

The SongCanvas™

The First *SOUNDCanvas* Editor/Librarian
For IBM-Compatible Computers
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The *SongCanvas* is the first patch editor and librarian program for **Roland's** *GS* synthesizers (*SOUNDCanvas* *SC-55*, *SCC-1*, *SC-155*, *JV-30* and many others). It supports all popular MIDI interfaces.

The *SongCanvas* can play your MIDI files as you edit—you hear your changes instantly in the context of your own musical projects! It saves its data in standard binary format (also called "*MIDIEX*" format) so you can store patches with your sequences or as stand-alone banks. You can even create your own single- and multi-part sounds for easy future recall! Finally, the *SongCanvas* gives you complete control over all Global and Part parameters.

The *SongCanvas* has a *Windows* sibling—*Ludwig!*™ All patch and multi-part sound files are interchangeable between the two programs, including **Parker Adams' *SongCanvas Multi-Part Sounds*** advertised in *Keyboard* and *Electronic Musician*. *Ludwig!* is available as **LUDWIG.EXE** on *CompuServe's* **MIDIFORUM** in library 11.

Quick Start information is on page 2. But please be sure to read this entire document after you've played with the *SongCanvas!*

System Requirements

- ❶ A PC ☒ with 450K free RAM; mouse 🖱 recommended
- ❷ A supported MIDI interface: **Roland** *MPU-401* or compatible (like the *SCC-1*), **Key** *MIDIator*, **IBM** *Music Feature*, **Roland** *SC-7* or **Creative Labs** *SoundBlaster*
- ❸ A **Roland** *GS* synthesizer

SongCanvas Quick Start

- 1 Connect a MIDI cable from the computer's MIDI Out to the *SOUNDCanvas's* MIDI In (this is pre-wired on the *SCC-1*).
- 2 Copy all files into a new directory on your hard drive and change to that directory.
- 3 If you have an *MPU-401* or compatible MIDI interface using IRQ 9/2 and I/O address 330h, go to 5. (If you don't know which type you have, you can probably go to 5 as well.) Otherwise, run **CANVAS/?** for details on configuring your MIDI interface with the **SET OPT1=** command. (The *SCC-1's* MIDI interface is an *MPU-401*.)

- 4 Type the **SET OPT1=** command as determined in 3—for example:

```
SET OPT1=-dmpu:5:336 <Enter>
```

- 5 Enter one of these three commands and press **<Enter>**:

```
C runs as device #17  
(SOUNDCanvas default (all SCC-1s use #17)).
```

```
C /D:18 runs on device #18 (change "18" to  
any device # from 1 to 32).
```

```
CANVAS/? displays help screens explaining all of the  
SongCanvas's configuration options.
```

- 6 Select the **Main Menu's HELP** option for complete information on using the *Online Help System* including **<F1>**'s context-sensitive help. Read through as much as you like and you'll be off and running!

Files Included

Program

C.BAT	Batch file to run both PLAYD.EXE and CANVAS.EXE
CANVAS.EXE	<i>SongCanvas</i> program (you should run C.BAT , however)
PLAYD.EXE	MIDI engine—see POWERDOS.WRI and <i>Online Help</i>

Documentation

README.WRI	This file. <i>Windows 3.1 Write</i> format.
README.TXT	ASCII text version of this file.
POWERDOS.WRI	Optional—technical information (for "power users") concerning DOS and <i>Play/D. Write</i> format.

CANVAS.II	Optional—full <i>SongCanvas User's Manual</i> . <i>PCL4</i> format. CANVAS.II is a ready-to-print file for the <i>HP Laserjet Series II</i> printer (and any compatible using <i>HP's Printer Control Language v4 (PCL4)</i>). This format saves disk space—the linked graphic objects mushroom the <i>WinWord</i> file size to over 1.5 MB!
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If you, your spouse or your office has a *PCL4* printer with at least 2MB of memory, you can print the file by typing:

```
COPY /B CANVAS.II PRN <Enter>
```

(You will probably want to reprint the manual on the reverse side of the first copy to create an "official" duplexed manual.)

Note: To minimize download time for those without *PCL4* printers, I've uploaded **CANVAS.II** as a separate file. Look on *CompuServe's MIDIFORUM* in library 7 for the file **SC3MAN.EXE**.

Supplemental

ORDER.TXT	Order/registration form
MTOOLS.TXT	<i>MidiTools</i> information
CANVAS.MID	Sample GS song (Live piano with <i>Band-in-a-Box</i> accompaniment)
SENDSYSX.EXE	Sends .SYX files from the command-line. Run SENDSYSX /? for more information.

Shareware / Ordering Information

The *SongCanvas* is not a free program—it is shareware. The shareware concept allows you to evaluate a program to determine what it's worth to you, and then buy it if you are going to use it. If you still use it after three weeks, register ("buy") the *SongCanvas* by sending me \$49 US. If you don't think the *SongCanvas* is worth it, please let me know why—I'll see if I can satisfy you with the next version.

Registered users can access the enhanced features of the program and download free updates to the *SongCanvas*. You'll also get a certificate to buy *MidiTools* at a large discount.

Please send orders and/or suggestions to:

Jeff Cazal MIDI
13265 SW Cottontail
Beaverton, OR 97005 USA

The **ORDER.TXT** file is a ready-to-print order form. Type **COPY ORDER.TXT PRN** to print it. **ORDER.TXT** also explains how *CompuServe* users can register online.

More Legal Stuff

The *SongCanvas* is a copyrighted program—you may not change it in any way. The official **SC3.EXE** archive displays **Authentic files Verified! #VHI634 Jeff Cazal** at the top of the screen upon dearchiving—be sure to look for it! You may freely distribute the *SongCanvas* (*please do so!*) as long as you include the unmodified **SC3.EXE** and you charge no money except for a maximum copying fee of \$10 US.

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Upon registering, you will receive a letter with your personal **Registration Information**. **Jeff Cazal MIDI** strictly prohibits you from giving this **Registration Information** to anyone in any format whatsoever. Distributing this information—on paper or electronically—voids your license.

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Jeff Cazal MIDI has made every effort to ensure that the *SongCanvas* is as clean and free of bugs as possible. However, no program can ever be guaranteed to be free of all defects.

Ludwig!, *SongCanvas* and *Rhodes Warrior* are trademarks of **Jeff Cazal MIDI**.

Wrap Up

I truly hope you enjoy the *SongCanvas*. Please help me distribute this program as widely as possible by making sure all of your favorite bulletin boards have a copy. Look for future enhancements coming soon to a BBS near you.

Jeff Cazel
March 1, 1993

Very special thanks to Kevin Weiner for his continuing help in integrating his *MidiTools*™ into the *SongCanvas*.

Revision History Highlights

- 3.0 (Mar 93): Changes **.SCD** and **.MPS** file layouts to provide improved file validation; adds three missing tones (**JetPlane**, **Starship** and **Burst Noise**); removes *Windows* facilities since *Ludwig!* is now available; changes MIDI accelerators to match those of *Ludwig!*
- 2.1 (Dec 92): Miscellaneous changes in preparation for the *Windows/MME Ludwig!*; adds *SC-7* support (interface, not sound module)
- 2.0 (Nov 92): Adds **Quick Edit**, **Multi-Part Save/Load**, and fast data entry (read **Editing Patches in Online Help**); moves Voice Reserve and Part mute/umute onto **Quick Edit** screen
- 1.3 (Oct 92): Better context-sensitive help; MIDI Panic Button
- 1.2 (Sep 92): Restructures edit menus for easier use
- 1.1 (Aug 92): Adds **<Ctrl><PgUp/Dn>** Part scrolling; converts data files from **.CVS** to **.SCD** format.
- 1.0 (Jun 92): Initial public availability

Registered users can always download the latest versions from *CompuServe* and other bulletin boards. Except for the BBS charge, these will be free updates!