

1. 21st Century Reeds

Vandoren has added another color to the clarinetist's palette with the release of a new reed cut: the V21. A thick-blank, American-cut reed, the V21 allows the clarinetist to play with amazing presence and immediate response. Available for B-flat clarinet only, it comes in sizes 2½, 3, 3½, 3½+, 4, 4½ and 5. The reeds' flexibility will appeal to clarinetists of all levels, from students to top professionals. **More info:** dansr.com/vandoren

2. Rhythm Handbook

The Musician's Guide to Rhythm (North Shire Press) is a practical handbook for all instrumentalists, vocalists, composers and teachers that presents a comprehensive approach to one of the least understood and least theorized aspects of music. Authors Julian Gerstin and Ken Dalluge introduce basic and complex rhythmic concepts clearly and progressively, and provide extensive hands-on exercises. With a focus on the rhythmic element of melody and improvisation, the book expands skills and creativity for players of all instruments. Its broad range encompasses many styles, including jazz, classical, rock, blues, Cuban, Brazilian and other world musics. **More info:** musiciansguidetorhythm.com

3. Optimized Audio

Samson's Auro X series of two-way active loudspeakers matches ultra-efficient power with extensive digital signal processing and rugged portability. Encompassing two compact designs, the Auro X12D and X15D feature a lightweight 1,000-watt Class D amplifier and Samson's proprietary R.A.M.P. (reactive alignment, maximum protection) DSP technology. Both models offer two input channels, along with three-position EQ and high-pass filter presets to optimize the speaker's performance for different setups and applications. **More info:** samsontech.com

4. Sample Synth

iZotope has released the newest version of its sample-based synthesizer. Iris 2 is a visual instrument that combines the power of a sampler with the flexibility of a modular synth. New features include a robust modulation system, sample pools that can load samples and classic oscillator waveforms, a redesigned interface with extensive visualizations and metering, enhanced effects and filters, and fresh patches. **More info:** izotope.com

5. Organ Tones

The Electro-Harmonix C9 Organ Machine digs deeper into the cache of desirable classic tones with nine new organ presets that use the same technology found in the company's B9 Organ Machine. The Organ volume knob controls the overall volume of the organ preset, while the Dry volume knob controls the volume of the untreated instrument level at the Organ Output jack. This enables players such as guitarists to mix the sound of their instrument with the organ to create lush layers, or mute it entirely. **More info:** ehx.com

6. Laptop Mounter

On-Stage Stands has introduced the MSA5000 Laptop Mount, which saves valuable desktop space at workstations and lets users leave bulky tables at home. The MSA5000 has a tray that's 10 inches deep with an adjustable width from 14 to 16.5 inches, and ventilation slots provide air circulation to keep laptops cool. It is also suitable for small mixers, samplers, recorders and other devices. **More info:** on-stage.com

