

Roads MK I Electric Piano Operation Manual

Oenkenstein Audio

ROADS MK1 Electric Piano



Operation Manual

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1 Introduction

Roads MK1 Electric Piano is an emulation of a 73 keys Rhodes MK 1 Stage Piano from 1965 and a Rhodes MK 1 Stage Piano from 1975. This Rack Extension emulates the sound and the look of the original hardware.

Included are 23 patches.

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1.1 Description

The Roads MK1 Electric Piano is build as a Rompler. A Rompler is an electronic music instrument that plays prefabricated sounds based on audio samples. The term Rompler is a portmanteau of the terms ROM and sampler.

This device is aimed for those who want to:

- Have an instrument for use in different genres (gospel, hip hop, soul, rock), but also wants to use a good emulation of the classic sound from the original Rhodes MK I Stage Pianos hardware.
- Have a small collection of instrument patches of the Roads MK1 Electric Piano. Most are build for the Stage type and are fully compatible with Roads MK I Electric Piano rack Extension version 1.0.

The stage piano:



The studio Piano:



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Specifications

- Minimal requirements for the Rack Extension: Duo Core based computer with at least 2 GHz processor, 4 GB of RAM and Propellerhead Reason 10.2 or higher running on Windows or Mac OSX.
- Type of device: Rompler.
- Size: 670 MB.
- Method of synthesis: Additive 24 bit wavetable synthesis.
- CV (Control Voltage) Velocity Out.
- CV In for Gate/Note, Hammer, Boost and Volume.
- Controllers:
 1. Piano Type Switch
 2. Spread On Off
 3. Warm
 4. Hammer
 5. Bass Boost
 6. Volume

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1.2 Front and Back Panels

Roads MK1 Electric Piano front panel:



Roads MK1 Electric Piano back panel:



2 Front of the device



2.1 Panels overview

- Patch Browser
- Logo
- Device name
- MIDI Note indicator
- Controls Panel with:
 - Piano Type Switch
 - Spread On Off
 - Warm
 - Hammer
 - Bass Boost
 - Volume

3 Panel 1: Control Panel



The control panel has 8 sections:

Section 1: Patch Browser

With the Patch Browser you can load and save .repatch or .cmb patches.



Section 2: Note Indicator

Flashes when a gate/note is played.



Section 3: Type

Spread is added to the Roads MK1 Electric Piano to provide a stereo panning based on the position of the key played.



- **Type** (Piano Type Switch): Determines whether the Studio piano or the Stage piano will be played (Scale: On or Studio piano / Off or Stage piano. Default: Off or Stage Piano).

Section 4: Spread

Spread is added to the Roads MK1 Electric Piano to provide a stereo panning based on the position of the key played.

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- **Spread** (Spread On Off): Determines whether Spread is added to the signal chain. When On, each note is panned according to position of the keys on a MIDI keyboard or sequencer and makes Roads stereo. When off, the output will be double mono. (Scale: On / Off. Default: Off).

Section 5: Warm



Warm applies noise reduction and is used to damp the high frequencies, resulting in a more 'warm' sound.

- **Warm** (Warm): Determines the amount of the high frequency cut applied by the filter (Scale: 0 / 100. Default: 0).

Section 6: Hammer



Hammer adds the sound of the hammer action of the keyboard to the signal chain. As each key has its own character, all the 73 keys were recorded. Hammer can be used for both piano types, but preferably for the Stage piano.

- **Hammer** (Hammer): Determines whether the hammering is added to the signal chain (Scale: - ∞ / +12,0 dB. Default: ∞ dB).

Section 7: Bass Boost



The Bass Boost in Roads MK1 Electric Piano is an EQ boost or cut around 175 Hz. The original hardware uses a filter just to cut around the same frequency and its slope depends on the volume. The effect of the Bass Boost EQ is noticeable on the lower keys on the keyboard, ranging from note E0 to note E2. Please note that the behaviour of the Bass Boost changes when the Type changes as the Stage piano is recorded with the Bass Boost set to 5 and the Studio piano with the Bass Boost set to 10.

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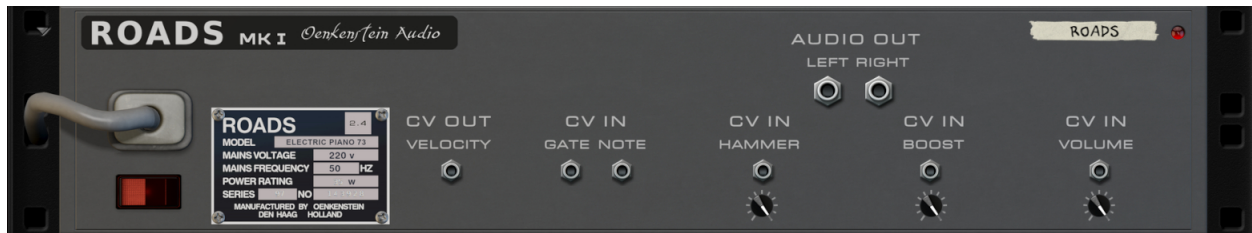
- **Bass Boost** (Bass Boost): Determines the amount of EQ (Scale: 0 / 100. Default: 50).

Section 8: Volume



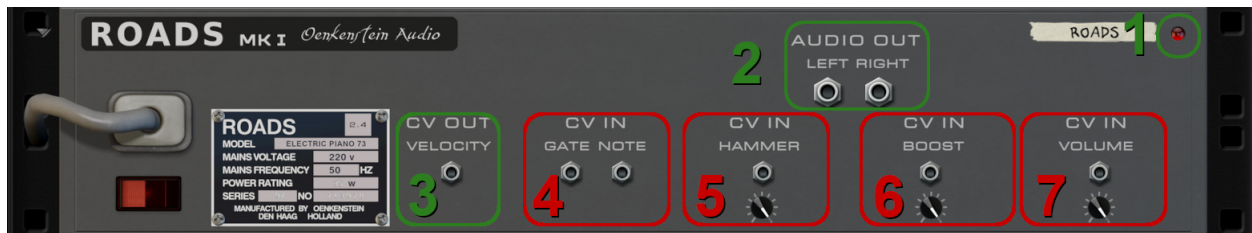
- **Volume** (Volume): Determines the master volume (Scale: $-\infty$ / +12,0 dB. Default: 0,0 dB).

4 Back of the device



The top of the back panel of Roads MK1 Electric Piano shows the logo, the Note indicator and the Device name.

Panel 1: Control Panel



The control panel has 7 sections:

Section 1: Note Indicator



Flashes when a gate/note is played.

Section 2: Audio Out



- Left Right (Left/Mono and Right Out): Master audio output.

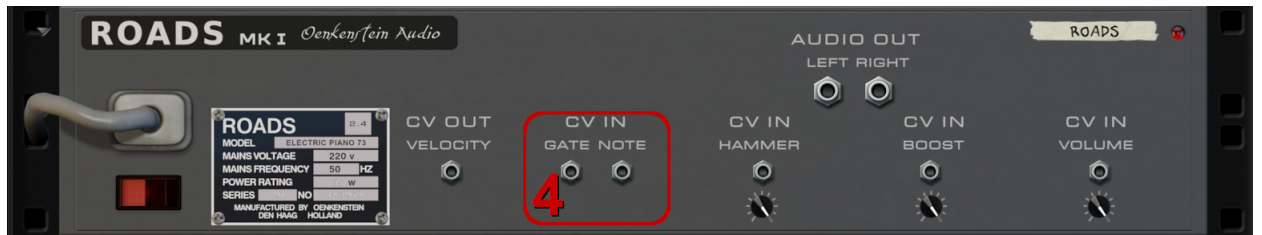
Section 3: CV Out Velocity



Velocity CV output sends unipolar CV (Control Voltage) information to devices in the rack.

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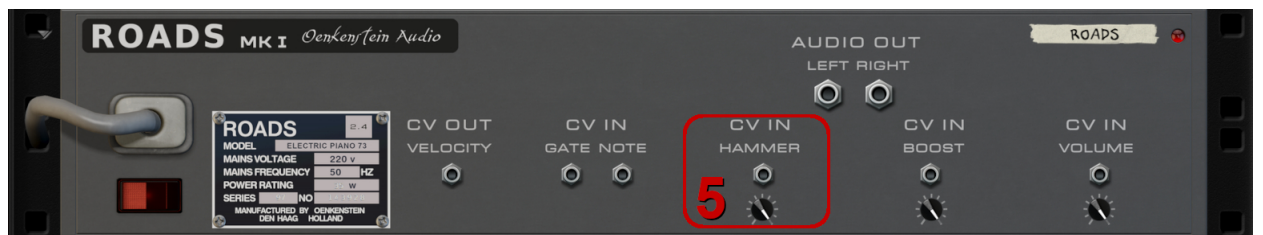
Section 4: CV In Gate/Note



The CV inputs receive unipolar CV (Control Voltage) information from devices in the rack.

- **CV Gate/Note** (Gate CV Input and Note CV Input): CV Gate and Note input.

Section 5: CV In Hammer



- **Hammer** (Hammer CV Input): CV Hammer input. The trim knob is used to scale incoming CV.

Section 6: CV In Boost



- **Boost** (Boost CV Input): CV Boost input. The trim knob is used to scale incoming CV.

Section 7: CV In Volume

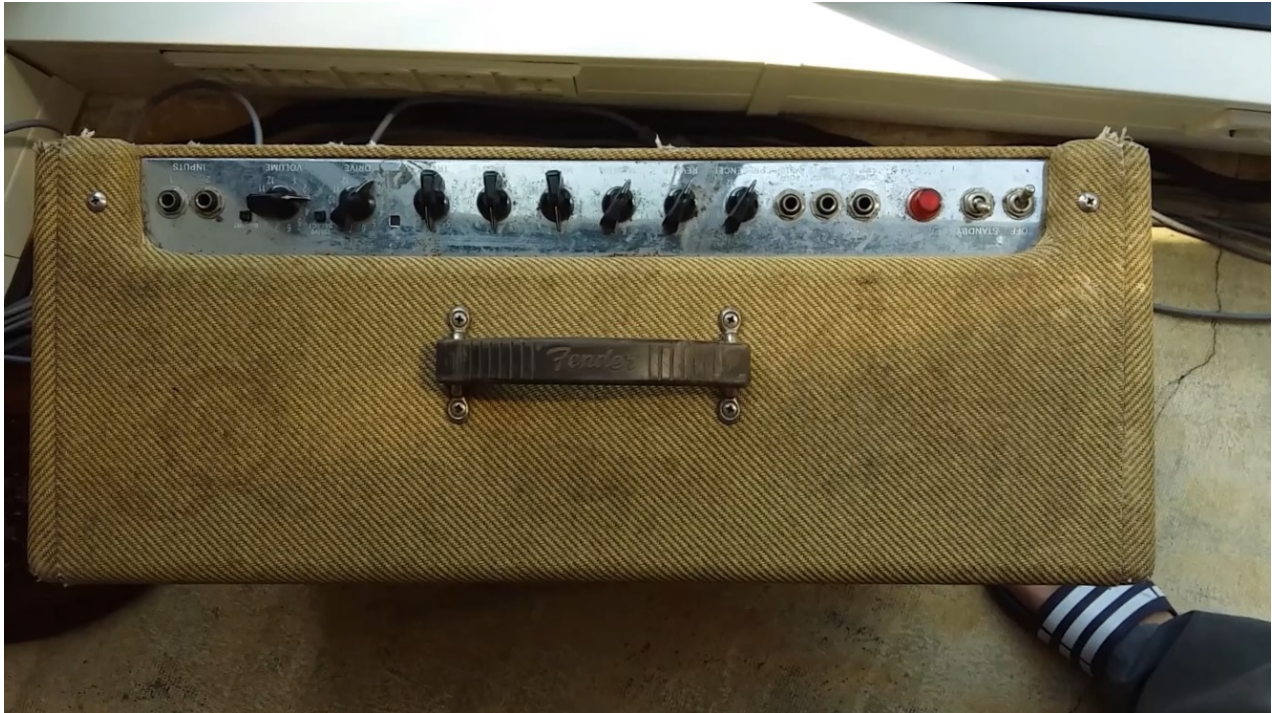


- **Volume** (Volume CV Input): CV Volume input. Connect a LFO to the Volume CV Input and change the LFO Rate to mimic vibrato. The trim knob is used to scale incoming CV.

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5 Patch list

Included are 23 patches. The Roads MK I Electric Pianos comes with some special effects patches which emulates a Fender Twin Reverb amplifier.



The amplifier components are:

- Chorus
- Phaser
- EQ (Paint)
- Spring Reverb (The Cold Hall)
- Compressor (Pressor)

Root folder:

- Boost Max.repatch
- Hammer Only 10.cmb
- Hammer Only 12.cmb
- Hammer Only Studio 12.cmb
- Hammer Soft.repatch
- Hammer.repatch
- Noise Reduction.repatch
- On Stage.cmb
- On the Road.cmb
- Roads Chorus.cmb
- Roads Paint.cmb
- Roads Phaser & Chorus.cmb
- Roads Phaser.cmb
- Roads Pressor.cmb
- Roads.cmb
- Roads.repatch
- Saturated.repatch
- Spread.repatch
- Studio.cmb
- The Cold Hall.cmb
- Velocity Controlled Piano 12.cmb

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- Warm Boost.repatch
- Warm Hammer.repatch

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6 Credits

- Andre van Velden providing his Rhodes Mk 1 for the recordings
- Reasontalk forum, beta test hosting
- All the beta testers
- Rob Kwakkelstein, demo song
- The Implosions, demo song

7 Appendixes

Browsing patches

Changing .repatch files in the Patch Browser while notes are sustained may cause a sudden jump in volume and will play the sound from the current patch with the settings of the new patch. The change disappears when the instrument is included in a Combinator (.cmb).

8 MIDI Implementation Chart

In the table below, first the MIDI CC Number is mentioned and is followed by the name of the function in the Roads MK1 Electric Piano:

[12] = Spread_On_Off
[13] = Warm
[14] = Hammer
[15] = Bass_Boost
[16] = Volume
[17] = Piano_Type_Switch

9 Device Remote information

Scope Oenkenstein Audio nl.oenkenstein.ROADS				
Remotable	Min	Max	Input type	Output type
Spread On Off	0	1	Toggle	ValueOutput
Warm	0	4194304	Value	ValueOutput
Hammer	0	4194304	Value	ValueOutput
Bass Boost	0	4194304	Value	ValueOutput
Volume	0	4194304	Value	ValueOutput
Piano Type Switch	0	1	Toggle	ValueOutput
Mod Wheel	0	127	Value	ValueOutput
Breath Control	0	127	Value	ValueOutput
Expression	0	127	Value	ValueOutput
Sustain Pedal	0	127	Value	ValueOutput
Aftertouch	0	127	Value	ValueOutput
Pitch Bend	-8192	8191	Value	ValueOutput
Device Name	0	0	TextOutput	TextOutput
Patch Name	0	0	TextOutput	TextOutput
Select Patch Delta	0	0	Delta	TextOutput
Select Previous Patch	0	0	Trig	TextOutput
Select Next Patch	0	0	Trig	TextOutput