



## Score FX II

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Composition in the world of media, television and film is often all about speed, so it pays to have a large collection of go-to sounds that you can rely on to pad out your scores. Whereas Score FX 1 concentrated on darker timbres and underscores, Ueberschall's sequel, Score FX 2, now complements the original with a collection of lighter and more thoughtful atmospheres, instruments and FX.

The DVD contains 7.3GB of audio material in Ueberschall's own Liquid Soundbank format, which loads into the provided Liquid Player. We won't go into massive detail about the sample player here, suffice to say that it works as either a standalone program or as an Audio Unit, VST or RTAS plug-in within your host sequencer. The player is powered by Melodyne pitch- and time- stretching algorithms, which give you a great deal of flexibility when manipulating harmonic content and timing so as to hit those all- important movie cue points.

The majority of the library comes as 30 construction kits, which range from ethnic-tinged, documentary-style backings to more reflective and deep drama underscores. Although lighter in mood than Score FX 1, the music never strays into cheese territory due to some truly exceptional sound design from Canadian composers Ilya Kaplan and Stan Fomin. Each instrument, rhythm, atmosphere and effect has been exquisitely processed and manipulated, with the result that sounds that could be considered obvious are brought right up-to- date. Also included are a collection of accents, beds, groove patterns and instruments that serve to increase the already hefty sonic palette.

On the downside, the labeling of 'mood' categories is occasionally baffling and the Liquid Player may not be the best outlet for these sounds. However, this is a large, usable and well-written package that can instantly add an expensive- sounding finish to your score. If writing music for film and TV is what you do or want to do, this is well worth a look.

