

Tech // new products



BFD METAL SNARES

Multimic Samples of Bright and Brash Backbeaters

FXpansion, now a part of ROLI, has released BFD Metal Snares (\$70) for BFD3. Each of the five hand-selected snare drums was recorded with two top mics, one bottom mic, and one side mic, along with mono room, ribbon room and far room ambience channels. Also in the mix are two additional stereo reverb channels. BFD3 is the third generation of FXpansion's flagship software acoustic drum studio, featuring a revamped interface with a new mixer and sound browser.



AEA RPQ2 AND RPQ500 PREAMPS

Optimized Gain for Ribbon Mics

The AEA RPQ2 (\$TBA) is a 2-channel preamp that improves on the original with custom knobs and a new color front panel DI, post-mic and pre-EQ inserts, and a light-weight and smaller chassis. Other features include switchable phantom power for condenser and active ribbon mics, a polarity switch, and Mic/Line mode with corresponding LED indicators. The 12-position volume knob provides from +13 dB to +62 dB of gain for the preamplifier circuit, as measured between the input and output line driver. There is also a switched LF shelving filter and switchable CurveShaper EQ. The 500 Series version offers the same features in a single-channel, vertical orientation.



OUTPUT SUBSTANCE BASS ENGINE

Big Bottom From a Plug-in

The Substance Bass Engine (\$199) from Output features processed electric and acoustic basses, brass sections and analog synths. The interface combines three layers of sources and blends them together with layer and global FX, filters, modulation, an advanced arpeggiator, flux control and macros. Features include a preset menu with smart tagging, layer FX and global FX, four macro sliders unique to each preset, monophonic and legato modes, and a rhythm page that syncs to tempo.

QXS SERIES BOOM POLES

Five Models for ENG and Documentary Audio

The QXS Series boom poles (\$344 for the shortest, up to \$708 for the longest) use a five-segment design along with light-weight and durable 1mm pull-wind carbon fiber tubes featuring knurled collars for outstanding grip, especially with gloves, and enhanced segment locking with new compression rings and mating nuts with steep threads. The booms come in five models with extended lengths from 6.4 to 17.7 feet, offering multiple internal cable options. Adding internal cables adds \$140 to \$220 depending on type and length.

