



MAINSTAGE 3



TUTORIAL

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OVERVIEW OF MAINSTAGE

- Mainstage is a program where you are able create and play different sounds through your laptop for live performances
- You are able to connect MIDI devices to Mainstage to control your program and sounds
- Mainstage is only for apple products (Sorry Window users, go check out Ableton)
- The cost of Mainstage is \$30 from the MacAppstore.
- Mainstage comes preloaded with hundreds of sounds and instruments that are at your disposal. (You can download more)
- A branch of Logic Pro

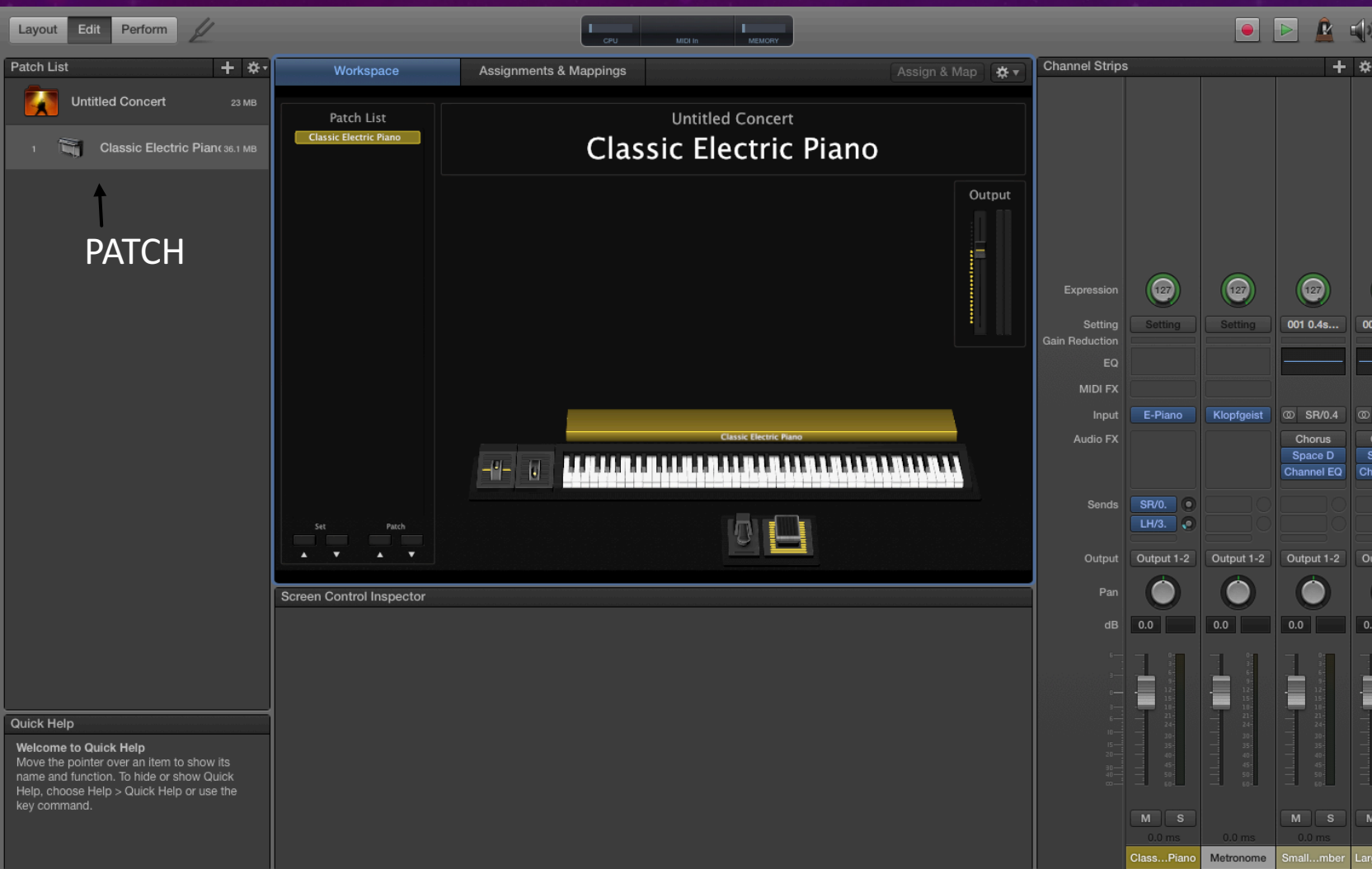
THE THREE BASIC ELEMENTS OF MAINSTAGE

LAYOUT MODE

- LAYOUT MODE IS WHERE YOU TAKE ALL YOUR HARDWARE AND PLACE IT INTO THE PROGRAM. (VIRTUAL HARDWARE)
- THIS IS WHERE YOU WOULD PLACE THE TYPE OF KEYBOARD YOU HAVE AND HOW THE DESIGN OF YOUR LIVE PERFORMANCE WILL BE



THE EDIT MODE



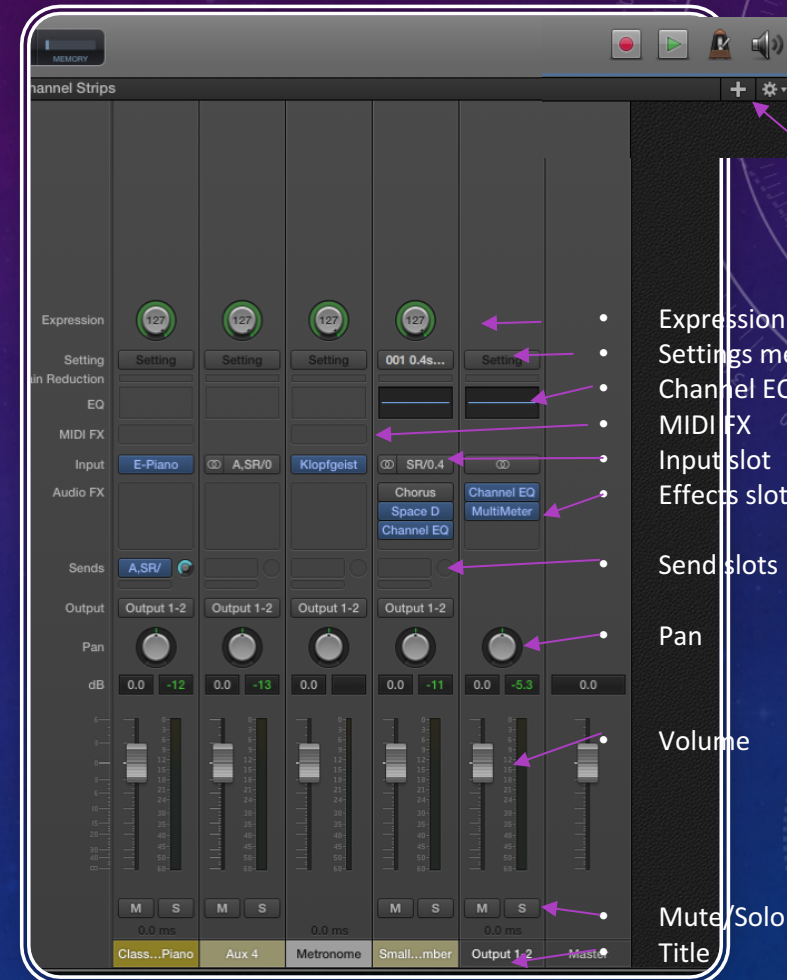
- Edit mode is where you choose patch settings in the patch library
- Add, select, and organize patches in the patch list
- Edit patch attributes, including time signature, tempo, tuning, and others
- Map screen controls to parameters and actions

WHAT IS A PATCH?

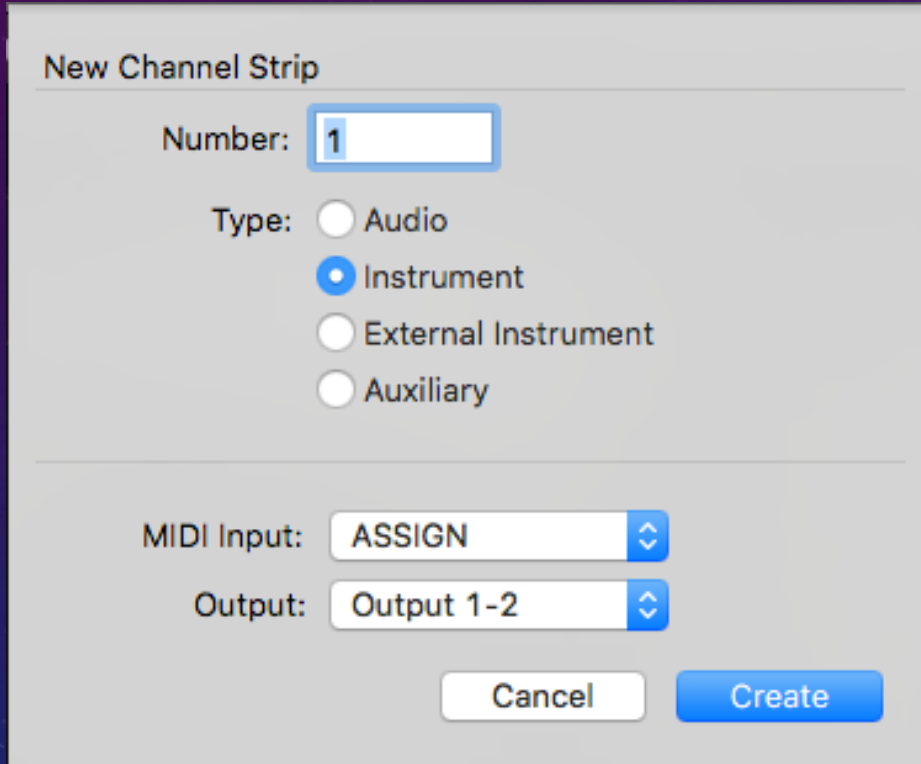
-The sound(s) that you have created and saved on a concert

CHANNEL STRIPS

- The channel strip window in the EDIT MODE allows you to edit each individual sound that you have.
- This is where you would add tracks, loops, or and audio files you want to add to your live performance.
- This is also where you add how many sounds you want in your patch. Ex: Piano + Pad = two different sounds = two different channel strips.
- This is where you would choose what keyboard you want your sound to show up on. Ex: If you have two keyboards, you can have it where one is piano and the other is pad.
- You can also add effects like reverb, delay, EQ, or chorus effect.



DIFFERENT TYPES OF CHANNEL STRIPS



New Channel Strip

Number:

Type:

- ☐ Audio
- ☒ Instrument
- ☐ External Instrument
- ☐ Auxiliary

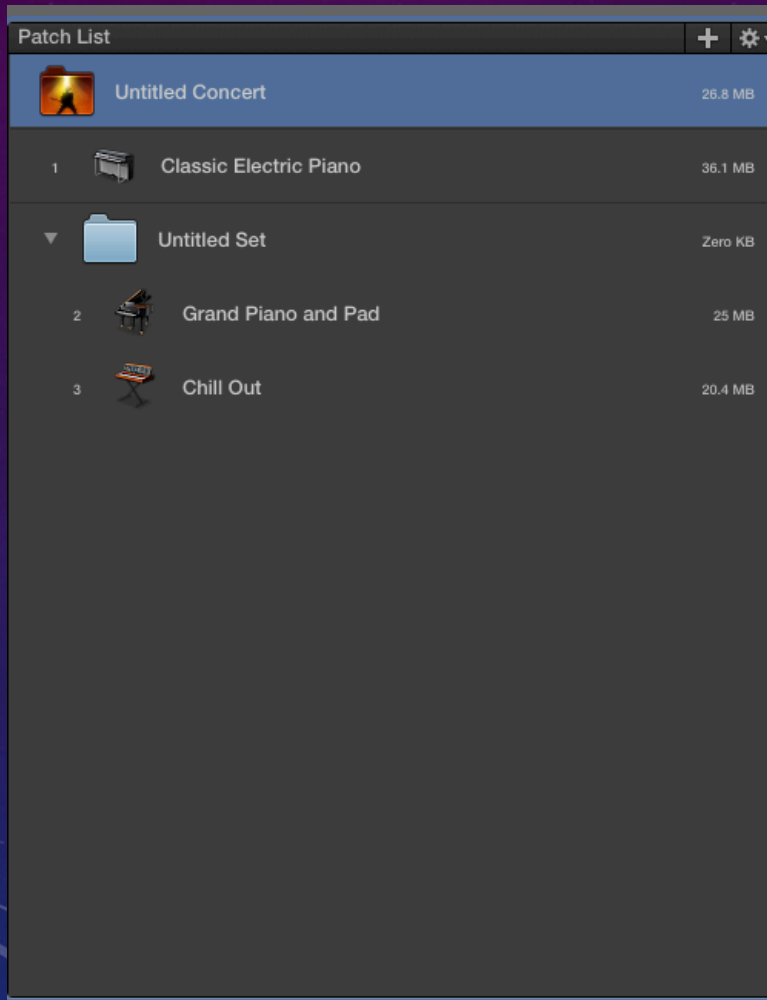
MIDI Input:

Output:

- Audio – A strip of any mp3 or audio files you would like to add to your concert
- Instrument – A strip that includes a software instrument. (This will be your main strip for sounds)
- External Instrument – You are able to run guitars and other instruments through mainstage with a audio interface. This is that strip.
- Auxiliary – A bus/patch bus of effects to send sounds through.

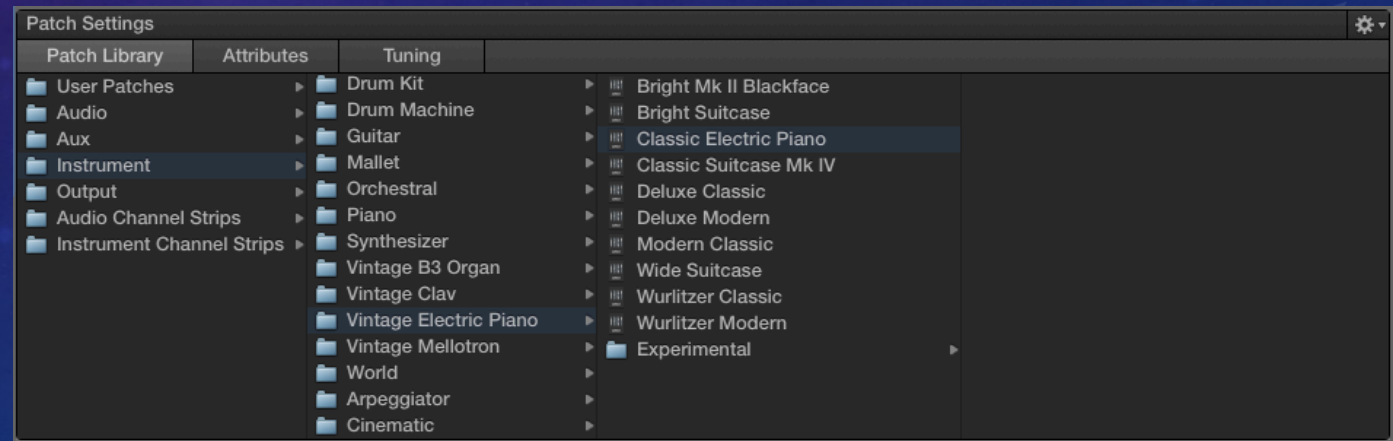
PATCH LIST

- List of patches and sets in your concert



- Allows you to quick choose patches
- Choose the tempo/time signature of patches/sets/concerts
- Can change tuning of patch
- Edit the metronome
- Assign sliders/knobs to do certain tasks
- Layer edit channel strip sounds
- Change channel strip MIDI settings + more
- Assign your layouts

WORKSPACE

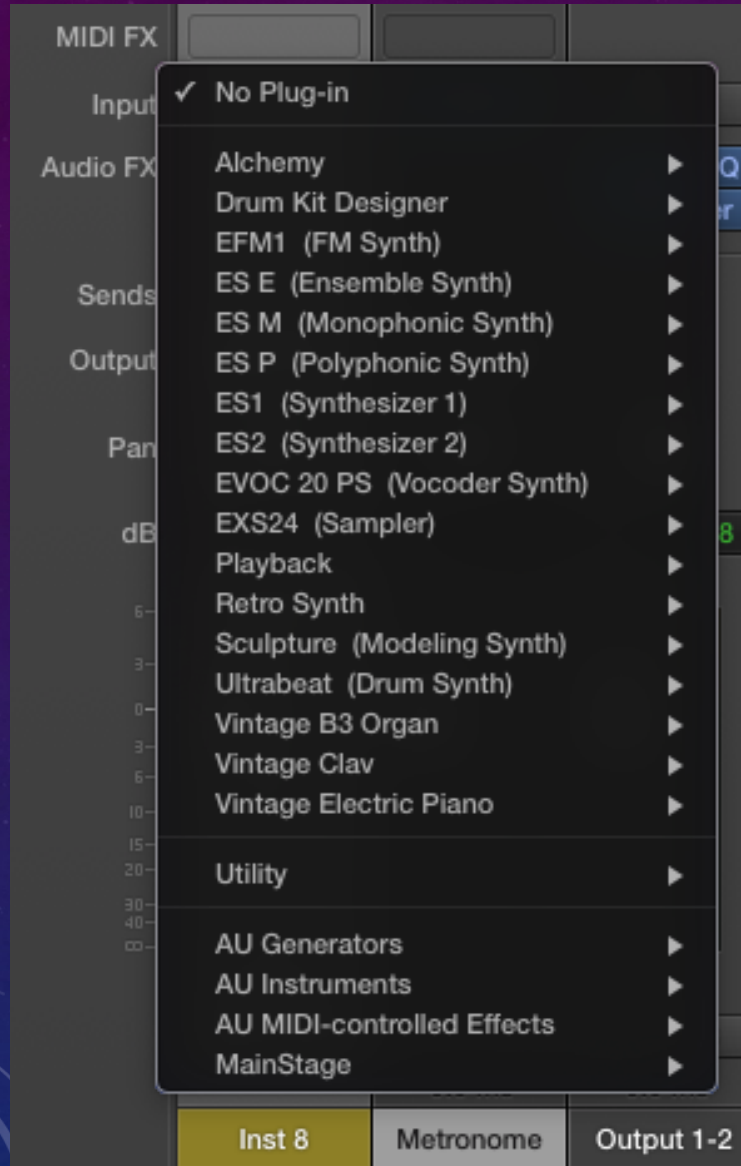


PERFORMANCE MODE



- Uses less CPU
- Looks nicer while on stage
- Can see your live edits better and clearer

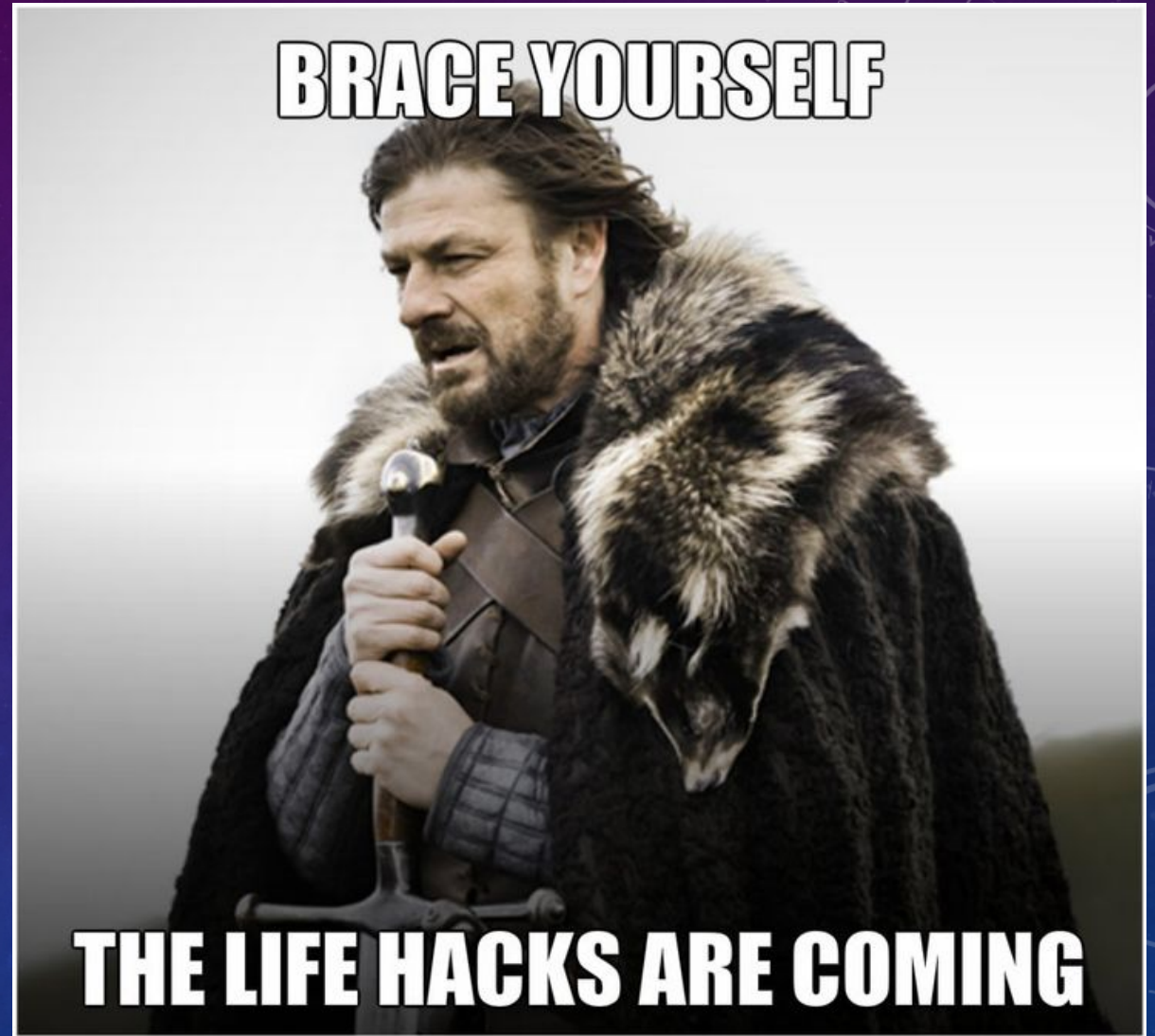
QUICK RUNDOWN OF INPUTS



- Alchemy – Has many different presets that you can use. Just got to find what you like!
- ES2 – Also has presets. Easy to edit the sounds. (YouTube will be best to learn ES2)
- ESX24 – This also has presets. A sampler instrument where you can record audio files and trigger them with notes. (Would recommend using it's preset piano for any piano sounds)
- Retro Synth – A basic synth that has an old school funk to it. Also has presets.
- Vintage E-Piano – Classic Rhodes sounds to really bring in the worship feel if piano is to basic for you.
- You can also purchase more from online. (Omnisphere, Keyscape, Kontakt 5, etc.)

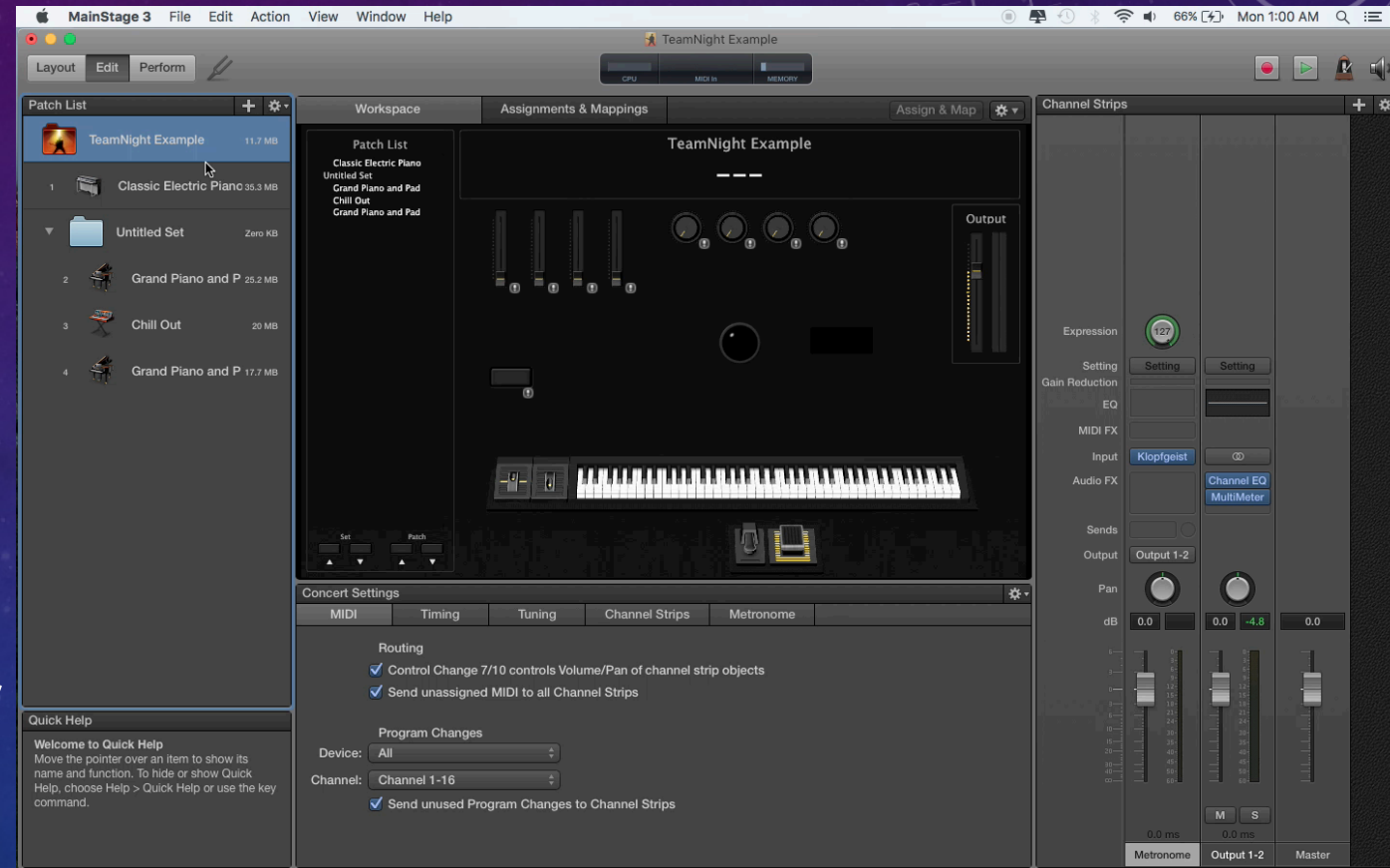
TIPS AND HACKS

Here are a few life hacks with Mainstage that'll make you seem like a great player and sound great live



HIGH CUT FILTER

- Takes out the higher frequencies of your sound just by turning a knob/slider
- You control what frequencies it is
- Great for pads
- Make sure highest frequency is on for EQ
- Make sure you have it assigned to a knob/slider
- Assign knob in “Output 1-2 / Channel EQ / High Cut Frequency”



MASTER EFFECTS AND SENDS

- While having the concert patch selected, you may add Auxiliary channel strips to your concert.
- Must have an Input of a Bus. (Doesn't matter the #)
- Helps to label your effect that you will add on
- You MUST turn the 'send knob' in order to have the effect take place.
- The 'send knob' is to let you know how much audio signal you're sending
- Great for Delay, Reverb, Shimmer, or Chorus effect



LAYER EDITING



- Layer editing allows you to edit where the sounds will be able to play on the keyboard.
- Great to have your right hand to have the Lead sound and then your left hand to play the background sounds

TRANSPOSER

- Transposer is a MIDI FX that allows you to transpose any single channel strip.
- It allows different sounds to have different octaves or inversions.



- Chord Trigger is a MIDI FX that triggers a chord just by pressing one note. Ex. Playing the "A" note will trigger the "A" chord.
- Great for when layer sounds
- Great for playing chords while playing lead-lines to sound more full

CHORD TRIGGER



BIGGEST HACK OF ALL TIME

- Play with the program!
- Don't be overwhelmed by it.
- The best way to learn is to do it yourself so spend dead hour messing around on it.
- YouTube is also a great resource.
- It might look overwhelming, but it's really simple when you play around with it.



THERE ARE NO STUPID QUESTIONS?



**CORRECT. THERE ARE ONLY STUPID
PEOPLE...WHO ASK QUESTIONS.**

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QUESTIONS?