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COLLABORATORS

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REVISION HISTORY

NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

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Chapter 1

0000

1.1 Cloanto - The Kara Collection - Overview

Welcome to The Kara Collection CD-ROM

```
+
      Introduction
      +      ColorFonts

+
      Examples and Tutorials
      +      AnimFonts

+
      Utilities
      +      Plauegrounds

+
      Troubleshooting
      +      Starfields

+
      Technical Support
      +      ColorType

+
      Distribution
      +      Personal Fonts Maker

+
      Credits
      +
      Personal Paint
      +
      Legal Notes
      +
      Personal Suite
```

1.2 Cloanto - The Kara Collection - Introduction

Introduction

It took 10 years of hard work to create the superb art which is contained on this CD-ROM. The Kara Collection includes all packages previously published by Kara Computer Graphics for the Amiga, in an exclusive and professional edition reorganized and enhanced by Cloanto. Some material is being published here for the very first time.

This CD-ROM contains 80 ColorFonts (including effects like brick, glass, chrome, chisel, etc.), 5 AnimFonts (handwriting, rotating characters, static wipes, sparkles, etc.), hundreds of alternate color palettes, Starfields (moving stars seen from different perspectives), Plaquegrounds (backgrounds such as granite, marble, sand-stone, wood, etc.), and software for special effects in pictures, animations, titling and presentations. All items for solo or combined use.

The Kara Collection also includes two software packages developed by Cloanto to manage bitmapped fonts: ColorType for color fonts and the Personal Fonts Maker for black and white fonts. Both have been acclaimed as the best in their respective fields.

To make AnimFonts really easy and enjoyable to use, we created an ARexx program for Personal Paint, which renders any string of characters into animated text. As Kara says, "So long to the laborious task of placing individual letters... This is the way AnimFonts were meant to be!!!"

For users who already purchased a copy of Personal Paint, but in a version which does not support anim-brushes (which are required to use AnimFonts), this CD-ROM includes a free upgrade. A demonstration version of Personal Paint is also supplied.

The Amiga has been through difficult times, and so have we, developers and users. Yet we have kept working for the Amiga, and you are still here too, with one of our creations. We will not forget these times, and we hope that you are enjoying them too.

Thank you.

The Cloanto Team

Introduction by Kara

Thank you for purchasing The Kara Collection. I would like to share with you some memories I have of making the fonts and the other artwork contained in this CD-ROM.

In 1987, I quit my Graphic Design position to venture out into video (so I thought!) until repeated interviewers kept saying I should check out computer graphics. Finally, someone said "Check out the Amiga". I did and invested in the Amiga 1000. God, was I excited! (I'm sure you can relate to that excitement when you first got your Amiga!) I would sit in front of the screen so long that when I closed my eyes, I could still see the criss-cross of the monitor screen. (Perhaps I was a little too close, but

if you want to be intimate, you have to be close!) I started to learn by giving myself objects to make (objects like a Chrome Apple , Strawberry , Eight Ball , Lips), learning new effects each time. From the beginning, I was unhappy with the font selection so I started making my own. Since I was on a computer, I thought that they should be dimensional and that's when Kara Fonts were born! I started doing fonts with different kinds of effects that appealed to me. Whenever I showed Amiga people what I was doing, they always said that they would like to have them. Then came Calligrapher to allow me to put the letters into the keyboard and that's how Kara Fonts came into being. (Note: Calligrapher from Inter/Active Softworks is not in business any more. But you can do it with ColorType from Cloanto!)

In the last ten years of designing and rendering these fonts, I've worn out four mice, countless number of mouse pads, one Amiga, five disk drives, two monitors, one tattered chair and a weary set of eyes. All for the enjoyment of detailing, nit-picking, pixel moving, pixel changing, and colorizing my "babies". (That's exactly how I saw them.) Like most artists, I made things that I enjoy (why not!!) I also remember staying up at late night trying to figure out how to get a certain effect. I would get to the point of giving up thinking about it when a quiet voice inside my head would suggest a certain direction, I, automatically, would acknowledge with an "O.K.", do what I was told and laugh with joy when it worked! So, there is a lot of joy in these fonts. I hope that they give you joy like I had making them.

Enjoy!

Kara

The Future

With your support, we are continuing to invest in the Amiga. We are working on new versions of our software, and we are publishing new CD-ROM titles such as the

Personal Suite

.

We are currently working on a set of ARexx programs and software extensions which will allow Personal Paint to interact with ColorType in incredible and exciting new ways. For example, it will be possible to apply image processing and textures to existing fonts. Amiga vector fonts can then be used to automatically create ColorFonts in any size. The required ARexx interface is already in ColorType, on this CD-ROM!

To create new and better software we also need your help. Please let us have your suggestions.

Registration

Have you remembered to mail the registration card? Registered users are eligible for special offers and upgrades to new versions of the CD-ROM.

If you prefer to register via electronic mail, please click [here](#) to copy a special registration form to the "Ram Disk". You can then edit and

e-mail the "E-reg.txt" file. If you do so, please do not mail the registration card. Each product serial number can be registered or upgraded to a specific new version only once.

Using The Kara Collection

Before using The Kara Collection, please double-click on one of the language configuration icons (for example "English"). This tells the system where certain programs and preinstalled fonts are to be loaded from, and allows all applications to run smoothly from The Kara Collection. If software and documentation exist in the selected language, these are also configured accordingly.

An automatic installation program is included in the "Utilities" drawer of the CD-ROM. Using this procedure guarantees that software is installed in the desired language, and that data files optimized for size (rather than for CD-ROM performance) are copied, thereby saving hard disk space. Manual installation is also possible: all software titles, font files and other artwork on this CD-ROM can be installed to hard disk by simply dragging the corresponding drawer out of the CD-ROM window and dropping it on the hard drive. The Amiga Workbench displays a message if there is not enough space to copy the complete drawer.

We appreciate the fact that most users handle their CD-ROMs with great care, but we also want you to feel free to use The Kara Collection as often as you like. If you damage your CD-ROM during the first two years of normal use, you can send it back to us in a self-addressed envelope, and we will replace it at no cost to you (with a CD-ROM having the same version as the one returned to us).

For more information:

Utilities

Troubleshooting

1.3 Cloanto - The Kara Collection - Examples and Tutorials

Examples and Tutorials

The "Tutorials" drawer contains several example animations showing what can be done with the artwork and software on the CD-ROM, including step-by-step tutorials explaining how to achieve particular effects. Versions of the animations in different screen sizes and number of colors are included for users of different systems (NTSC and PAL sizes, 16/32 and 256 colors). The animations can be viewed manually (by double-clicking on their icon) or automatically, using the "ViewAll" icons included for each format. The "ViewAll_Auto" icon shows all animations, selecting the best format automatically.

KaraCDIntro.anim presents The Kara Collection

ColorFonts.anim	shows samples of the ColorFonts on the CD-ROM
AnimFonts.anim	shows all the AnimFonts on the CD-ROM
Plaquegrounds.anim	shows samples of the Plaquegrounds
Starfields.anim	shows various animated Starfield effects
AnimText.anim	shows how to create animated texts
AntiAliasText.anim	shows how to anti-alias text with Personal Paint
SmoothShadow.anim	shows how to create shadows with Personal Paint
NeonText.anim	shows a neon effect with Personal Paint
CType_AntiAlias.anim	shows how to create an anti-aliased font
CType_Texture.anim	shows how to apply a texture over a font

Click [here](#) to start a longer demonstration show which includes all of the above animations, plus more artwork from The Kara Collection. If you wish the demonstration to loop automatically and unattended, select the Repeat and Automatic options in the initial requester. This feature was designed for exhibitions, point of sale demonstrations and similar presentations.

1.4 Cloanto - The Kara Collection - Utilities

Utilities

The "Utilities" drawer in The Kara Collection CD-ROM contains some useful support tools, which are described here.

Install

This procedure uses the Amiga Installer software to selectively install program, font and data files to the hard disk. Before proceeding, it checks whether there is enough room on the disk to install the selected items. Since hard disk space is more expensive than CD-ROM storage, some graphics files (palette-based Plaquegrounds and other pictures) are automatically installed in formats which are more space efficient (but take slightly longer to load) than the corresponding files on the CD-ROM.

Unless the entire CD-ROM is installed (using the special installation option), tutorial animations are installed only in the format which is determined to work best, and documentation files in languages other than the one currently selected are not installed. Some manual files may contain links to other items which have not been installed. Such links work only when the CD-ROM is present, or after these additional items have been installed.

The section which (optionally) installs the Personal Paint upgrade asks for the serial number of the original Personal Paint or Personal Suite package, and only works if an older (non-Demo) version of Personal Paint is already installed.

Depending on which items are installed, the installation procedure may add a number of "Assign" commands to the "User-Startup" file. On certain versions of the operating system, Assign commands are not effective if a disk or CD-ROM is present having the same name as the Assign logical name. In particular, the "KaraCD:" logical name may not be assigned if the "KaraCD" CD-ROM is also in use. If this happens, either the CD-ROM must not be in the drive while the system is booted, or the CD-ROM device must be made available to the system only after the execution of the Assign command.

SetPPView

All pictures and animations on the CD-ROM are associated to a "Default Tool" named "PPView" which by default uses Personal Paint to view any artwork selected with a double-click. The demonstration version of Personal Paint included on the CD-ROM serves this purpose without limitations. However, some Amiga users may prefer to use a different viewer, such as MultiView or Viewtek. The SetPPView utility can be used to define a different viewer than Personal Paint for pictures, and another viewer for animations.

From a technical point of view, the viewers are set by defining the "PPViewPic" and "PPViewAnim" Amiga environment variables. The variables may contain the name of the new viewer, followed by some optional parameters. PPView always executes the specified viewer passing the artwork file as a parameter. The position of the artwork file parameter can be determined by placing square brackets ("[]") with nothing between them in the definition string, just as in the AmigaDOS Alias command.

These are examples of viewer definitions (defined manually from the Shell, rather than using SetPPView):

```
SetEnv PPViewPic "MultiView SCREEN"
```

```
SetEnv PPViewAnim "VT [] SC=MULTISCAN:Productivity"
```

Certain slide show procedures launched by links in AmigaGuide documents and through various "ViewAll" icons on the CD-ROM need to interact directly with Personal Paint via Rexx, without using the PPView tool. Therefore, these procedures are not affected by SetPPView.

AssignFonts

The Amiga operating system normally searches for font files wherever the "FONTS:" logical name is assigned to. By default, this does not include the fonts on The Kara Collection. The CD-ROM configurations scripts automatically update "FONTS:" to include all the fonts which are on the CD-ROM, so that all programs can find them. From version 2.0 of the Amiga operating system, a logical name such as "FONTS:" can be assigned to more than one directory. The automatic configuration uses this feature, if

available, in order to add the new font path while at the same time preserving the existing path references, so that programs looking for a font can scan different locations.

The AssignFonts utility is provided to manually reassign "FONTS:" to any directory containing Amiga fonts. A file requester appears, asking the user to select the new directory.

Certain programs (e.g. Deluxe Paint) may search the "FONTS:" directory for a particular font which is required in order to render their screen texts. If AssignFonts is used to change the "FONTS:" assignment to a directory which does not contain the required font, then these programs may not run properly. In this case, AssignFonts should be run only after the software is launched, or it can be used to restore a specific path before running the software. Programs such as Personal Paint and ColorType, which also use a custom font for their user interface, are not disturbed by AssignFonts.

ColorText

This utility is only required with versions of the Amiga operating system which do not support ColorFonts (versions prior to 2.0). The ColorText program adds support for ColorFonts to older operating systems. ColorText is activated with a simple double-click.

"Script" DataType

Some of the document icons on the CD-ROM are not associated directly to a text, but rather to an AmigaDOS command script which in turn opens a document in the correct language and with the correct viewing software depending on the system configuration.

When the documents are viewed with a double-click on their icon, the transition from the AmigaDOS script to the AmigaGuide document is performed automatically. If instead "drag and drop" is used with a combination of programs like ToolManager and MultiView, then a DataType such as "Script" is required. Otherwise, the viewing software displays a series of AmigaDOS commands instead of the intended AmigaGuide document.

The "Script" DataType recognizes and executes AmigaDOS command scripts which are normally processed by the system IconX tool. DataTypes are supported from version 3.0 of the Amiga operating system.

For more information:

Troubleshooting

Personal Paint

1.5 Cloanto - The Kara Collection - Troubleshooting

Troubleshooting

All Cloanto products have to undergo rigorous tests under a variety of configurations. This CD-ROM has been tested at more than 50 sites before publication. Here are some answers to common questions.

Problem: ColorFonts appear in the wrong colors.

Suggestion: The software is using the palette associated to the current environment, and the first 8 colors (or 5 colors, for some fonts) are not suitable to render the selected ColorFont. To correct this, the palette must be changed. In Personal Paint, select the "Color/Palette/From Font" menu item (or simply press <Alt-f>) to use the default palette associated to the ColorFont. Alternate palettes can be loaded with the "Color/Palette/Load" command. It is also possible that the current screen mode has fewer colors than the number required to render the ColorFont, in which case more colors must be added (in Personal Paint this is done through the "Project/Image Format" menu item).

Problem: When a ColorFont is selected and text is typed, only empty boxes appear.

Suggestion: The selected ColorFont does not have the characters that were typed. Most likely, it is a font which has only capital letters. Press <Caps Lock>, and try again. When using fonts that have only capital letters, initials can be rendered by combining different font sizes.

Problem: Under Workbench 1.3 ColorFonts do not seem to work.

Suggestion: Double-click on the ColorText program which is stored in the "Utilities" drawer of the CD-ROM. This adds the appropriate ColorFont extensions to the operating system. ColorText is not required under version 2.0 or higher of the Amiga operating system (where support for ColorFonts is already incorporated).

Problem: When text is typed using ColorFonts, occasionally some "garbage" appears over certain characters.

Suggestion: This is caused by a bug in the text handling routines of certain versions of the Amiga operating system. It appears more frequently when using larger fonts. Loading the font again usually solves the problem. If this doesn't help, try to free some memory by closing other programs, and type "Avail FLUSH" in a Shell window before reloading the font. From within a paint program, the "garbage" can also be removed manually. Some programs (e.g. ColorType) process ColorFonts using their own procedures, and therefore are not affected by this bug.

Problem: ARexx programs on the CD-ROM do not run, and an error message such as "RexxMast: Unknown command" or "ARexx server not active" appears.

Suggestion: The system does not have ARexx, or the REXX software was not started. REXX is a program normally stored in the "System" drawer of the Workbench (System) disk. It is usually launched automatically from the Startup-Sequence, or when executing ARexx scripts with the "RX" command, but it can also be started manually by double-clicking on the REXX icon (or by clicking here). On older operating systems such as 1.3, ARexx must be installed separately.

Problem: After reassigning "FONTS:" with AssignFonts, certain programs do not run any more, or they use an unsuitable font to render menus and gadgets.

Suggestion: Some programs need a custom font for their user interface, and they only look for it in "FONTS:". Such programs should be launched before using AssignFonts.

Problem: After double-clicking on the configuration icon of the CD-ROM, some programs which normally run from the hard drive begin to interact with the CD-ROM. While this is normally acceptable, there may be reasons for preferring otherwise.

Suggestion: The CD-ROM configuration procedures are designed in a way that they do not interfere with existing installed programs. However, the simple fact that the configuration scripts add some references to the CD-ROM may be undesired in some cases. All programs on the CD-ROM also run properly without a prior configuration of the CD-ROM (i.e. a double-click on one of the language icons), although in that case it is not possible to guarantee a consistent environment (e.g. some programs may not know where to find the ColorFonts). With this in mind, the CD-ROM can be used without selecting any of the configuration icons.

Problem: When the CD-ROM is removed from the drive, the icon remains displayed on the Workbench screen. Using other programs, a system requester may appear asking the user to insert the CD-ROM again.

Suggestion: Before removing the CD-ROM from the drive, double-click on the Reset icon which appears on the bottom right of the CD-ROM's Workbench window. This cancels any references (such as an AmigaDOS Assign to the ColorFonts on the CD-ROM) that may have been associated to the CD-ROM during its use.

Problem: Some AmigaGuide links do not work.

Problem: Selecting Retrace in an AmigaGuide document does not work.

Problem: Some files cannot be accessed.

Problem: The selection of a configuration icon (e.g. "English") always results in a "ShowPath failed returncode 22" message.

Suggestion: The majority of such reports are caused by problems of the CD-ROM filing system being used. We recommend that another filing system be tried, such as the excellent and freely distributable AmiCDROM (it is included in most Aminet and Fred Fish collections). AmiCDROM also solves certain problems specific to the original software of the CDTV, CD\$^3\$^2\$ and

A570 CD-ROM drive. In case of difficulties with AmiCDROM up to version 1.15, it is recommended to try a newer version of AmiCDROM itself (at least v. 2.x, available under the new name "AmiCDFS"), or the CD-ROM filing system included from version 3.1 of the Amiga OS. Users of Asim CDFS prior to version 3.5 may want to contact Asimware Innovations Inc. for an upgrade to the latest version of the Asim CDFS.

Problem: When a documentation file on the CD-ROM is opened with a double-click, the corresponding manual appears and everything works fine, but if the file is opened using "drag and drop" with ToolManager and MultiView, only a page with AmigaDOS commands appears.

Suggestion: AmigaDOS command scripts are used on the CD-ROM to make sure that the AmigaGuide documents are loaded in the correct language and with the correct viewing software depending on the computer's configuration. If these scripts appear on the screen as a text page instead of being executed, it means that the system lacks the DataType which recognizes and executes AmigaDOS files instead of displaying them as text. Such a DataType (named "Script") is included in the "Utilities" drawer on this CD-ROM.

Problem: After hard disk installation, a few links in certain manuals appear to be "broken".

Suggestion: The manuals were designed to be used from the original CD-ROM, where all files are available at the same time. In order to preserve the complex hypertext cross-references which link together hundreds of different text and graphics files, it would be necessary to install the entire CD-ROM (which is possible).

Problem: Some items installed from The Kara Collection to the hard disk do not work properly if the CD-ROM is in the drive while the system boots.

Suggestion: Under certain versions of the operating system, the presence of a specific storage volume interferes with an Assign command trying to assign or reassign the same name as the storage volume (e.g. "KaraCD"). Remove the CD-ROM while the system boots.

Problem: The CD-ROM configuration icons have a different flag for each language. English is represented by a combination of the British flag and the USA flag, and German, French and Italian are respectively represented by the flags of Germany, France and Italy. Why aren't there flags or combinations of flags representing the other regions of the world where the same languages are spoken?

Suggestion: Our intention was to represent all countries, territories and people, but on the Workbench window of this CD-ROM there was room only for four different flags, which had to be drawn using about 100 square pixels for each flag. With this limitation in mind, the choice for the flags (as for the languages) to put on the CD-ROM was based on the sole numerical indications of the latest figures of Amiga computer and software sales worldwide. If we were to publish a CD-ROM collection of flags, we would try very hard to include all known flags. For this CD-ROM, we apologize

for the many flags which we know we had to leave out.

For more information:

Utilities

Technical Support

1.6 Cloanto - The Kara Collection - Technical Support

Technical Support

Technical support for The Kara Collection is provided by Cloanto and by Kara Computer Graphics, preferably via E-mail:

support@cloanto.com

KaraCG@aol.com

Additional support may be provided by local dealers and distributors.

When requesting technical support, please indicate your product serial number.

For more information, including postal and telephone details:

Distribution

Cloanto

1.7 Cloanto - The Kara Collection - Distribution

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1.8 Cloanto

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For more information:

Distribution

1.9 Cloanto - The Kara Collection - Credits

Credits

We wish to thank Kara Blohm, for making it all possible.

We also would like to thank the following people for their contribution:

Christian Blaha
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Jeff Bruett
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Terry Chamberlain

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Debra Magedoff
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Takeo Sato
Oscar Sillani
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Alessandra Traine
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Geoffrey Williams
Frank Wolf

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Thanks to Jay Miner and to the other creators of the Amiga.

1.10 Cloanto - The Kara Collection - Legal Notes

Legal Notes

These notes apply to the contents of The Kara Collection CD-ROM.

Copyrights

The Kara Collection is not a collection of freely distributable material.

The individual files stored in The Kara Collection and the program screens are Copyright © 1987-1996 Cloanto Italia srl (Cloanto), unless otherwise indicated in the files or in this document. Parts are licensed from third parties. The compilation is Copyright © 1995, 1996 Cloanto Italia srl. No part of this CD-ROM may be reproduced, transmitted, transcribed, stored in a retrieval system, or translated into any language or computer language, in any form or by any means, optical, electronic, magnetic, biological, chemical, mechanical, acoustic, manual or otherwise without the prior written permission of the copyright holders, as indicated here.

The ColorFonts, AnimFonts, Plaquegrounds and Starfields may be integrated

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1.11 Cloanto - The Kara Collection - Personal Paint

Cloanto Personal Paint

Personal Paint is a powerful and intuitive paint, image processing, animation and 24-bit printing package. Employ stunning effects like emboss, water-colors, transparencies and stereograms (as in "Magic Eye"), while virtual memory frees precious Chip RAM by using other storage resources! Plus: support of RTG graphics cards, different file formats (IFF, PNG, PCX, C source code, DataTypes, etc.), nine brushes, two independent working environments, multi-level Undo/Redo, animation storyboard, Bézier curves, autoscroll painting, Internet publishing features (professional color reduction, transparency and progressive display), superior text editor, color fonts, PostScript output, screen grabber...

Personal Paint Demo

The Kara Collection includes a demonstration version of Personal Paint, which is used as a default viewer to display images and animations on the CD-ROM. This version of Personal Paint even saves and prints, and therefore can be used to completely explore the features of the full program. The only limitation compared to the commercial version is that a "DEMO" pattern covers parts of the image when certain operation are performed. The full product also includes extensive documentation (either in print or on CD-ROM).

The Kara Collection does not include the full version of Personal Paint. The program is available either separately, or in the Personal Suite CD-ROM. The demonstration version on this CD-ROM may not be representative of the latest version of Personal Paint.

Personal Paint Upgrade

Certain sections of The Kara Collection (AnimFonts and Starfields) make

use of anim-brushes, which are not supported by all versions of Personal Paint. For users of these older versions of Personal Paint, the CD-ROM includes a free anim-brush upgrade. The upgrade can be installed to the hard disk with the normal installation procedure ("Utilities" drawer), and it requires an older version of the program to be already installed. The upgrade will not work on demo or cover disk versions, or on compressed executable files (unless compressed with Imploder). Executable Personal Paint files compressed with PowerPacker or similar utilities must be decompressed before being upgraded. The installation and upgrade procedure also asks for the original Personal Paint or Personal Suite serial number in order to determine the exact version of the old program. The anim-brush extensions are not installed over newer versions of Personal Paint which already support anim-brushes. It is strongly recommended to make a backup copy of the drawer containing the old version of Personal Paint, in order to preserve that environment, which may remain of interest even after the upgrade.

The free upgrade is included mainly to support the features documented in this CD-ROM. The full package and various commercial upgrades include additional documentation.

For more information:

Personal Suite

Utilities

Distribution

Cloanto

1.12 Cloanto - The Kara Collection - Personal Suite CD-ROM

Cloanto Personal Suite

Quality Amiga CD-ROM

This CD-ROM includes Personal Paint and Personal Write from Cloanto, SBase 4 Personal (from Oxxi), Personal Fonts Maker 1 & 2 (Cloanto), 27 professional Kara color fonts (Kara Computer Graphics), Cloanto's DirDiff (file synchronization and replication software) and PNG Toolkit, plus ½ Gbyte of pictures, animations, stereograms, stereogram animations, Amiga fonts, printer downloadable fonts and texts.

The CD-ROM contains no public domain or shareware software. The commercial titles are the latest versions available, with full AmigaGuide manuals (English and German, with some titles also in Italian and French).

Famous Amiga artists like Jim Sachs participated with a selection of their best Amiga art. Also included, a compilation of animations by Eric Schwartz, for the first time in IFF ANIM format.

For more information:

Personal Paint

Distribution

Cloanto
