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I. Introduction

1. General Introduction



Maize Studio is a modular audio environment. You can build your audio devices and connect them with virtual wires. Maize Studio supports VST plug-in and provides many native devices. Based on the Device-Oriented design concept, every function is described as a device. With all kinds of devices, Maize Studio is able to fulfill your needs on stage or in studio with maximum flexibility. The following are the current native devices provided by Maize Studio:

ASIO Audio Interface

MIDI In

MIDI Out

Keyboard

Raw Input Keyboard

Mixer

Audio File Player

Audio Matrix

Stereo Recorder

Drum Machine

MIDI File Player
MIDI Channel Splitter
MIDI Note Splitter
MIDI Matrix

Clock
Notepad

2. Features

- Modular architecture, inspire your creativity
- Support VST Plug-in and ASIO driver
- Amazing GUI which is based on GDI+ technology
- Fast MIDI mapping
- 32bit internal precision
- Intel CPU optimized
- Build-in disk streaming simple sampler
- Build-in all formats audio player
- Build-in SMF player
- Project file save and load
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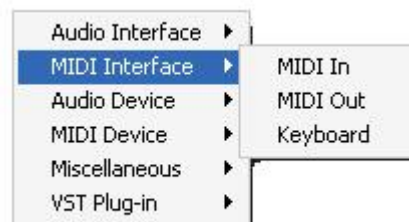
3. Requirements

- Computer: PC
- OS: Windows XP or higher
- Soundcard: support ASIO

4. Design View

In the design view, you can add/delete devices, change wires, show/hide devices or change names of devices. Every device is represented as a device block with several input and output pins in this view. Note: Design view could be hidden by clicking an item in the View menu.

4.1 Add Device



Right clicking in the design view, a device list will be popped out. Note: VST plug-in

directory could be changed in the Preference Box of the Edit menu.

4.2 Deleting and Renaming Device

Right click on the device block.

4.3 Wiring



Hold the left button and drag from a pin to another. To delete a wire, you can either double click on a wired pin or just drag it out. Note: All audio pins are mono; one pin could be only connected with one wire; Can not wire on a same device; Wires can only be connected between input and output pins.

4.4 Hide and Show

Double clicking on a device block will bring the user interface of this device to the current device view. Or this will hid a device when it's already in the current device view. Note: The names of devices which are in the current device view will be displayed as bold style.

5. Device View

Device view is the place to show the detail interface of devices.

5.1 View Selector



Maize Studio provides you with 8 views to place device UIs. You can change views by clicking view buttons or press the TAB/BACKSPACE shortcut key. Note: Clicking on a device block will bring a device to the current view from another.

5.2 Global Tempo



Some devices may need tempo information, so you can set it here by clicking TAP button or dragging the digits.

5.3 Device UI Frame

Every device UI is surrounded by a frame. There are device icon, name and close button on it. Note: Close button would just hide the UI of the device.

II. Build-in Devices

1. ASIO Audio Interface



ASIO Audio Interface stands for your soundcard, you can obtain input audio and send output audio to the soundcard through this device. Select an ASIO device and then press the power button. Note: The input pins of this device are the physical outputs of your soundcard and the output pins of this device are the physical inputs of your soundcard.

2. MIDI In/MIDI Out



MIDI In and MIDI Out can open your standard MIDI devices such as keyboard and controller. Note: Do not forget to turn them on.

3. Keyboard



This device turns your computer keyboard to a MIDI input device.

4. Mixer



An 8-ch stereo mixer, nothing special. You can change the channel names by double clicking the text fields. This device owns a input pin called MIDI Control In. That means some widgets on this device could be controlled by MIDI messages. (Refer to Tips section)

5. Audio File Player



This is an audio player which supports WAV, MP3, WMA, CD and APE. The play mode on the top-right corner could be changed by click on it. Note: Loop mode must be set before a file is being played.

6. Stereo Recorder



Input stream could be either recorded as WAV or MP3.

7. Audio Matrix



Audio Matrix is a signal dispatcher. The upper side is inputs and the left side is outputs. A selected element means this input channel will be routed to the corresponding output channel.

8. Drum Machine



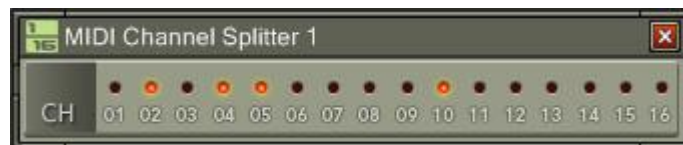
Drum Machine is a simple sampler. It features disk streaming, ADSR amplitude envelope, sample looping and 32 polyphony. Selecting a pad, the detail information about this sample will be displayed. Press + to add sample and X to delete. Right click on the sample would select the pad but not trigger it. The whole drum machine can display samples in octaves, and the panic button on the right could stop all notes for emergency. Note: Only support WAV sample now.

9. MIDI File Player



MIDI File Player is a Standard MIDI File Player, you can adjust the volume of each channel and control the key and tempo in real-time.

10. MIDI Channel Splitter



This device splits the input MIDI signal to the outputs according to the channel information of the message. The last output pin sends a copy of the original signal.

11. MIDI Note Splitter



This device splits the incoming MIDI messages according to the note number. Change the split note by dragging the middle digit. You can also transpose the octave of the final messages.

12. Notepad



Double click on an item to write something.

13. Clock



Please eat on time☺.

14. VST Plug-in



Maize Studio supports VST plug-in. The upper four preset buttons could store four different status of the plug-in. Note: Maize Studio can not load plug-in without UI.

III. Tips

1. Device Control

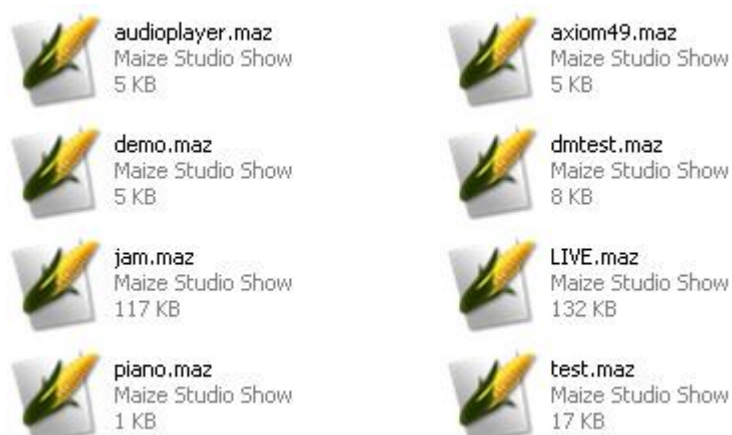


Many devices in Maize Studio could be controlled by MIDI messages. To map a MIDI message to a widget, follow these instructions:

- ① Route the MIDI signal to the device (MIDI Control In).
- ② Right click on a widget, if it is MIDI mappable, a blue overlay will be shown.
- ③ Move or press your MIDI controller.
- ④ The widget is drawn with a yellow border.

To cancel this mapping, double right click on the widget.

2. Project File



All information in Maize Studio, including device connection, view organization, device details can be stored as a project file. (.maz) You can open project file by open menu,

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directly double clicking on the project file or just drag it into Maize Studio.

3. UI features



Based on our GDI+ GUI library, you can find that:

- Widget name and value will be shown in the status bar when hovering on it.
- Double Clicking some widgets (Knob, Fader), they will return to their default values.
- Some widget could be controlled by mouse wheel.

4. Scene Control

Every show file could store different scenes for fast switching. The scene menu could be reached by right click on the device view. The scene profile will store the information such as connection, device parameters. Please note that the scene could only be used after you finished with your modular design. That is to say adding and removing device will remove all the existing scenes.

IV. FAQ

● No sound...

A: Please ensure that you have turned on the ASIO audio interface device. If you have no ASIO device in the list, please install the universal ASIO driver: ASIO4ALL (<http://www.asio4all.com>)

● Is this software free

A: No. A registration dialog will show up every ten minutes for the unregistered version. To register, go to <http://www.maizesoft.cn/ms/en/>

For suggestions and updates:

<http://www.maizesoft.cn/ms/>
cxhawk@gmail.com