

INTRODUCTION

This Software is a breakthrough product with tremendous educational and entertainment applications.

FOR YOUR OWN ENJOYMENT:

Playing the piano or any other keyboard instrument requires extraordinary coordination of mind and body. Arms, hands, fingers, and feet must work in perfect cooperation with the ears, eyes, and brain. To attain these physical skills, keyboard virtuosos dedicate their lives to a ceaseless regimen of practice. The rest of us who love music and feel a desire to play it, can't or won't spend our time in such a regimen.

So for us, the physical skills remain a formidable barrier to keyboard playing. The Software allows you to create rhythmically expressive real-time musical performances without spending years of practice developing physical skills.

The Software removes the necessity of recalling which notes are to sound and where your hands must move to make them sound. This leaves you free to focus your attention on rhythm and expression. Each time you strike a key on your computer or MIDI keyboard, the MIDI software simultaneously triggers one or more stored note events while you enjoy powerful, expressive real-time rhythmic control.

You can order additional songs from our extensive inventory. With the Software, you can enjoy playing a lifetime's worth of your favorite music; it will sound the way you feel.

FOR MUSIC EDUCATION:

The Software can be used either as a supplement or an alternative to traditional music teaching. In traditional music teaching, students normally develop substantial technical skills before experiencing expressive music making. These requisite technical skills are of a broad range, including note and rhythm reading, pitch recognition, and the very substantial physical skills necessary to manipulate musical instruments or the voice.

The Software separates the technical skills from the expressive skills in music making. This allows the student to concentrate on the expressive skills while the technology takes care of the technical skills.

With the help of the Software, most students will be able to experience the joys of expressive music playing on a regular and continuing basis. They can experience the emotional, artistic, intellectual, and creative challenges which give beauty, personality and meaning to an otherwise lifeless piece of printed music.

The Software is especially useful in teaching rhythmic skills as a supplement to traditional music teaching. The student can concentrate on playing the proper rhythm without having to simultaneously worry about the correct pitches.

The Software is perfect for the music appreciation student who does not participate in instrumental or vocal ensembles. Normally these students will not be involved in music performance. The Software gives them an unexpected opportunity to experience live, expressive music playing.

The Software takes the performance gestures of expressive keyboard playing and distills them to their simplest essence. This is achieved by assigning some tasks to the computer that otherwise would have been the responsibility of the performer. The Software separates music note reading and finger and hand placement from the expressive gestures of timing and touch. The technology removes the necessity of recalling which notes are to sound and where your hands must move to make them

sound. This leaves students free to focus their attention on musical expression. On each keystroke, the Software simultaneously triggers one or more stored note events from the keyboard while you enjoy powerful, expressive real-time control over the sound.

Although the Software is, in many ways, a completely new kind of musical instrument, all of the cognitive skills of standard keyboard playing can be transferred intuitively to its performance. When used by itself, the Software will bring the experience of highly expressive keyboard performance to people who have limited or no technical proficiency. When used with MIDI sequencing software, it becomes a musical tool of virtually unlimited educational and professional value.

To use the Software you need the following:

- An IBM PC or compatible with a 386 (minimum) microprocessor and Microsoft Windows version 3.1 or greater, running in standard or enhanced mode
- Hard disk drive with at least 1.4MB of available storage
- An internally installed Windows 3.1 compatible MIDI sound card, or an external MIDI sound system

This manual assumes that you have read and are familiar with the owner's guides that came with your computer. You should know how to use the mouse, open applications and documents, and use Windows.

SONG FOLDERS

The seventeen Multiple Arrangement Song Folders packaged with the Software have been specifically designed for educational and entertainment applications, and are a key feature of the Software.

A Multiple Arrangement Song Folder consists of two or three Music File folders. The Music File folders correspond to different arrangements of the song which have separate educational applications. The song arrangements are classified into Type 1, Type 2, and Type 3.

Type 1 arrangements are the easiest to perform with the Software and are ideal for the musical development of very young children and the musically inexperienced. These arrangements are based on a completely regular rhythm, so that a rhythmically correct performance can be made simply by applying a steady beat with one finger on one key. The corresponding Rhythm files will have regularly spaced icons. The corresponding Note files will use icons for notes and rests from regular music notation.

In Type 2 arrangements, the rhythm corresponds exactly to the melodic line. These arrangements are more difficult to perform since the rhythm is not completely regular. The performance of Type 2 arrangements represents an important and natural step in musical development. The corresponding Rhythm files reflect the additional rhythmic complexity with their proportionally spaced symbols.

Most of the Type 2 arrangements have Lyric and Reading files. The Lyric files show the words to the song placed below notes and rests from regular music notation.

The Reading files associated with most Type 2 arrangements are a special feature of the Software. Reading files allow young readers to practice and expand their reading skills in a musical environment. This use of the Software for young readers does not depend on rhythmically precise performance.

Type 3 arrangements correspond to the way the song is most often performed and heard. Unlike Type 1 arrangements, the rhythm is not completely regular. And unlike Type 2

arrangements, there will be passing notes and chords. Students who have mastered the performance of Type 1 and Type 2 arrangements should be able to move on to the Type 3 arrangements.

Single Arrangement Song Folders are also available from the Company, and are based on only one of the three Types. Certain classical piano pieces, accompaniments to songs, and instrumental solos do not lend themselves well to multiple arrangements.

When opening a score file from the File Menu, you can tell whether the score is of type 1, 2, or 3 by looking at the suffix. All score files ending in .Ss1 or .Sm1 are of type 1. All score files ending in .Ss2 or .Sm2 are of type 2. And all score files ending in .Ss3 or .Sm3 are of type 3.

The first 's' indicates that the file is a score file. The 's' or 'm' in the second position indicate whether the score file is single channel or multi channel. Single channel score files are intended to be performed with a single instrument such as a piano arrangement. Multi channel score files are intended to be performed with several instruments such as a band, orchestra, or ensemble. Four of the Song Folders contain multi channel arrangements as well as single channel arrangements.

INSTALLATION

If you will be using the Software with a MIDI sound system, we recommend that you set up your MIDI system before installing the Software. Refer to your owner's manual for proper hardware and software installation and setup of your MIDI interface. After this is completed, shut down your computer. Connect your MIDI interface to a serial port or game port on the back of your computer with the cable designed for this purpose that was packaged with the MIDI interface. Then connect the MIDI in from the MIDI interface to the MIDI out on your MIDI keyboard or tone generator with a MIDI cable. Also connect the MIDI out from the MIDI interface to the MIDI in on your MIDI keyboard or tone generator with a second MIDI cable. Make sure that your keyboard is transmitting on channel 1. You are now ready to install the Software. At this time, you should make a backup copy of the Software on a floppy disk.

Preparing For Font Installation

Before beginning the installation procedure, make sure that all fonts, not just True Type fonts will be shown in applications. To check this, do the following:

Run Windows as you normally would. From the Program Manager, double click on the Main icon. From the Main Window, double click on the Control Panel icon. Double click on the Font icon and then click on the True Type... button in the Font window. When the True Type Window opens, make sure that the box to the right of "Show Only True Type Fonts in Applications" is not checked. If it is, click on the box to uncheck the box.

When the box is empty (unchecked), click on OK in the True Type Window. Then click on cancel in the Font Window and close the Control Panel window.

Software Installation

To install the software do the following:

1. Insert your Instant Pleasure Program Diskette (Instant Keyboard for the educational edition) into an available floppy drive. (We will assume it is drive A.)
2. From the Program Manager, select Run from the File menu. In the Command Line box type:

A:\install

3. When the Instant Pleasure-Installation window appears, (Instant Keyboard for the educational edition), click on the Full Install button. The Installation program will ask if you wish to create Windows icons for the application. If you wish to place the icons in a group different from the one suggested, select it now. If you wish to create a new group in which to place the icons, type the new name now. Finally, click on the Create button.

4. When the Installation is complete, click on the OK button.

You have copied all directories and files from your Program Diskette into the directory named INSPLEAS in the WINDOWS directory on your C drive (INSKEY) for the educational edition). You have also installed the Software's required fonts and set up the application and its icons for use in the Windows Program Manager.

To run the Software, double click on its icon in the appropriate group window in the Program Manager.

If you received an error message regarding Font installation, you probably did not follow the instructions contained in the Preparing For Font Installation section above. At this time you should read the section, follow its instructions and repeat the installation procedure.

Congratulations! You have successfully installed the Software. You are ready to proceed to the Tutorial. We recommend that you complete the Tutorial before reading the main body of the manual.

TUTORIAL

Once you have successfully installed the Software, you are ready to open your first Score. This Tutorial will guide you through the process of opening, listening to, performing, and closing Scores, as well as introduce you to the many useful features of the Software. This Tutorial is designed to help you get started with the Software; it is not meant to be an in-depth explanation of the application's many functions. The remainder of the manual is devoted to a discussion of all of the Software's functions and features, as well as suggestions for creative and educational uses.

To open a score file do the following:

If you are viewing the splashscreen, click on the Ok button. The Open Score dialog box will appear. The directory will show the song folders that sit in your INSPLEAS (INSKEY) folder on your C Drive.

If you are not viewing the splashscreen, pull down the File Menu, and click on Open Score. The Open Score dialog box will appear. Find the Instant folder on your C Drive and double click. The directory will then show the song folders that sit in your INSPLEAS (INSKEY) folder on your C Drive.

Scroll down in the Directories Window until the folder titled oldflag appears. Double click on the oldflag folder. Three folders will appear. Double click on the oldflag.s1 folder. You will see the "You're A Grand Old Flag" score file (oldflag.Ss1) appear in the left file window. Open it by double clicking on it. The Control Window will appear.

NOTE:

If you will be using a MIDI keyboard or other external controller as an input device, you should pull down the Options Menu and click on MIDI Input Settings.... Select the

appropriate driver by clicking. If you do not have a MIDI keyboard, or if you plan to trigger the Software only from the computer keyboard, you may skip this step.

In the Software, Type 1 Song files are always based on completely regular rhythms. These are most suitable for introducing very young children to performing music with the Software. Very young children generally have difficulties reproducing variable rhythms.

Check your MIDI keyboard to be sure that it is receiving and sending MIDI on channel 1. (If you're not sure how to do this, check your keyboard's manual.) Make sure that the MIDI out from your serial interface is connected to the MIDI in of your keyboard, and that the MIDI in of your interface is connected to the MIDI out of your keyboard.

Pull down the Options Menu, and click on Channel Assignments.... The Channel Assignments Dialog Box will appear.

You will notice that "Single Channel Score File" appears in the upper right hand corner of the dialog box. This indicates that the score file has been constructed with a single instrument sound in mind. You can also tell this from the 's' in the suffix of the score file name.

Notice that 'M/A' appears under Set in the row for channel 1. Also notice that 'Off' appears under Set in the rows for channels 2 - 16. This means that both the Melody and the Accompaniment parts will sound on channel 1, and no notes will sound on the other channels. This is the default setting. However, the program allows you the flexibility of controlling which channels are used for melody and which channels are used for accompaniment by clicking on the appropriate boxes under Set. An 'M' indicates melody only; an 'A' indicates accompaniment only; 'Off' means neither; and 'M/A' indicates both melody and accompaniment (i.e., all notes). We recommend that you choose channel one for melody and channel one for accompaniment by leaving 'M/A' under Set for channel 1.

NOTE:

If you do not know which channel or channels your MIDI system is set to receive, please refer to the manual which came with your keyboard or tone generator.

NOTE:

If "Multi Channel Score File" appears in the upper right hand corner of the dialog box, then this indicates that the score file has been constructed with several instrument sounds in mind. In this case, the boxes under Set will only toggle between 'Off' and 'M' or 'Off' and 'A'.

Instrument sounds can be selected by clicking on the box in the Voice column next to the appropriate MIDI channel number, dragging to the desired instrument name and releasing. This sends out a MIDI program change message on the appropriate channel. Since channel and instrument assignments are saved to the score, the program change for the instrument listed on any channel whose melody or accompaniment box is checked was sent upon opening the score.

NOTE:

The instrument names displayed in the dialog box conform to those recommended in the General MIDI Specification. If your MIDI device does not support General MIDI patch names, the particular program names displayed in the Software may not match those on your MIDI device. In this case, you should use the program change numbers (1-128) displayed with the names as a reference for selecting particular sounds or "patches" on your MIDI device.

The additional columns titled Vol, Pan, and Trans, provide added flexibility. Vol controls

the volume of sound coming out on the associated channel. These are used to set the relative balance between instrument sounds. Pan controls the panorama of sound coming out on the associated channel. And Trans allows you to separately transpose the output of each channel. These settings are useful for adjusting the multitimbral balance. We recommend that these settings are kept at neutral, which is the default.

After these settings are made, the dialog box should look like this:

Close this dialog box by clicking the close button. You have now ensured that channel 1 will be used exclusively for the sound output of both the melody and accompaniment notes, and the remaining settings are the neutral default. The Control Window will now reappear.

Click on the arrow icon in the box above Listen. If all of your settings and connections are correct you will hear a rather unexpressive rendition of You're A Grand Old Flag. Listen to the entire song and notice that the Stop button is automatically highlighted when the song ends.

NOTE:

If you do not hear any sound when you click on Listen, check your MIDI and audio connections. Strike a note on your keyboard to make sure that it is properly connected. If your keyboard sounds when you strike a key but does not sound when clicking Listen, check the MIDI settings on your keyboard as well as the section on Instruments/Channel Assignments... under the Options menu. Also, check the MIDI Input Settings and MIDI Output Settings under the Options menu to be sure you have selected the proper drivers. If you have selected the MIDI mapper as the output device, quit the software at this time and open the MIDI mapper and make sure that your keyboard, tone generator or sound card is mapped to the channel(s) you have selected in the Instruments/Channel Assignments dialog box. Then run the software as before.

After you have listened to the song, try clicking on the Listen button again. This time, click the Pause button at any point during the song. The playback will immediately cease. Clicking on the Listen button will restart the song from the point at which playback ceased.

When the song ends and the Stop button is once again highlighted, look at the four control faders labeled Tempo, Key, Melody Volume, and Accompaniment Volume in the Control Window. To control these faders, either click on the arrows on either side of the fader, or click on the shaded area on either side of the fader, or click and drag the box in the direction of either arrow. Experiment with changing the speed, pitch, and volume balance of the song by changing the fader values while playing the song in the Listen mode. Repeat the Listen command until you are familiar with the manipulation and function of the Control Window faders. Please note that the Melody Volume and Accompaniment Volume faders will only be effective if your MIDI keyboard or tone generator responds to MIDI velocity data. Failure to respond to MIDI velocity data is a limitation of certain MIDI keyboards and tone generators, not of the Software.

After the song has finished and the Stop button is highlighted, click on the exclamation point icon which is in the box above Perform. This tells the Software that you will be performing the song from either your MIDI keyboard or your computer keyboard. Using one finger to strike one key, tap out the steady rhythm of You're A Grand Old Flag. Ss1 on any appropriate key on your keyboard. (If you are using a computer keyboard, choose a small key in the second or third row; see the section Performing From The Computer Keyboard.)

If you are using a MIDI keyboard, avoid the four highest and four lowest keys; see the

section on the Perform menu for information about MIDI keyboard settings.) You will hear the song played according to your rhythm. If you strike the key one time for each note of the song, you will soon be able to perform an expressive rendition of You're A Grand Old Flag.Ss1.

The song will repeat over and over so you can practice as many times as you wish. Try different tempos by striking the key in rapid or leisurely succession. If you're performing from a MIDI keyboard, try playing the song louder and softer by striking harder or more gently on the key. You are now doing many of the things a skilled piano player does when he or she is expressively interpreting a piece of music.

NOTE:

If you hear the note you are striking on the MIDI keyboard along with the notes to You're A Grand Old Flag, see the Options menu section and read the information regarding Local Control On and Local Control Off under the Options menu. If you hear the note you are striking, and no other notes, then the Perform Scores From MIDI under the Options menu is probably not checked. If striking a key harder or more gently on your MIDI keyboard does not affect the volume of the notes, it is probably because your MIDI keyboard is not touch sensitive. We recommend that you make sure Perform Scores From MIDI remains checked for the remainder of the Tutorial.

When you release the key after the last note of You're A Grand Old Flag.Ss1, the notes will stop sounding, just as they would in a standard performance. Please note that if you release a key at any time in the middle of the song, the notes that are sounding will be sustained until you either strike another key or click the Stop or Pause button. This is because the Software is set to perform in the Automatic Legato mode. (Legato is an Italian word used by musicians to mean "connected.") While in Automatic Legato mode, all of the notes in the song (except at the very end) will sound until you strike a key again, regardless of when you release the key. This creates a pleasant musical effect. If you want to control the releases of notes as well as their beginnings and volumes you need to change the Software to the Controlled Legato mode. To change it, click on the word Automatic in the box next to the word Legato, release, and click on the word Controlled and release. The Control Window should now look like this:

Now, click on the Perform icon and once again strike the keys to the rhythm of You're A Grand Old Flag.Ss1. As you perform, release the key and wait a moment before restriking it; you will notice that a bit of silence or "space" will be placed between the notes. Performing a song with space between the notes is called Staccato. If you perform the melody by alternating between two different fingers striking two different keys, a variety of Legato and Staccato effects can be achieved in the same performance. When you have finished experimenting with Legato and Staccato effects, click the Stop button. You may also wish to switch back to Automatic Legato by clicking on the word Controlled in the box next to the word Legato, releasing, and clicking on the word Automatic.

To achieve separate volume control over the melody and the accompaniment while performing from your keyboard, you need to set the Software to the Controlled Chords mode. To do that, click on the word Automatic in the box beside the word Chords, release, and click on Controlled. Assuming that you switched back to Automatic Legato, the Control Window should look like this:

Your MIDI keyboard will now be divided into two regions: the upper region which includes all keys at or above "middle C" and the lower region which includes all keys below middle C. Your computer keyboard will be similarly divided: the upper region includes all small keys in the first two rows (the rows furthest away from you); the lower region covers all small keys in the last two rows.

A keystroke in the upper region while performing the song in the Controlled Chords mode causes the Software to trigger all notes for the chord at the current position. The Software determines the sound volume level of the melody notes from the velocity of the upper region keystrokes. A keystroke in the lower region at approximately the same time will determine the sound volume level of all of the accompaniment notes. If no keystroke in the lower region occurs at around the same time, then the sound volume level of the accompaniment notes is determined by the last prior keystroke in the lower region; if there was no prior keystroke in the lower region, then by default, the Accompaniment Volume fader setting on the Control Window is used.

NOTE:

If you select the Perform mode and strike keys at or above middle C, or computer keys only in the first two rows, the accompaniment notes will sound at the default volume selected by the Accompaniment Volume control fader on the Control Window. You successively strike the keys at or above middle C to play the notes of the song. For additional information, see the section called Performance Tips.

You may of course choose both Controlled Legato and Controlled Chords simultaneously, in which case Controlled will appear to the right of both Chords: and Legato: on the Control Window.

The Software also features two exciting additional chord modes called divided chords and independent chords. These modes give you added control over the MIDI velocities of accompaniment and melody notes and their relative timing. The melody and accompaniment parts are still linked so that the parts remain in synch.

The Software features useful graphics. The Graphic Display at the bottom half of the Control Window displays Rhythm files, Note files, Lyric files, and Reading files.

To display Rhythm files, simply press on the Rhythm button and release. By pressing the Rhythm button you will toggle between the regular sized Rhythm files and the double sized Rhythm files. The regular size has the advantage that you can see more of the file at once, and the double size has the advantage of being larger and easier to read. The Control Window should now look like this:

Once the Rhythm file appears on the Graphic Display, click on Listen or Perform and watch the Software highlight the region from the appropriate line segment (indicating the chord that is sounding) to the next line segment. You can click on any of these line segments in order to start at any desired position.

Rhythm files are based on proportional spacing. This is very different from regular music notation, and is designed especially for beginners. The numbers in the Rhythm files indicate the beginning of measures. The triangles indicate the placement of beats according to the time signature of the score. The vertical line segments indicate the proportional placement of chords. A line segment above the horizontal base line indicates a chord with only melody notes. A line segment below the horizontal base line indicates a chord with only accompaniment notes. And a line segment that goes below and above the horizontal base line indicates a chord which has both melody and accompaniment notes. This melody and accompaniment information is useful in helping the performer know what is to be emphasized in the performance.

To display Note files, simply press on the Note button and release. By pressing the Note button you will toggle between the Single Note files and the Dual Note files. The Single Note files display a single musical line with regular music notation, except that there is no staff line indicating pitches. For the beginner, this bridges some of the gap between the

proportionally spaced Rhythm files and regular music notation. The Dual Note files display the melody and accompaniment on separate lines, and represents an additional step towards regular music notation for beginners.

Once the Note file appears on the Graphic Display, click on Listen or Perform and watch the Software highlight the appropriate notes. You can click on any of the note icons in the Single Note files in order to start at any position. In Dual Note files, click on any asterisk in order to start at the desired position.

To display Lyric files, simply press on the Lyric button and release. By pressing the Lyric button you will see a Single Note file with lyrics added.

Once the Lyric file appears on the Graphic Display, click on Listen or Perform and watch the Software highlight the appropriate syllables. Asterisks are used to indicate the presence of a note or chord without a corresponding lyric. You can click on any syllable or asterisk in order to start at a desired position.

Reading files are specially designed for young readers. Reading files are included with Type 2 files only. To open Type 2, first close You're A Grand Old Flag.Ss1 by clicking on the upper left hand corner of the Control Window. (You can answer the dialog as you wish). Now open You're A Grand Old Flag.Ss2 by the path --
C:/INSPLEAS/oldflag/oldflag.s2/oldflag.Ss2.

The rhythms of Type 2 files follow the melody of the song in a one for one fashion. As you perform You're A Grand Old Flag.Ss2, notice how each key press corresponds to a syllable in the lyrics.

To display the Reading file for You're A Grand Old Flag.Ss2, press on the Reading button and release. When the Reading file appears on the Graphic Display, click on Listen or Perform and watch the Software use highlighting and underlining of syllables at the appropriate times. Syllables that have just been triggered are highlighted, and syllables that are next to be triggered are underlined. You can click on any word in order to start at a desired position.

You're A Grand Old Flag.Ss3 has the most sophisticated rhythm. Type 3 files make free use of passing chords and variable rhythms.

The Graphic Display can be closed by choosing Close from the Graphic Display menu located in the upper left hand corner of the window. It can also be resized by clicking on the little triangle in the upper right hand corner of the Graphic Display Window.

You have now learned the basic functions of the software. You can repeat this entire Tutorial trying as many scores as you desire. When you wish to quit the application, press on the File menu, drag to Quit, and release. We hope you will read the remainder of the Manual, and become fully acquainted with the features of the Software.