

## New model army EastWest launch cloud-based subscription payment model for virtual instruments

EastWest Sounds are launching a cloud-based subscription service, the first of its kind in the world of virtual instruments. Under a subscription payment model, instead of paying a large one-off fee to own a single bit of software outright, you pay a much lower monthly fee to access it in the cloud. In this case, EastWest's new Composer Cloud service gives users access to *all* of the Gold Editions of their award-winning virtual instrument collections: over 9000 virtual instruments, and a million sounds in total.

The Composer Cloud service offers two different subscription plans. For \$29.99 a month, users can access seven collections of their choice, plus an extra collection every three months at no extra cost. For \$49.99 a month, you can access the whole lot. It's a model that's untried in this particular field, but it's easy to see how EastWest's customers, and composers who previously couldn't afford their collections, would find this option attractive, swapping the occasional large outlay on individual instruments for a predictable monthly fee (which, EastWest point out, is "less than the cost of a latte per day") and



access to a much larger range of sounds. Composer Cloud will launch for the public at large on April 21st. For more information, visit [www.composercloud.net](http://www.composercloud.net). [www.soundsonline.com](http://www.soundsonline.com)

## Master and commander PSP Audioware release new MasterQ plug-in that's more than just a mastering EQ

MasterQ2 from PSP Audioware is a new EQ plug-in that combines surgical EQ adjustment with some user-friendly controls to add analogue-style coloration. It's not just a mastering tool, then, and PSP suggest that it will be equally useful as a creative mixing tool for individual tracks.

Like the original MasterQ plug-in, now more than 10 years old, the MasterQ2 is built around a clear, colour-coded EQ graph. The plug-in provides a total of seven EQ bands, all with wide-ranging Q values. PSP employ 80-bit extended floating-point computations across all these filters to deal with accumulation errors, and promise optimal filter operation even at low frequencies with high gain and Q settings. PSP have also included their proprietary FAT (Frequency Authentication Technique) algorithm, a double-sampling process designed to facilitate proper filter operation at high frequencies. It uses high-order linear filters to prevent phase and linearity errors in the audio bandwidth caused by double-order sampling. The end result should be double sampling without sample-rate-conversion artifacts. MasterQ2 also provides a useful selection of limiting and



soft-clipping algorithms to deal with digital peaks, supports M/S processing, and can operate at sampling rates ranging from 44.1 to 192 kHz. It's available now for Mac and PC in VST, RTAS, AAX and AU formats, and it costs \$149. [www.pspaudioware.com](http://www.pspaudioware.com)