

Intellijel – Atlantix

- [Manual PDF](#)
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[Atlantix Manual PDF \(2024.09.12\)](#)

Using the Intellijel Atlantix for Full-Length Songs in Eurorack

Creating a cohesive, evolving full-length song in modular synthesis—beyond simple loops or jams—requires careful patching, modulation, and planning. The **Intellijel Atlantix** (an analog dual-oscillator synthesizer voice with internal and external modulation depth) offers a powerful toolkit for this, but song-length structure emerges when Atlantix is thoughtfully combined with sequencers, modulation sources, utilities, and effects. Here's an analysis of how the Atlantix can anchor a complex composition, and tips for leveraging its features to arrange and animate full pieces.

Challenges for Song-Length Structure in Eurorack

- **Repetition:** Modular synths excel at short loops/patterns. Songwriting needs section changes: intro, verse, chorus, bridge, breakdown.
- **Automation:** 'Set and forget' sounds static. Manual tweaking for minutes is exhausting.
- **Transitions & Variation:** You want dramatic changes, subtle evolution, and coordinated transitions across multiple voices.
- **Recallability:** How to perform/sequence a structure—hands-on live, or semi-automated?

How Atlantix Supports Song Structure

1. Multi-Source Synthesis in One Voice

Atlantix is not a simple oscillator—it is a complete synth voice:

- **VCO A / VCO B:** Dual oscillators with sync, FM (exp and thru-zero), PWM.
- **Flexible Mixer:** Pulse, saw, sub (-1, -2, OR), noise (white/pink), and two aux in, routable pre/post VCF.
- **VCF:** Multi-mode (LP/BP/HP/phaser; switchable poles), extensive modulation.
- **Envelope/VCA:** ADSR with rate ranges/drive, gated/organelle switching, manual gate.
- **MODs:** Internal sample & hold, multiroute LFO/S&H/noise/VCOB mix, normalled to VCO/FM and VCF FM.

2. Built-in Modulation & Macro Controls

- **Sample & Hold / Track & Hold:** Random or stepped modulation for generative movement.
- **Flexible MOD X/Y routing & inversion:** Multiply the modulation palette for evolving timbre.
- **PWM, Sync, FM, etc.:** Routable to almost any part of the voice—create self-patched feedback or modulation chaos.

3. Expandable Outputs (ATLX Expander)

- **Multiple outputs:** Tap all Osc shapes, ring mod, filter outs, etc.
 - **Ring Modulator:** Add metallic, inharmonic timbres or percussive sounds.
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Songwriting Techniques with Atlantix

1. Sectional Control with External Sequencers

Use sequencers or voltage presets (like Intellijel Metropolix, Erica Black Sequencer, NerdSeq, or vector-based sequencers):

- Multitrack melodic/

rhythmic lines: Sequence Atlantix pitch (1V/oct), triggers/gates, CV for filter or modulation depth. - Program 'scenes' or 'pattern chains' for multisection arrangement (verse–chorus–breakdown, etc.).

Patch Example: Use a sequencer with multiple gate/CV tracks to: - Control Atlantix's pitch and gate, - Automate the modulation sources/amount (via multiple CV ins or addressing MOD X/Y).

2. Modulated Variation & Evolution

- Route S&H/T&H to FM, PWM, filter, envelope times for evolving or generative patches.
- Use MOD X/Y for slow/fast LFOs affecting timbre, panning (if patched out to stereo VCA), or even envelope times (via CV ins).
- Internally patch VIDA/B outputs (with AUX sends to VCA/filter directly or via expander) to create layered/complex voices.

Patch Example:

- Use a slow random S&H from Atlantix MOD as ENV sustain or filter cutoff mod; use sequencer CV to alter which MOD X/Y source is chosen per section.

3. Live Performance: Manual Transitions + External Utilities

- Program macros: Use hands/on/off switches (filter pole, drive, sync type, envelope speed) for dramatic or subtle section transitions.
- Use sequential switches (e.g., Doepfer A-151, WMD Sequential Switch Matrix) or matrix mixers to route different Atlantix outputs or modulations per section, creating new combos.
- Manual Gate button: Immediate drops, accents—triggered by hand or patched to foot switch for performance.

4. Layering/Polyphony with Expanders and Other Voices

- Employ the ATLX expander's extra outs to layer different timbres/oscillators for bass, lead, and pad lines.

- Pair Atlantix with drum modules and other voices; use multiple Atlantix outputs for stacked lines or cross-modulation for wide/epic textures.

5. Coordinated Transitions with Utilities/Effects

- Use voltage-controlled switches (e.g., Mutable Branches) to mute/unmute Atlantix lines.
 - Patch Atlantix into effects (delays, reverbs, wavefolders) and sequence their bypass or CV parameters for scene-based changes.
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Example Patch Structure for a Full Song

1. Intro:

2. Atlantix in LFO mode, VCO B running S&H noise, filter in PHZ mode, slow envelope, sparse notes manually triggered or sequenced.

3. Verse:

- Switch filter to LP4, up envelope speed, increase sub amount and noise for foundation groove; sequence main melody.

4. Chorus:

- Open filter, drive VCA, sync VCOs, automate FM index for brighter, harmonically rich sound; add reverb/delay send.

5. Bridge/Breakdown:

- Switch to HP filter, randomize pitch or filter with S&H, drop sub/noise, use ring mod out for percussive FX.

6. Finale/Outro:

- Slow envelope, crossfade OSC A/B, bring in phaser/FX, fade-out using VCA with long release.

Swap section transitions using sequencer patterns, switches, or by modulating routings/sliders by CV.

Patch Utilities to Combine With Atlantix

- **Sequencers:** Complex multitrack and pattern-chaining capability
 - **Voltage Preset/Address Modules:** Harvestman/Industrial Music Electronics, Malekko Voltage Block, Frap Tools USTA, etc.
 - **Utility/LFO/Random Modules:** Mutable Stages, Pamela's New Workout, Zadar, etc.
 - **Attenuverter/Mixers:** For dynamic manual or CV control of modulation depths/routings.
 - **Effect Processors:** Mimeophon, Magneto, FX Aid, Data Bender, for post-Atlantix drama.
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General Tips

- **Plan macro CV lanes:** Use a performance controller or sequencer to automate key parameters per song section (e.g., filter cutoff, MOD amount, ENV rate, AUX sources).
 - **Self-patch Atlantix:** Exploit MOD outputs, internal S&H/random, and expander outs.
 - **Scene/CV Preset Changers:** The more programmable control you have over Atlantix's settings, the more "songlike" evolution you can achieve.
 - **Manual Play + Automation:** Combine performance switches/sliders with pre-programmed CV for an organic but structured feel.
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Final Thoughts

Atlantix provides an exceptionally deep synthesis engine in a single module, and with intelligent patching and a focus on modulation routing—especially when paired with a structured sequencer, switches, and CV utilities—you can build not just beautiful loops, but entire songs with dynamic transitions, melodies, basslines, and evolving timbres.

[**Download the manual PDF**](#) for detailed reference to all controls and patch points.

Generated With Eurorack Processor