

Pianos & Keyboards

1. TOM & DAVE'S CREATION

The OB-6 from Dave Smith Instruments is a six-voice synthesizer with an all-analog signal path and discrete VCOs and filters developed in collaboration with Tom Oberheim. Boasting a sound engine inspired by Oberheim's original SEM (the core of his acclaimed four-voice and eight-voice synthesizers), the new instrument is designed to provide true, vintage SEM tone with the stability and flexibility of modern technology. It offers studio-quality effects, a polyphonic step sequencer, an arpeggiator and more. The classic Oberheim-inspired resonant filter provides low-pass, high-pass, band-pass and notch functionality. This analog powerhouse is packed into a four-octave, semi-weighted keyboard with velocity sensitivity and channel aftertouch. (davesmithinstruments.com)

2. CATCH THE WAVE

The Seaboard Rise is a MIDI controller with a rippling layer of semi-rigid, tactile, wavelike silicon that resembles a traditional piano keyboard and allows for the kind of multidimensional expressiveness you get from an all-acoustic instrument. Players can strike, bend, nudge, squish and press the surface of the keywaves to achieve all kinds of creative sounds and effects that are not possible on a piano. RISE works across multiple devices and platforms, including iPhones and Android phones. (roll.com)

3. PORTABLE VIRTUAL PIANOS

The Synthogy Ivory II VR is a portable hardware unit that can play the full Ivory II virtual piano library in its entirety, at full resolution, without the need for a Mac or PC. The presets for pianos, inputs, mixes and sessions enable users to power up and play in seconds. Its compact design makes the Ivory II VR small enough to sit nicely on a controller keyboard. (vixano.com)

4. STREAMLINED DISKLAVIER

Yamaha's Disklavier ENSPIRE piano offers an immersive new user experience. With three system variations (CL, ST and PRO) spanning 14 models ranging from 48-inch uprights to a 9-foot concert grand, Yamaha has given pianists more options. A new streamlined design eliminates the control box of previous Disklavier models, and an intuitive app enables the reproducing piano to be controlled seamlessly by Apple iOS and Android devices, as well as PCs and Macs. Exclusive high-quality streaming radio and video services are also available. (usa.yamaha.com)

5. DIGITAL GRANDS

Casio's Celviano Grand Hybrid GP-500BP and GP-300 are digital instruments that combine the advantages of modern technology with the traditional sound and action of acoustic grand pianos. These models have the actual key design and playing comfort of a real grand piano, and Casio's AiR Grand Sound Source accurately recreates the complex sounds of three legendary European grands. (casiomusicgear.com)

6. BLUETOOTH CONNECTIVITY

Roland's FP-30 applies Bluetooth wireless connectivity to an affordably priced digital piano. Roland's SuperNATURAL Piano technology delivers authentic piano sound and detailed articulation and response to satisfy advanced players. Its PHA-4 Standard keyboard inherits the progressive hammer action, escapement and Ivory Feel keys found on Roland's high-end home pianos. The instrument is equipped with a powerful

stereo audio system, and dual headphone outputs let two people listen at once. (rolandus.com)

7. VIENNA CONCERT GRAND

Bösendorfer employed an entirely new construction and design concept for the 280VC Vienna Concert grand piano, which features a wide spectrum of tonal colors, dynamic range and expressiveness suited for modern concert halls and performance venues. A modification to its action makes it an accessible instrument that puts the pianist at ease. (boesendorfer.com)

8. MINI SYNTH

The Korg minilogue is a fully programmable, four-voice polyphonic analog synthesizer with powerful sound creation capabilities. Features include a 16-step polyphonic note and motion sequencer, arpeggiator and delay. A Voice mode lets users choose how the four available voices are configured—from polyphonic to duophonic to unison and beyond. The OLED display, in addition to showing information on presets and editable parameters, provides functional visual feedback on the sound being played. (korgusa.com)

