

Recording Magazine

Devon Brent

Nu Jazz Funk is a "funky" collection of 115–120 BPM complex percussion loops that makes you want to boogie (straight from the mouth of my two-year old son). This four Gigabyte production provides 6377 WAV and REX2 loops. This breaks down to 566 Drum and Music loops in WAV format, 2838 loops in REX2 format, and 2973 Drum, Music and FX samples in WAV format. Total installation size for the REX2 files comes out to 10.3 Gigabytes total on my hard drive. This collection contains kicks, snares, hi-hats, shakers, mixed percussion, congas, music, effects and more. While the Loungin' House library had fewer drum categories that ran deep, Nu Jazz Funk provided much more variety of percussion elements, but not as many choices in each.

The rhythmic complexity of these loops is right up my alley; interesting yet not too busy. One caveat, though—you can't as easily 'throw' something together as with the other two libraries. The loops don't combine as well as those of the other selections, but that's to be expected with their innate complexity. This certainly wasn't a problem to me, but merely a point worth mentioning. Overall, Nu Jazz Funk is something I'd expect from a jazz collection of drums: high-quality percussionists playing high-quality drums.

EQ Magazine

Craig Anderton

Yeah, it has WAV files and hits, but the Big Deal is that this collection features REX2 loops optimized for Propellerhead's Reason and Spectrasonics' Stylus RMX. For the REX format files (but not the WAVs), the elements of the various loops are isolated and sliced individually. This does three groovy things: The slicing quality is great because it's not necessary to slice complex loops, it's easy to mix and match individual parts, and with Stylus RMX, the loops work fine with the SAGE Converter (although the conversion process takes a while) so you can load up different patterns into the different tracks and create great rhythms. The loops are mostly drums and percussion of the syncopated, almost Brazilian-like Nu Jazz persuasion, but there are a lot of instruments folded in as well (Rhodes, Moog Bass, strings, etc.). It's 4GB worth o' stuff: almost 3,000 drum, music, and FX Refill-friendly samples, 2,838 REX2 files, and 566 WAV format drums and music loops. It takes a long time to explore everything, but don't worry – pretty much everything works as expected, so feel free to mix 'n' match. The package includes 50MB of demo files; I've spliced pieces of some of them together at www.eqmag.com, as they give a realistic idea of what to expect. Good stuff, with good stretching too.

Computer Music

April 2006

That jazzy, loungey flavour returns this month with another offering from Equipped Music. The majority of the disc space is taken up by percussion loops in broken beat and downtempo styles – everything at 115 or 120bpm. These loops are well programmed, but the individual percussion sounds offer many more creative possibilities. The DVD's rounded off with some excellent electric piano, synth and effect samples. This is an absolutely top draw collection, and is definitely recommended for all you chillers out there.

8/10