

CASA DA MÚSICA's VIRTUAL GAMELAN

(Sampler for Native Instruments' KONTAKT)

The virtual instrument for the Casa da Música's Javanese Gamelan aggregates more than 250 sounds recorded from its various parts: Bonang, Gambang, Gender, Kenong, Saron, Kethuk, Kempyang, Gongs and Drums.

This virtual Gamelan is composed by three multi-instrument sections:

- a) Instruments in **Pelog** scale
- b) Instruments in **Slendro** scale
- c) **Gongs** and **Drums**

Instruments in the Gamelan

The Casa da Música's Javanese Gamelan is composed by different instrument families:

1. Keys

GENDER (thin bronze bars)
Penerus (small)
Barung (medium)
Slenthem (big)

GAMBANG (wooden bars)

SARON (thick bronze bars)
Peking (small)
Barung (medium)
Demung (big)

2. Gongs

Laid Gongs

BONANG

Penerus (small)
Barung (medium)

KENONG
KETHUK
KEMPYANG

Hanged Gongs

AGENG
SUWUKAN
KEMPUL

3. Drums

KENDHANG KETIPUNG (small)
KENDHANG CIBLON (medium)
KENDHANG GENDHING (big)

Tuning

The Casa da Música's Javanese Gamelan has two sets, one for each scale: Pelog and Slendro. On both, notes are represented by numbers but common numbers do not represent the same note.

This is the general representation of the notes on the instrument:

Slendro (5)	1 2 3 5 6
Pelog (7)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Sound Distribution / Arrangement

The set of the sounds in the keyboard is similar to the one in the Gamelan - the numbers and octaves are in ascending order, from left to right. The keyboard is set to diatonic, starting on C.

Instruments with complex sets (with various sizes, i.e.: Bonang, Gender, etc) are distributed from left to right (the biggest being to the left).

Velocity

There are some situations where sounds are activated by different velocities:

- a) the Kenong, Kethuk and Kempyang instruments have two different sounds, normal and muted (no decay).
- b) the Ageng and Suwukan gongs also have two different sounds, forte and piano.

Developed @ Digitópia Casa da Música

Recordings - Pedro Augusto & Rui Penha

Support - Maria Mónica & Jorge Queijo

Edition - Pedro Augusto

www.casadamusica.com/digitopia