

NEW GEAR

BY STEPHEN FORTNER

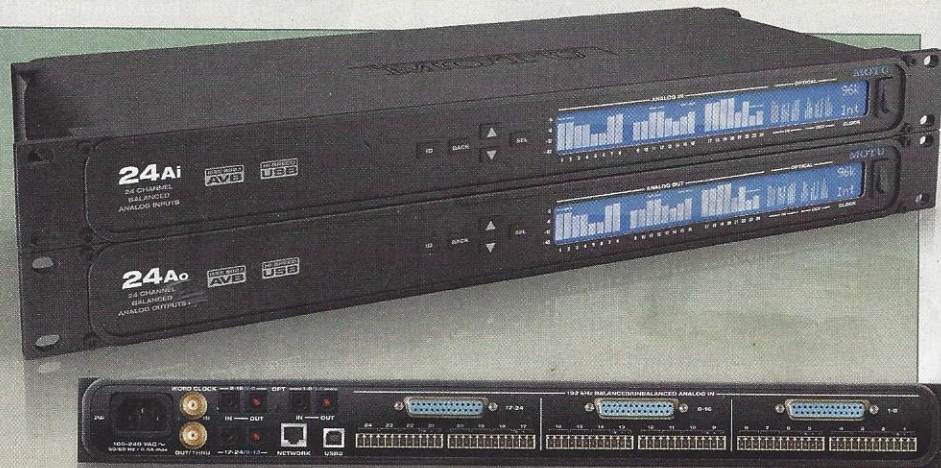
MOTU 24Ai and 24Ao

The two latest computer recording interfaces from MOTU take an interesting turn: One is focused on input, the other on output, and both are strictly line-level. Why would you go this route when most mid- to high-end studio interfaces offer a combo of mic preamps, line-level ins, enough outputs to run at least a couple of pairs of speakers, and headphone jacks? Because you already have one of those and it's not enough.

Anyone with a large collection of hardware synths and a mixerless studio has dealt with re-patching. With 24 analog inputs on D-Sub or Phoenix (a.k.a. Euroblock) connectors, the 24Ai lets you leave everything (okay, up to 12 synths in stereo) plugged in all the time.

If what you want are lots of "tape returns" for analog mixing or summing—or intense surround applications—the 24Ao is the box for you. Both models have three banks of ADAT lightpipe ins *and* outs, and connect via USB2.0.

Both include a DSP-powered 48-channel virtual mixer with gating, dynamics, and four-band parametric EQ on every channel. For workgroups, they can link to compatible MOTU interfaces via the AVB (Audio-Video Bridge) protocol over Ethernet, when used with a MOTU AVB switch. Other than the analog input versus output difference, the 24Ai and 24Ao are identical, down to the real-world price of \$995. | motu.com



KORG KRONOS (2014)

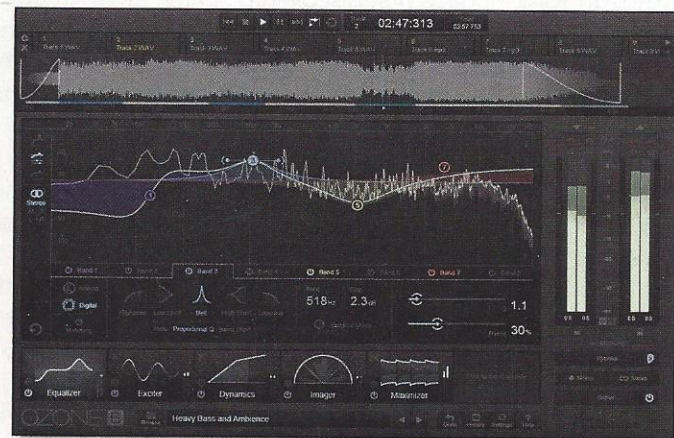
WHAT New version of Korg's multi-engine flagship synth workstation. Updates include Berlin grand with sympathetic resonance in the SGX piano section, system-wide touch-and-drag onscreen, improved set list and search functions, and wooden side panels. **WHY** Because you want the most muscular and flexible full workstation currently made.

61 keys: \$3,199 | 73 keys: \$3,699 | 88 keys: \$3,999 | all prices street | korg.com

IZOTOPE OZONE 6

WHAT Full redesign of iZotope's mastering suite of audio processors: EQ, dynamics, loudness maximizer, exciter, stereo imager, and post-EQ—all with modeling of analog and tube recording gear. The Advanced version includes a "dynamic EQ" that can apply different degrees of compression to different frequency bands automatically. **WHY** It's the most sophisticated and inclusive one-stop shop for final mix processing out there.

\$249 | Ozone 6 Advanced: \$999 | izotope.com



All prices are manufacturer's suggested retail (list) unless otherwise noted. Follow keyboardmag.com/gear and @keyboardmag on Twitter for up-to-the-minute gear news.