Marching Band Horn demo and paid packs for Caustic 2
by Les Productions Zvon

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The exact name of the Marching Band Horn is unknown, it's an instrument that I bought over 30 years ago in a music store that was getting rid of a dozen or so of these. It uses a French horn mouthpiece and the range is a little lower than a trumpet and a little higher than a trombone. Due to its mouthpiece, the sound can be mellower than the 2 aforementioned instruments. It has only one valve.

The samples were taken from various performances that I played, so they're unique and they have a live feel. As I had single notes, I then resynthesized them to create multi-samples. In all cases the resulting tone is still very brassy and close to the natural one. Some samples are time stretched so this library is not meant to perfectly emulate the real instrument. But it is great for adding a horn flavor and also providing a wider range of uses, a good way to add brasses to your compositions. The sounds range from smooth and mellow to hard hitting and growling, from staccatos and stabs to sustained pads.

Even though the programs are usually mapped from C1 to C7, it is when played from G2 to C5 that it sounds pretty much like the real performance, higher it sounds like a trumpet and lower it can be pleasantly weird.

The Caustic version is a "best of" a previous version. I have kept the original names so that is why there are some missing numbers in some names, for instance there are a Double 01 and Double 05 instruments but no Double 02, 03 and 04.

The free demo pack has 7 PCMSynth presets. The paid pack adds 30 for a combined total of 37 PCMSynth presets, most are multi-sampled. Both must be installed to have the complete content.

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The table on the next page lists all the presets and gives some info about them. Except for three instruments, the samples are not looped. The looped instruments have (L) at the end of their names. All instruments, again except three, are multi-sampled. Of course the single sample instruments quickly do not sound natural the further from the root they're played, they have (1) at the end of their names.

About the tuning:
Some samples are a few cents off from the Equal Temperament scale that keyboards use, but it's intentional. I've retuned those that were too far off, but even when retuning I left some a few cents off. In my opinion it's more natural as horn players by themselves (as singers and string players) don't play in the Equal Temperament scale.

Those few cents off give warmth and richness to the sounds especially when layered. When a brass section plays the same note, no two players are exactly on the same pitch and the bigger the section, the bigger the differences.

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Details

Preset Name	Key range	# of samples	Size (KB)	
Brass FX 01	C1 - C7	9	3,967	
Double 01	C1 - C7	13	542	
Double 05	C1 - C7	12	444	Demo
Double down (1)	C1 - C7	1	53	
Double Stab	C1 - C7	13	633	
Funny Growl	C1 - C7	13	190	
Good bass (1)	C1 - C7	1	31	
Growlesque	C1 - C7	13	378	Demo
Growly 02	C1 - C7	10	854	
Jungle (1)	C1 - C7	1	73	
Melancholic (L)	C1 - C6	4	3,784	
Mellow Horn	C1 - C7	2	633	
Mellow long	C1 - F6	12	4,263	
Mellow vibrato	C1 - C7	9	3,032	
Move	C1 - C7	13	2,831	Demo
New Horn	C1 - C7	13	741	
One Bend Down (1)	C1 - C7	1	56	
Out of Tune (L)	C1 - C7	7	209	
Out of Tune	C1 - C7	13	430	
Pad Horn (L)	C1 - C6	5	1,472	
Quacky 02	C1 - C7	13	375	
Renaissance 01	C1 - C7	13	1,875	Demo
Renaissance 02	C1 - C7	12	6,192	
Short Sweet	C1 - C7	13	500	
Slow move	C1 -C7	13	5,096	
Small King	C1 - C7	13	1,217	
Stabbing	C1 -C7	9	254	
Staccato 02	C1 -F6	10	272	
Staccato 03	C1 -C7	9	97	
Staccato 04	C1 -C7	11	271	Demo
Staccato 07	C1 -C7	13	407	
Stamina	C1 -C7	13	424	
Strangeverb	C1 -C6	12	4,893	
Sweeter	C1 -C7	13	254	Demo
Tough Horn	C1 -C6	10	2,634	
Very mellow	C1 -C7	9	3,250	Demo
Wind down fast	C1 -C7	13	630	

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Also visit our Caustic page: http://lesproductionszvon.com/caustic.htm

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