand will play back a sample of the sustain pedal being lifted very carefully, quietly not to draw attention to itself. The sustain pedal sounds may be switched off altogether with the on/off switch.
11. **Reverb** – built in reverb.
12. **Limiter** – increases loudness and lifts subtle passages into a higher dynamic range. The limiter can help you achieve a very dense and poignant sound if used when playing exposed soft passages of the kind often heard in film music.
13. **Equalizer** – gain section for the parametric three-band EQ. (See also #15.)
14. **Settings** – toggles between the interface “Main View” and the “Settings View.”

Interface Controls – Settings View



15. EQ Frequencies – selects the frequencies for the parametric equalizer.