

Denis Eismann © 2009

# SuperDrumFX

Software Drum Workstation 1.4

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|--|-----------|
| <b>FOREWORD .....</b>                                      | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>WHY SDFX.....</b>                                       | <b>4</b>  |
| COMMERCIAL SOFTWARE DRUM SAMPLER.....                      | 4         |
| FREWARE SUPERDRUMFX.....                                   | 4         |
| <b>INSTALLATION.....</b>                                   | <b>5</b>  |
| UPDATING OLDER SDFX VERSIONS .....                         | 5         |
| FIRST INSTALLATION .....                                   | 5         |
| <b>SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE .....</b>                           | <b>7</b>  |
| BLOCK SCHEME OF SOUND GENERATION.....                      | 7         |
| <i>Redundant Blocks</i> .....                              | 7         |
| <i>Block Description</i> .....                             | 7         |
| SIGNAL PATH OF SUPERDRUMFX .....                           | 8         |
| SIGNAL PATH OF SUPERDRUMFX-DRY (WITHOUT EFFECTS).....      | 8         |
| SOUND PROGRAMS OF SDFX.....                                | 8         |
| WAVE PLAYER .....  | 11        |
| <i>Formats</i> .....                                       | 11        |
| MIDI IMPLEMENTATION .....                                  | 11        |
| <i>Standard MIDI Configuration</i> .....                   | 11        |
| PREREQUISITE FOR RUNNING THE SDFX.....                     | 12        |
| <i>Examples for DAW Software</i> .....                     | 12        |
| <i>Examples for Freeware VST/VSTi Hosts</i> .....          | 12        |
| <b>OPERATION .....</b>                                     | <b>13</b> |
| GRAPHICAL USER INTERFACE (GUI).....                        | 13        |
| <i>SDFX GUI Controls</i> .....                             | 13        |
| <i>SDFX Drum-Slot Types</i> .....                          | 15        |
| THE SYSTEM – SLOT .....                                    | 21        |
| SDFX SOUND PARAMETERS.....                                 | 22        |
| <i>Level</i> .....   | 22        |
| <i>Interval Control / IV Control</i> .....                 | 22        |
| <i>IVC Vel</i> .....                                       | 22        |
| <i>Release</i> .....                                       | 22        |
| <i>Compander</i> .....                                     | 23        |
| <i>Pitch</i> .....   | 23        |
| <i>Pitch All, Pitch Hard, Pitch Norm, Pitch Soft</i> ..... | 23        |
| <i>RND Pitch</i> .....                                     | 23        |
| <i>Note</i> .....  | 23        |
| <i>Expert</i> .....  | 24        |
| <i>Hard Hit, Normal Hit, Soft Hit</i> .....                | 24        |
| <i>X-Fade (Cross Fade)</i> .....                           | 24        |
| <i>HH Pedal</i> .....                                      | 24        |
| <i>Mix Level HH Close</i> .....                            | 25        |

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| <i>Buzz Control (Snare Carpet)</i> .....                                      | 25        |
| SDFX EFFECT PARAMETERS .....  | 26        |
| <i>Reverb</i> .....   | 26        |
| <i>Delay</i> .....  | 27        |
| <i>Flanger</i> .....  | 28        |
| SDFX SYSTEM PARAMETERS .....  | 29        |
| <i>Performance Issues and Dynamic Polyphony Reduction</i> .....               | 29        |
| <i>Functioning of the Dynamic Polyphony Reduction</i> .....                   | 29        |
| <i>PExp and PMul</i> .....  | 29        |
| <i>SDFX Library and SDFX Library Path</i> .....                               | 30        |
| <i>Master Volume</i> .....  | 31        |
| <i>Choke Function</i> .....   | 31        |
| <i>Choke ON</i> .....   | 31        |
| <i>Choke OFF</i> .....  | 31        |
| <i>int. Choke CC</i> .....  | 31        |
| <i>MIDI Rule 1 and 2</i> .....  | 31        |
| <i>MIDI Rules</i> .....   | 31        |
| <i>Examples for Choke- and MIDI Rules</i> .....                               | 32        |
| <b>TIPS AND TRICKS TO PRODUCE BASIS SAMPLES</b> .....                         | <b>34</b> |
| REQUIREMENTS .....  | 34        |
| PRODUCTION OF YOUR OWN SNARE SAMPLES .....                                    | 34        |
| <i>Sampling of the snare</i> .....  | 34        |
| <i>Sampling of the snare carpet (alternating samples)</i> .....               | 34        |
| <i>Sampling of the snare position samples</i> .....                           | 35        |
| <i>Sampling of the rim shot samples</i> .....                                 | 35        |
| <i>Sampling of the cross stick samples</i> .....                              | 35        |
| PRODUCTION OF YOUR OWN TOM SAMPLES .....                                      | 35        |
| <i>Sampling of the toms</i> .....   | 35        |
| <i>Sampling of the alternating tom samples</i> .....                          | 35        |
| PRODUCTION OF YOUR OWN KICK SAMPLES .....                                     | 36        |
| PRODUCTION OF YOUR OWN HIHAT SAMPLES .....                                    | 36        |
| <i>Sampling of the HH Foot samples (stepped hihat)</i> .....                  | 36        |
| <i>Sampling of the HH Close samples (closed hihat)</i> .....                  | 37        |
| <i>Sampling of the HH Open samples (open hihat)</i> .....                     | 37        |
| PRODUCTION OF YOUR OWN CYMBAL SAMPLES .....                                   | 37        |
| PRODUCTION OF YOUR OWN RIDE SAMPLES .....                                     | 37        |
| <i>Sampling of the ride rim samples (outer rim of the ride cymbals)</i> ..... | 37        |
| <i>Sampling of the ride bell samples (cup of ride cymbals)</i> .....          | 37        |
| <b>EPILOGUE</b> .....   | <b>38</b> |
| <b>APPENDIX</b> .....   | <b>39</b> |
| MIDI NUMBER TO MIDI NOTE CONVERSATION TABLE .....                             | 39        |
| MIDI MESSAGE TYPES AND DATA BYTES (DB)* .....                                 | 39        |

# User Manual for SuperDrumFX

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## Foreword

The SuperDrumFX, following only called SDFX, is a software based drum sampler. The SDFX was mainly developed to be used together with an electronic drum set (E-Drum). The Goal of this project is to give the interested e-drummer a most realistic drum sound, which eliminates sound weaknesses of the current on the market available hardware based e-drum modules.

## Why SDFX

### Commercial Software Drum Sampler

The current on the market available Software-Drum samplers to simulate an acoustic drum set (Drum Sample Library) have a big disadvantage, because you can't include your own drum samples. After a while you get bored with the included drum sounds and you must buy new drum samples. In addition, the experienced ear can identify each software-drum sampler already by the sounds of the basis sample. The included drum sets generally consist of several layers of sound of the respective drum. More than 32 layers (Sample layer) are often used for each drum to simulate a realistic sound of the drum. Even if you could integrate your own base samples, there would be another problem. Where do you get good quality drum samples? Making these base samples takes a lot of time and requires you to be very experienced. You could buy drum samples on CD/DVDs, however the uniqueness to your own sound would be lost.

### Freeware SuperDrumFX

The SDFX is freeware and does not cost anything. The goal is to simulate an acoustic drum set with electronic means. It also can produce unusual (or unnatural) sounds because of the way it produces the sounds. This is unlike available Software-Drum samplers you can buy; the SDFX allows using your own samples, which gives you almost unlimited sound (tone) diversity. Thus you can use the SDFX not just for a specific style, but it gives the modern drummer or the producer a large bandwidth of musical and stylish opportunities. The SDFX is using a maximum of three samples layers for each drum to produce sound, which makes it easier to produce your own basis samples. Nevertheless through skillful fading (Velocity-Crossfade) and random manipulation of the pitch (Random Pitch) you can produce a sound, which is normally only achieved by using more layers (Sample Layers). Furthermore, through interval control of the drum and the use of alternating basis samples, you can achieve a high grade of quality, which can supersede the sound quality of drum software based on only sample layers.

## Installation

### Updating older SDFX versions

Get the following files from [www.superdrumfx.com](http://www.superdrumfx.com) download area:

- **SuperDrumFX - Software Drum Workstation 1.4** ([SuperDrumFX.dll](#)) or
- **SuperDrumFX - Version 1.4 without FX** ([SuperDrumFX-Dry.dll](#))  
(for legacy PC's without SSE support)

#### Attention:

Programs (fxb/fxp-files) of old SDFX versions need to be removed before starting the installation process. Many DAW software saves SDFX program parameters within the song or project. Because of this behavior, the SDFX plugin need to be removed from existing songs or projects. If you don't remove, your DAW software probably crashes because of incompatible SDFX patch parameters. This will mainly happen, when loading a song or project, which formerly containing an older SDFX plugin version which you didn't removed.

1. Just copy **SuperDrumFX.dll** or **SuperDrumFX-Dry.dll** into your VST/VSTi plugin folder and overwrite the old dll-files.
2. Start your DAW software and reinsert the new SDFX plugin into your songs.
3. Set the SDFX's MIDI channel to the track's MIDI channel or vice versa.
4. In System-Slot, enter the full path to the SDFX sample library.
5. Repeat step 4. for all SDFX drum sets.
6. The SuperDrumFX v1.4 is ready to use.

### First installation

Get the following files from [www.superdrumfx.com](http://www.superdrumfx.com) download area:

- **SuperDrumFX - Software Drum Workstation 1.4** ([SuperDrumFX.dll](#)) or
- **SuperDrumFX - Version 1.4 without FX** ([SuperDrumFX-Dry.dll](#))  
(for legacy PC's without SSE support)
- **SuperDrumFX drum sample library 1.0**  
([SDFX-Sample-Library.zip](#))
- **Update Patch for Drum - Sample- Library 1.0**  
([Library\\_Patch\\_v13.zip](#))

Optionally, you can also download:

- **SuperDrumFX program icons** ([SuperDrumFX.ico](#))
- **Newsound Sample - Library by J.W. Steffens** ([NewSoundDS\\_by\\_JW-Steffens.zip](#))
- **SAVI - Host for standalone operation** ([savihost.zip](#))

#### Installation:

1. Copy **SuperDrumFX.dll** or **SuperDrumFX-Dry.dll** into your standard VST/VSTi plugin folder (probably created by your DAW software). All the other VST/VSTi plugins, used by your DAW software, are located there. (**see section "Prerequisite for running the SDFX"**).
2. Extract the **SDFX-Sample-Library.zip** into a drive and folder of your choice.
3. Extract the **Library\_Patch\_v13.zip** into the `..\SDFX\` folder, where you have extracted the SDFX-Sample-Library.zip.
4. Start your DAW software and open your song or project file.
5. Open the respective instrument/MIDI track's plugin configuration and select the **SuperDrumFX** or **SuperDrumFX-Dry** from plugin list.
6. Open the GUI (editor) of SuperDrumFX (if it's not open yet).
7. Set the SDFX's MIDI channel to the track's MIDI channel or vice versa.
8. Select the System-Slot ("System") in drop-down list at MIDI section of SDFX's graphical user interface.
9. At "**SDFX Library Path**", enter the full path to the extracted SDFX sample library completed by a backslash ("`\`"). (**see section "SDFX Library and SDFX Library Path"**).
10. Save the actual SDFX Program ("DW - Sonor Set") as a patch (.fxp) or save all patches as a bank (.fxb) later. Some DAW software use proprietary file formats and file extensions but this doesn't matter.
11. **Attention:** You need to set and save the library path for all SDFX Programs (drum set patches) separately by using the DAW's build-in patch or bank saving functions.
12. The SuperDrumFX is ready to use.

# System Architecture

## Block Scheme of Sound Generation



\*These blocks, depending on which drum, are available one, two or three times per voice.

### Redundant Blocks

**1-times:** Rim-Shot, Cross-Stick, Snare Carpet, Snare Position, Tom 1 Alternate, Tom 2 Alternate, Floor Tom 1 Alt, Floor Tom 2 Alt

**2-times:** Kick, HiHat, Cymbal 1, Cymbal 2 und Ride, Tom 1, Tom 2, Floor Tom 1, Floor Tom 2

**3-times:** Snare

### Block Description

**MIDI-IN:** The VSTi plugin MIDI input.

**MIDI-Manipulator:** Creates/changes Midi signals dependent of the incoming signal

**MIDI-Filter:** Filters by Midi-channel, Midi-Note, Midi-Velocity (delimitation of the sample layer).

**MIDI2Volt:** Changes the incoming Midi signal to trigger-level (pulse, percussion strength, pitch and so on).

**Wave-Player:** If triggered plays the WAV Sample.

**ADSR:** Envelope generator for **A**ttack, **D**ecay, **S**ustain, **R**elease

*Attack:* Time which passes to reach the full volume level.

*Decay:* Settling time from Attack to sustain level.

*Sustain:* Volume level till release of the keyboard button (lifting of the drum sticks from E-Pad (Note-Off))

*Release:* Decay time after release of the keyboard button (lifting of the drum sticks from E-Pad (Note-Off))

**VCA (DCA):** Virtual voltage controlled amplifier.  
(used for velocity and envelope generation)

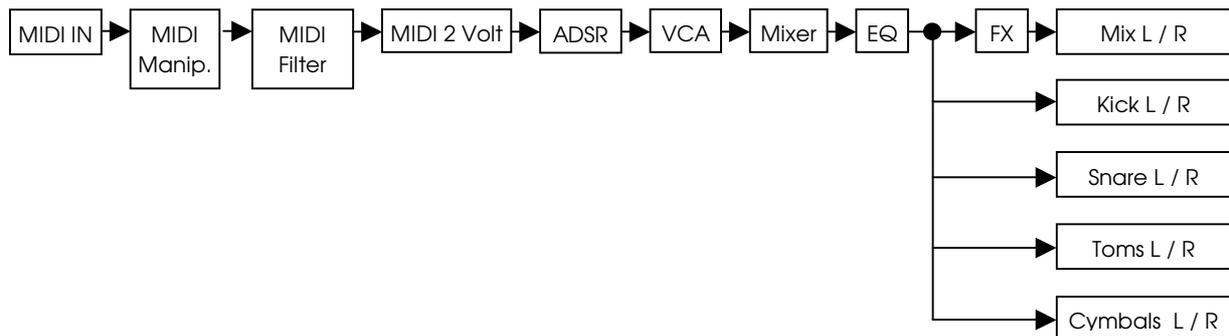
**Mixer:** Controls the volume level assigned to a drum, relative to overall level.

**EQ:** 2-Band – Shelving Equalizer for high pitch adjustment (10 kHz +/- 5dB) and low pitch (80 Hz +/-15DB) for each drum (frequency adjustable).

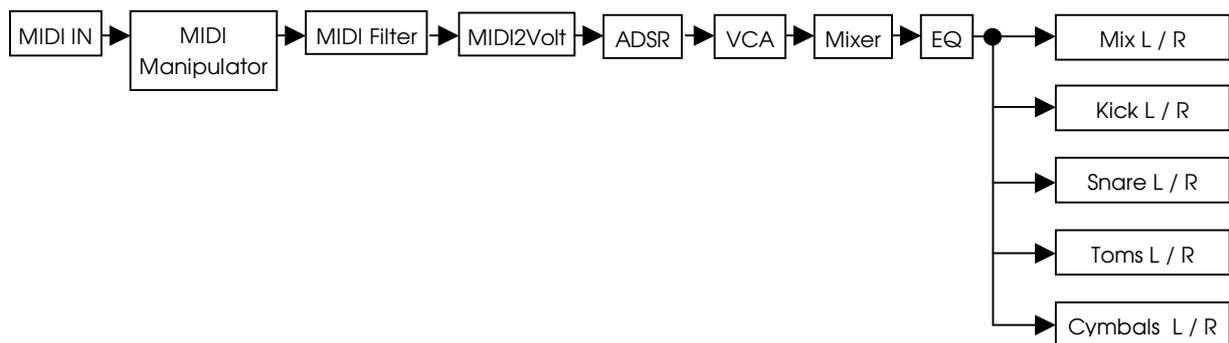
**FX:** Effect section for simulating reverb (hall & room), delay and flanger. Two reverb generators, one delay and one flanger can be simulated simultaneously .

**AUDIO-OUT:** Audio exit of VSTI-Plugin.

### Signal Path of SuperDrumFX



### Signal Path of SuperDrumFX-Dry (without effects)



### Sound Programs of SDFX

The basis of the sound production consists of the so called programs. The SDFX can manage up to 16 programs. Furthermore can an indefinite number of programs be managed with the load and save function of each VSTI-Host. Basically such a program equates to a ready drum set. A SDFX program consists of following drum menus (Drum, Cymbal, Mixer, FX).

| Drum-Slot    | Function   |
|--------------|--|
| Kick         | The kick pedal beater hits the head of the bass drum.  |
| Snare        | Flat drum with snares, which are strung over the bottom head.  |
| Snare Carpet | Simulates the snares or the bottom mike sound. It will mixed together with the snare sound. It contains two alternating samples. |

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>Snare Position</b>   | Simulates position depending sound changes of the snare. It will mixed together with the snare sound. It requires a <b>Roland TD10, TD12 or TD20</b> . |
| <b>Rim Shot</b>         | Simulates a sound which is made when a stick hits the rim and the head of the snare simultaneously.  |
| <b>Cross Stick</b>      | The sound, when you hit the stick softly on the rim of the snare   |
| <b>HH Foot</b>          | Kicked HiHat (foot kick on the HiHat – Pedal => the upper cymbal presses quick to the lower cymbal).   |
| <b>HH Close</b>         | Produces a sound, which is made by hitting the stick on the rim of the closed HiHat.   |
| <b>HH Open</b>          | Produces a sound, which is made by hitting the stick on the rim of the full opened HiHat.  |
| <b>Tom 1</b>            | Blow to the middle of the head of the small hanging toms.  |
| <b>Tom 1 Alternate</b>  | Alternate sound for the blow on the small hanging tom and Tom1 mixed in. It consists of two alternating samples.                                       |
| <b>Tom 2</b>            | Blow to the middle of the head of the medium hanging toms.   |
| <b>Tom 2 Alternate</b>  | Alternate sound for the blow on the medium hanging tom and Tom2 mixed in. It consists of two alternating samples.                                      |
| <b>Floor Tom 1</b>      | Blow to the middle of the head of the small floor-toms.  |
| <b>Floor Tom 1 Alt.</b> | Alternate sound for the blow on the small floor-tom and floor Tom 1 mixed in. It consists of two alternating samples.                                  |
| <b>Floor Tom 2</b>      | Blow to the middle of the head of the big floor-toms.  |
| <b>Floor Tom 2 Alt.</b> | Alternate sound for the blow on the big floor-tom and floor Tom 2 mixed in. It consists of two alternating samples.                                    |
| <b>Cymbal 1</b>         | Blow to the left crash-cymbal. (or splash, gong, china, ride etc.)   |
| <b>Cymbal 2</b>         | Blow to the right crash-cymbal. (or splash, gong, china, ride etc.)  |
| <b>Ride Rim</b>         | Blow to the rim of the Ride – cymbal.  |
| <b>Ride Bell</b>        | Blow to the crest of the Ride – cymbal. (or cowbell, clave etc.)   |
| <b>Mixer - EQ</b>       | Controls the volume level between each of the drums. With the help of the 2-band-equalizer the sound can be adjusted to each drum.                     |
| <b>FX</b>               | Represents the hall/room effect. Readies the delay and flanger. Here you can adjust the effect for each drum group.                                    |
| <b>System</b>           | Adjustments for the dynamic polyphony reduction. Path to the SDFX Library. Total volume power, choke-function and adjusting the Midi-manipulators.     |

The allocation of the drum slots to each of the drums of the drum set is only a suggestion. The included demo programs adhere to these suggestions. Any sample can be loaded in the sample-slots of each drum slot, if it is compatible with the wave-players (**see section "Wave Player"**).

You can save all parameters of the drum menus in a SDFX program. This includes the global and specific parameters of the drum sets.

Following parameter types are saved in programs:

- **global and specific MIDI configurations**
  - global:
    - Channel (MIDI-Channel)
  - specific:
    - FCC (control parameter for the feet pedal)
    - PCC (control parameter for the position recognition)
    - MIDI-Notes (assigned to each drum)
- **specific AUDIO configurations (depending on drum slot type)**
  - Attack, Decay, Sustain, Release
  - Level, IV Control, IVC Vel, Pitch, RND Pitch, Compander, PAN, Expert
  - Rim & Stick DCA (velocity borders)
  - Soft/Normal/Hard - Samples (path and file name), Velocity Borders, Pitch
- **Mixer configuration**
  - Mixer-Level, Equalizer (High/Low) , Freq Hi, Freq Low
- **Effect configuration (FX)**
  - Adjusting parameters for Reverb 1, Reverb 2, Delay and Flanger
  - Adjusting the effect level for the drum groups.
- **System configuration**
  - Path to SuperDrumFX Drum Sample Library (SDFX Library Path)
  - dynamic polyphony reduction (Snare and Tom - PExp, PMul)
  - Overall volume for the whole drum set (Master Volume)
  - MIDI rules for the choke function. (Choke ON/OFF, int. Choke CC)
  - MIDI rules for any use. (MIDI Rule 1 / 2)

## Wave Player

### Formats

The SDFX wave player supports the following sample formats:

- Stereo WAV 16-, 24 and 32 Bit 44 kHz
- Mono WAV 16-, 24 and 32 Bit 44 kHz

These samples can be loaded and saved in the SDFX. All audio samples are loaded into systems memory. Theoretically, there is no limit to the maximum sample length. However the sample length impacts the SDFX speed. Therefore, the shorter the sample the better the SuperDrumFX.

### MIDI Implementation

In general is the standard-midi-adjustment the same as for the Roland E-Drum-modules. You can change each adjustment (drum-slot) according to each e-drum module and to your preferences.

### Standard MIDI Configuration

|                                    |    |
|------------------------------------|----|
| MIDI channel:                      | 1  |
| Feet pedal (FCC):                  | 4  |
| Position control (PCC):            | 16 |
| Choke function (internal Coke CC): | 3  |

| Shell/Cymbal                        | Note         | MIDI Number |  |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|--|
| Kick                                | C1           | 36          |  |
| Snare, Snare Carpet, Snare Position | D1           | 38          |  |
| Rim Shot, Cross Stick               | E1           | 40          |  |
| HH Foot (underfoot HiHat)           | G# 1         | 44          |  |
| HH Close (closed HiHat)             | F# 1, A# -1* | 42, 22*     |  |
| HH Open (open HiHat)                | A# 1, D0*    | 46, 26*     |  |
| Tom 1, Tom 1 Alternate              | C2           | 48          |  |
| Tom 2, Tom 2 Alternate              | A1           | 45          |  |
| Floor Tom 1, Floor Tom 2 Alt.       | G1           | 43          |  |
| Floor Tom 2, Floor Tom 2 Alt.       | F1           | 41          |  |
| Cymbal 1                            | C# 2, G2*    | 49, 55*     |  |
| Cymbal 2                            | A2, E2*      | 57, 52*     |  |
| Ride Rim                            | F2           | 53          |  |
| Ride Bell                           | D# 2         | 51          |  |

\* Right now the SDFX does not support any two-way-e-pads (dual, stereo) for HiHat and Cymbals. That's why HiHat and Cymbals are triggered by two Midi Notes. This makes it easy to assign a drum to each cymbal-e-pad, because the e-drum-module does not need any assignment of notes.

## Prerequisite for running the SDFX

The SDFX works with Microsoft Windows. It is a VSTi-plugin, which means it can not run alone and you need a host-program to run it. You can use the SDFX as a plug-in with the host program and after some configuration changes it can be used. These host programs must be able to load VSTi-plugins, meaning that they must have a VSTi compatible interface. These VSTi-hosts are generally so called DAW-systems (digital audio workstations), which have capable midi- and audio-sequences (like recorders). However there are also VSTi hosts that specialize to be the basis for VSTi plug-ins only. These kinds of VSTi-Hosts generally are missing the functions of a more powerful DAW, which makes them smaller and faster. With them you can have a VSTi-plugin which acts like a standalone. Both types of VSTi-Hosts are available to be purchased, as freeware or as open-source.

### Examples for DAW Software

- Cubase VST from Steinberg
- Logic Audio from Emagic/Apple  
(until version 5 WIN/MAC from version 6 only for MAC)
- Samplitude from Magix
- LIVE from Ableton
- Sonar from Cakewalk
- Reaper from Cockos
- and more...

### Examples for Freeware VST/VSTi Hosts

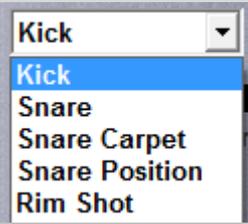
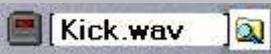
- VSTHost and SAVIHost from Hermann Seib (Windows)
- Cantabile Lite from Topten Software (Windows)
- VSTServer from Kjetil Matheussen (Linux)
- MiniHost from Tobias Fleischer aka „Tobybear“ (Windows)
- and more...

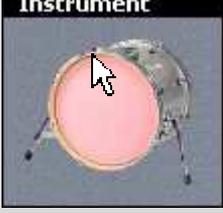
**Important:** You must have one of these programs to run **SuperDrumFX**.

# Operation

## Graphical User Interface (GUI)

### SDFX GUI Controls

| Control                     | Graphic   | Description  |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| Slider                      |    | <p>The slider is the main tool of the SDFX. It consists of the slider and the field (1.65). The slider has limits on the max/min levels, so not every level can be controlled with the slider.</p> <p>In some cases levels beyond this slider's limits need to be adjusted and you have to put the number directly into the field.</p>   |
| Drop-Down                   |    | <p>With the drop-down you can change between sample slots. You can also choose between already existing parameter lists, which initialize, for example Midi-, Velocity or control levels.</p>  |
| Button                      |   | <p>Use the button to change between normal and expert level of a drum-menu. It is not available for all drum-slots.</p>  |
| Small Button                |    | <p>Switch between normal and expert mode. It is not available in all drum-menus.</p>   |
| PAN - Regler                |    | <p>The pan-controller changes the stereo position of each drum. Not available for all drum slots.</p>  |
| Sample-Slot (extern/intern) | <p>extern</p>  <p>intern</p>  | <p>You can enter data and path info for each sample in the Sample-Menus (extern). A click on the file search icon (file icon with magnifying glass) opens a dialog window. Here you can navigate through the files and choose the desired WAV-sample directly with the click of your mouse. The path and data name will transfer automatically in the field of the sample slot. If you click the small button (intern) you can choose your sample from the SDFX Library from the drop down list.</p> |
| Level/Pitch/ Frequenzregler |    | <p>The Level/Pitch/Frequency controller is also a virtual turn knob. It shows the pitch, a knob and an optional field (5.00). You can use it to adjust the pitch of the sample slots. Only when use with the Mixer - EQ - Menu can you adjust the level and frequency. The field can display a number.</p>   |

|                           |   |  |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Instrument Picture</b> |    | <p>The actual drum, associated with the <b>instrument picture</b>, can simply be played by a click on the picture. The instrument picture provides a <b>virtual velocity</b>. The farther up the picture is clicked the louder the assigned drum played. The farther below the instrument picture is clicked the quieter the associated drum playing.</p> <p>The instrument picture is used primarily for <b>identification</b> and <b>prelisten</b> of the associated drum.</p> |
| <b>loud</b>               |    | <p>played loud... (<b>MIDI-Velocity = 127</b>)</p>   |
| <b>medium loud</b>        |   | <p>played medium loud... (<b>MIDI-Velocity = 63</b>)</p>   |
| <b>silently</b>           |  | <p>played silent... (<b>MIDI-Velocity = 0</b>)</p>   |

## SDFX Drum-Slot Types

### The Single Layered Drum-Slot (1 Sample Layer)



This drum-slot-type has only one sample-slot and thus also just one sample layer. It has an **IVC** (Interval Control). You can use it for drum slots: **Snare**, **Position**, **Rim Shot** and **Cross Stick**.

### The Single Layered alternating Drum-Slot (1 Sample Layer)



This drum-slot-type is a special type of the single layered drum slot and is usually used together with one of the other associated drum slots. This drum-slot-type also has only one sample-slot available and it does not have an **IVC** (Interval Control).

Instead of one, it gives you two sample slots. These will play alternately one after the other. At the first hit it will play sample-slot **Alternate 1**, at the second hit it will play the sample from sample-slot **Alternate 2**. At the third hit it will play sample-slot **Alternate 1**

again. At the 4th it will play sample-slot **Alternate 2** again. This sequence can go on indefinitely.

The samples of these drum-slot-types are normally mixed in with the samples of the associated drum-slots. That's why they are reacting to the same Midi notes as the associated drum-slots. What is new is that the snare carpet samples (Carpet) can be added to the drum-slots **Kick, Tom1, Tom 2, Floor Tom 1** and **Floor Tom 2**. This gives a more realistic sound.

**Tip:** If you let these drum-slot-types react to other midi notes, you can use them to expand to even more drums or even other sounds.

**Important:** Because you can't turn off the alternating, make sure that both drum slots have a sample. If you don't have a second sample, just use your sample in both slots. You can use this drum-slot-type with **Snare Carpet, Tom 1 Alternate, Tom 2 Alternate, Floor Tom 1 Alt.** and **Floor Tom 2 Alt.**

### *The Two Layered Drum-Slot (max. 2 Sample Layer)*



This drum-slot-type gives you 2 sample slots with a maximum of two sample layers. It supports the simple interval-control (IVC). These sample-slots do not have velocity-limit-drop-down elements. Instead it has a cross-fade-slider (**X Fade**), where you can adjust percussion strengths.

This drum-slot-type comes with drum-slots **Kick, Tom 1, Tom 2, Floor Tom 1, Floor Tom 2, HH Foot, HH Close, HH Open, Cymbal 1, Cymbal 2, Ride Rim** and **Ride Bell**.

### The Three Layered Drum-Slot (max. 3 Sample Layer)

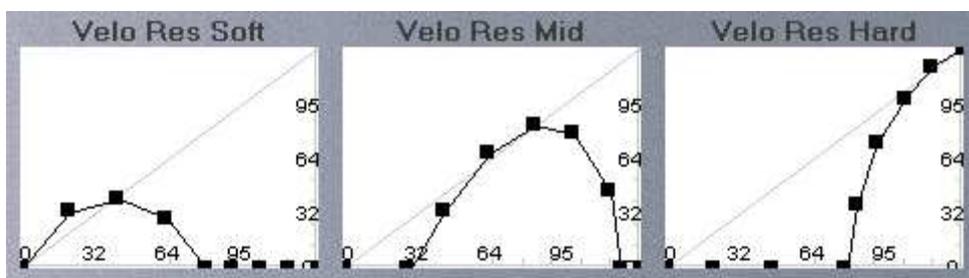


This drum-slot-type gives you 3 sample-slots, which enables you to have three sample layers. Each sample slot has also two velocity-limit-drop-down-elements, which can be used in connection with the velocity-cross-fade-curves of the expert configuration and the different sample layers. (see section **“SDFX Sound Parameters”**)

It supports the normal (IVC) as well as the dynamic interval control (DIVC). With the pitch regulators you can adjust the sound pitches individually. (see section **„Tips and Tricks for Making the Base Samples“**)

A click on the expert button opens the expert configuration, in which the velocity-cross-fade-curves can be adjusted.

#### Expert configuration of the three layered drum-slots



This drum-slot-type is only used with the drum-slot **Snare**.

## The Mixer – EQ – Slot



This slot-type gives you a virtual mixer. Associated drum-tracks get bundled with drums and can be adjusted for volume and with the 2-band-equalizers fine tuned. Finally all the single drums of the drum sets/programs can be fine tuned to each other. The Equalizer gives you two shelving filters to adjust the high and low frequencies (Hi Hz, Low Hz). With the Hi and low controllers you can adjust the intensity of the sound changes.

**Important:** The working frequencies are adjusted together for all equalizers of the mixers. Thus they are valid for all EQ globals within a SDFX-program.

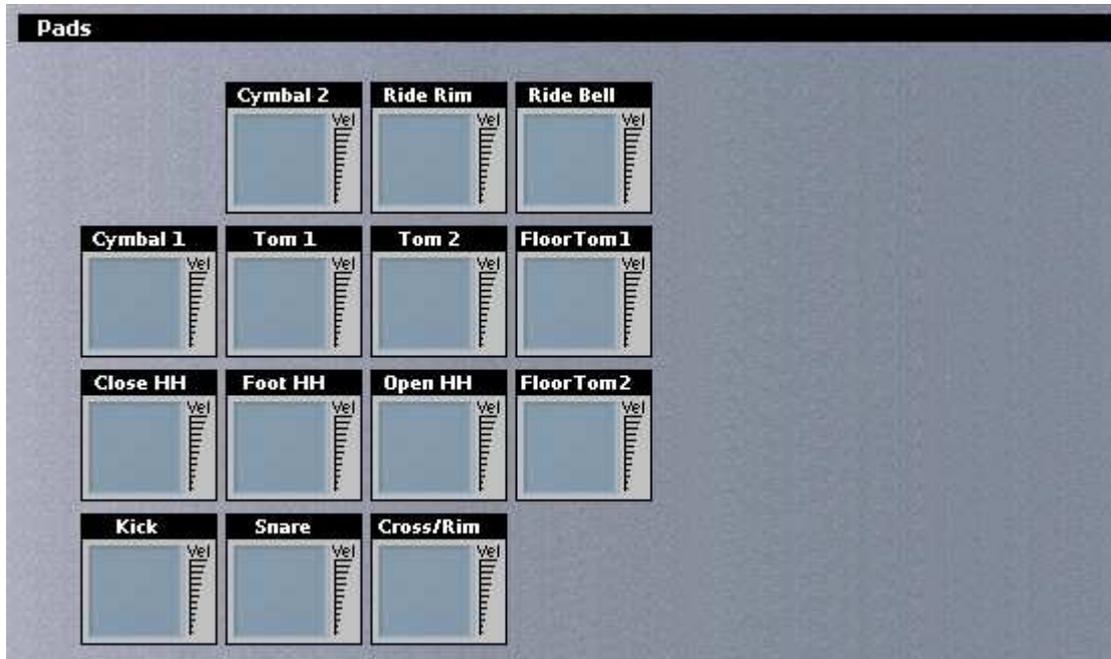
### Combined Drum-Slots: (drum groups)

| Shell/Cymbal | Drum-Slot  |
|--------------|--|
| Kick         | Kick   |
| Snare        | Snare, Snare Carpet, Snare Position, Rim Shot, Cross Stick |
| HiHat        | HH Foot, HH Close, HH Open                                 |
| Cymbal 1     | Cymbal 1   |
| Cymbal 2     | Cymbal 2   |
| Ride         | Ride Rim, Ride Bell  |
| Tom 1        | Tom 1, Tom 1 Alternate                                     |
| Tom 2        | Tom 2, Tom 2 Alternate                                     |
| Tom 3        | Floor Tom 1, Floor Tom 1 Alt.                              |
| Tom 4        | Floor Tom 2, Floor Tom 2 Alt.                              |

**Attention:** Drastic changes on the controllers of the equalizer can destroy the attached sound system. Especially dangerous are the changes from very low

frequency. Sometimes the real sound level is not even audible and can therefore damage the components of the sound system. Please use the equalizer very carefully.

### The Pad – Slot



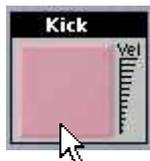
This slot type provides a virtual pad controller whose pads can be played by mouse click. The pads have a virtual velocity. The farther up the pad is clicked the louder the associated drum will playing. The farther below the pad is clicked the quieter the respective drum will playing.



played loud... (MIDI-Velocity = 127)



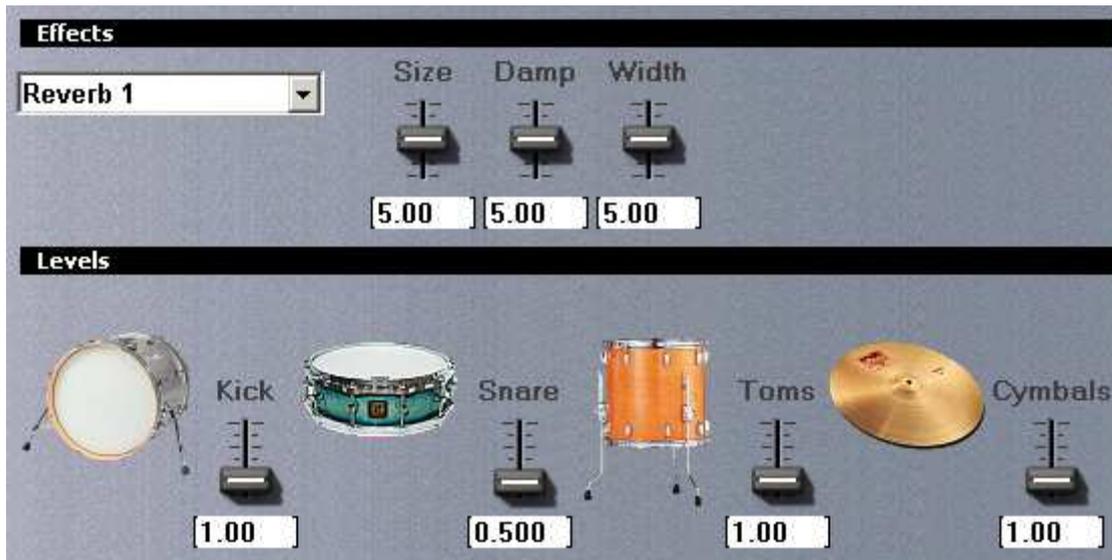
played medium loud... (MIDI-Velocity = 63)



played silently... (MIDI-Velocity = 0)

The slot serves mainly to preview the entire SDFX program.

## The FX – Slot



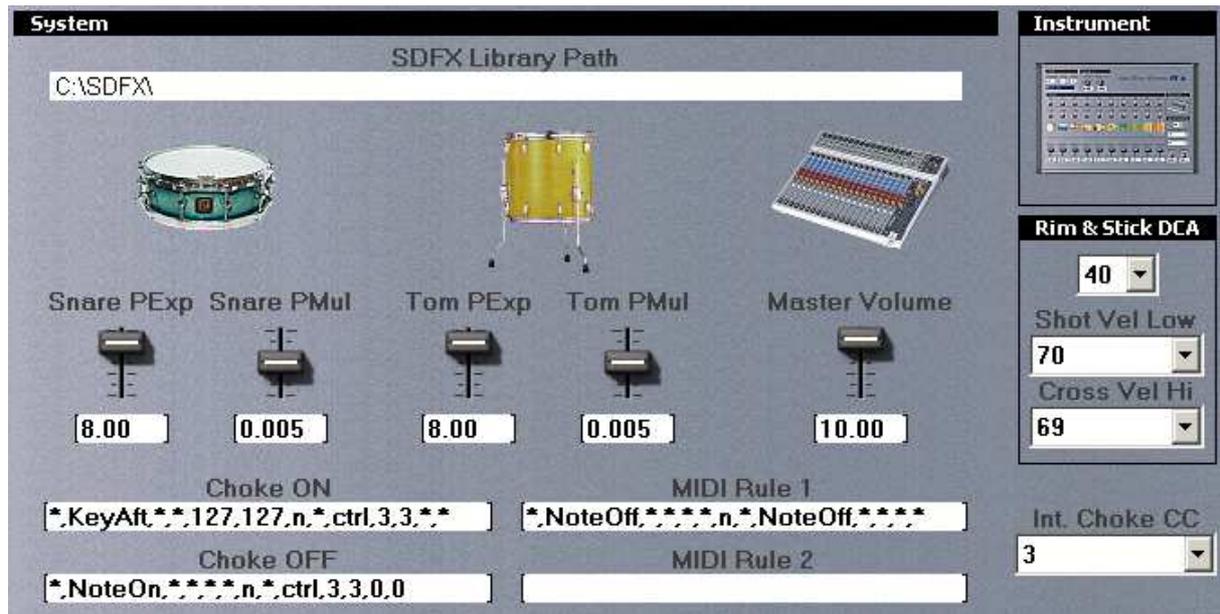
This slot-type is a virtual effect machine. The drum groups known by the **Mixer-EQ-Slot** are used for effect adjustment (kick, snare, toms, cymbals). The FX-Slot gives you three basic effect types (reverb, delay and flanger). The reverb effect (hall/room) is there twice. That's why you can for example do a reverb for the snare and another reverb for the rest of the drum set.

For each effect group you can adjust the effect power with the slider. Thus can a effect group have a max of 4 different effects (reverb1, reverb 2, delay and flanger). The parameter adjustment (effect programs) of the effects are valid program wide and therefore the same for all effect groups of the SDFX programs (drum sets). Only the effect parts for each effect group can be adjusted separately. This is realistic and similar to the limits of a real studio.

**The following drum groups are combined to effect groups:**

| Effektgruppe | Trommelgruppe                   |
|--------------|---------------------------------|
| Kick         | Kick                            |
| Snare        | Snare                           |
| Toms         | Tom 1, Tom2, Tom 3, Tom 4       |
| Cymbals      | HiHat, Cymbal 1, Cymbal 2, Ride |

## The System – Slot



This slot shows adjustments for system intern functions. Adjustable is the path to the “SuperDrumFX Drum Sample Library”, the dynamic polyphony reduction for snare and tom-drum-slots, the master volume of the SuperDrumFX, the midi-controller and the internal controller for the choke-function and two MIDI rules for the for the incoming MIDI signals. All functions listed here are explained in more detail in the chapter “**SDFX System Parameters**”.

**Important:** The system parameter are only saved for each associated SDFX-program (drum set), just as the adjustments of the other drum-slots.

## SDFX Sound Parameters

### Level

Adjust the base volume of each drum track with the level-slider. You can use numbers between -5 and +5. Depending on the sample material and with what it is used levels between -1 and 3 are practical. You only should use the level-slider to adjust the basic volume. If you need to adjust volume between the drums, use the **Mixer-EQ** slot.

**ATTENTION:** A too high volume can destroy the attached sound systems.

### Interval Control / IV Control

With this slider you can adjust the intensity of the interval controls. The interval controls adjusts the swing-in speed (attack) of a drum. This happens depending on the play speed. It accepts levels between 0 and 8. Null means that the interval control is deactivated. The envelope shape of the drum swings therefore always in full power in (right away in full volume level). Bigger levels mean that fast hits (swinging in) are slower and slower hits are faster (swinging in). The 8 means that the interval control effect is at its max. Realistic levels are between 4 and 6 depending on the sample material.

### IVC Vel

With the "IVC Vel"-slider you can influence how powerful the interval control is, which adjusts the Velocity of a hit. The intensity of the interval control is dependent on how powerful the hit is.

**The influence of the "IVC Vel" – parameters gives following results:**

- The more powerful the hit, the weaker the influence of the interval control => with rapid following hits, the attack still stays strong (fast swinging in).
- The weaker the hit, the stronger the influence of the interval control => rapid following weak hits are weakened in attack (rather slow swinging in)

Depending on the quality of the sample-materials and simulated drums, levels between 1 and 2 are practical.

**Attention:** The "IVC Vel"-parameter and DIVC is only available in the drum-slots **Snare, Tom1, Tom2, Floor Tom1 and Floor Tom 2.**

### Release

With the release-slider you can adjust the sound release of the drum. Level between 0 and 8 are allowed. If you manually enter the level you can realize even longer release times, however it could have a negative influence to the performance of the SDFX. The null means an extreme short time and the 8 means a long release.

## Compander

The compander-slider controls the sound volume from weak to strong hit. Level smaller than 1 is compressing and levels greater than 1 are expanding (expander). Levels from 0 to 2 are allowed. Depending on sample material and use, levels between 0.500 and 1.2 are practical.

**ATTENTION:** Levels greater than 1 (Expander) can lead to above average sound level, which can destroy the attached sound system. Thus use this parameter carefully.

## Pitch

The pitch-controller adjusts the pitch of the drum. Levels between 0 and 10 are allowed. The standard level is 5 and means that the sample will be played in its natural pitch. The null represents an extreme low pitch and 10 an extreme high pitch. The pitch-parameter makes it possible for samples to be adjusted to unrecognizable levels, which makes possible to be the basis for other sounds.

**ATTENTION:** The pitch controller is only available in **one-** or **two layered drum slots**.

## Pitch All, Pitch Hard, Pitch Norm, Pitch Soft

These pitch-controllers work analog to the above mentioned pitch-controller. The specialty with these controller are, that you can adjust either the master pitch of a drum-slot (pitch all) or the pitch of each single sample-slots (hard, normal, soft) of a drum set.

**ATTENTION:** The pitch controls are only available in the **three layered drum slot**.

## RND Pitch

With the "RND Pitch"-slider you can influence how strong the SDFX owned chance generator sets the pitch of the drum of a drum slot. Levels from 0 to 500 are allowed. The null means no influence at all and 500 mean the maximum pitch influence. Depending on sample-material and use, levels between 0 and 300 are practical. Bigger levels produce an artificial sounding pitch change, which would be used for sound effects.

**TIP:** Turn the "RND Pitch"-slider to levels between 450 and 500 and listen to the weird result.

## Note

Use the notes-dropdown to influence how a drum responds to each midi-note. Depending on drum type, this parameter has different standard values. Standard for all SDFX-programs are the Roland e-drum-module assignments. (**see section Midi-configuration**).

**ATTENTION:** The drum slots HH Close, HH Open, Cymbal 1 and Cymbal 2 each have two notes-drop-down lists. (**see section "MIDI Implementation"**)

## Expert

With the expert-button you can switch between normal and expert level of a drum-slot. In expert mode (if available) you can graphically adjust the velocity-cross-fade-curves of its sample-slot (hard, normal, and soft). Be careful that each curve has the same number of curve points, so that you won't get a wrong curve picture. Unfortunately this is a bug, which I cannot fix.

**ATTENTION:** The expert-button (and expert configuration mode) is only available for **Snare** drum-slot.

## Hard Hit, Normal Hit, Soft Hit

You can enter the level or path to the samples or you can choose them from the data button. Furthermore you have per sample-slot two dropdown fields available (Vel Lo and Vel Hi). You can adjust the lower (Vel Lo) and the upper (Vel Hi) velocity limit with these dropdown fields for each sample-slot. Levels from 0 to 127 are allowed for both dropdown fields. This is the same as for the MIDI velocity-parameters (velocity=speed/strength of the hit).

The null of "Vel Lo" means that even a MIDI note with a extreme weak velocity will trigger the associated sample. The max of 127 of "Vel Hi" means that even the hardest hit will still be trigger the associated sample. If you set "Vel Lo" to 50 and "Vel Hi" to 100, then the sample would only be played between 50 and 100. Weaker or stronger hits would not be played. The velocity limits with the velocity-cross-fade-curves make it possible to realize different sample layers for each drum/drum-slot.

## X-Fade (Cross Fade)

With the "X-Fade"-slider you can blend together samples in their sample-slots according on their hit strengths. Therefore you can mix two sounds, like for example weak and strong pushed bass drum (MIDI velocity). Levels between -5 and +5 are allowed. The +5 means that only the "Hard Hit" sample-slot is being played and it does not matter which the strengths was used in the kick (MIDI velocity from 0 – 127). The null would mean that with medium kick strengths (MIDI velocity = 63) both sounds would be mixed in equal parts. The bass drum-sound would then be changed from weak to strong kicked sound, if the kick/strengths would be changed from weak (MIDI velocity = 0) to strong (MIDI velocity = 127). Positive levels change the equilibrium towards "Hard Hit" sample-slot and negative levels towards "Soft Hit" sample-slot.

**ATTENTION:** The „X-Fade“-slider is only available within the **two layered drum-slots**.

## HH Pedal

With the "HH Pedal" - slider is adjusted, how sensitive the HiHat-Slots on the transition from closed to the open HiHat response. Values from 0.100 to 2.00 are allowed. Depending on sample material, use or personal preferences, values between 1.5 and 0.500 are practical. This parameter is only available in the "HH Open" – drum-slot.

### Mix Level HH Close

With the "Mix Level HH Close" - control is adjusted, how strong the signal from the "HH Close" - slots is added to the "HH Open" - slot. Values from 0 to 10 are allowed. Depending on sample material and use, values between 0 and 10 are practical. This parameter is only available in the "HH Open" - drum-slot.

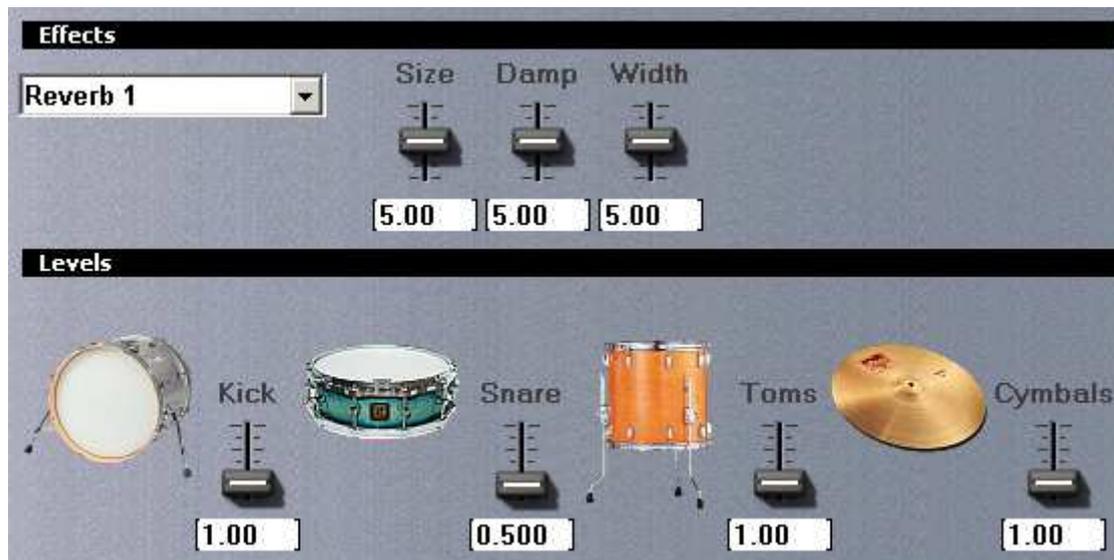
### Buzz Control (Snare Carpet)



With the "Small Button", such as Kick or Tom 1, the addition of snare carpet samples to the respective drum slots can be switched on or off. If the button LED lights up, the adding is activated. With the accompanying level controllers the volume of the snare carpet portion (Buzz), for the respective slot drum set, is adjusted. Values from 0 to 10 are allowed. The "Buzz Control" - parameters are only available in the "Snare Carpet" - drum-slot.

## SDFX Effect Parameters

### Reverb



#### *Size*

Here you adjust the width of the simulated room. Levels from 0 to 10 are allowed. The null means no width and 10 means the max width of a room.

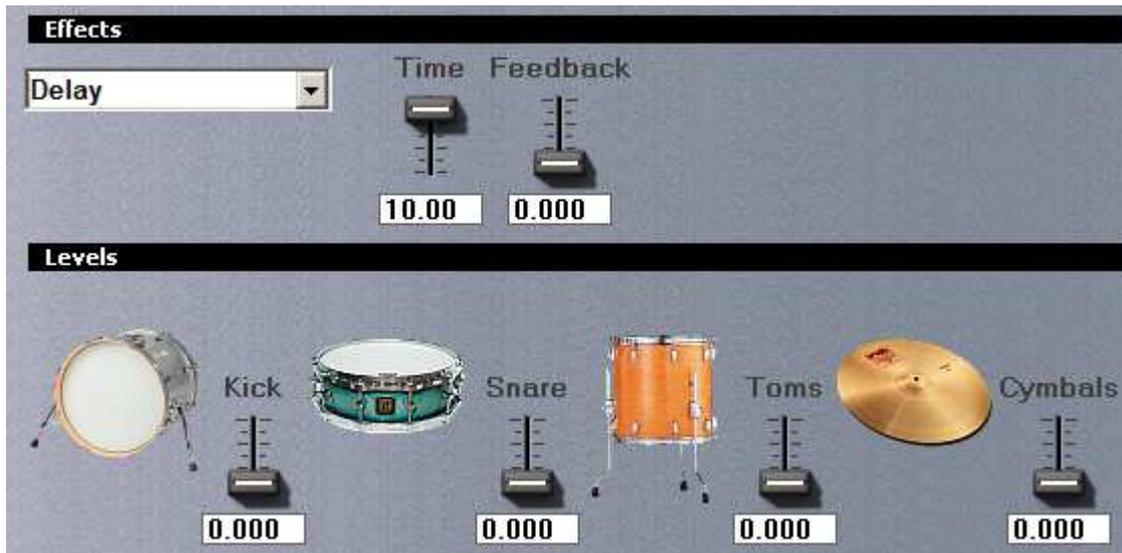
#### *Damp*

Here you adjust the intensity of the damping effect. The damping effect simulates the natural sound absorption of walls in a room or hall. Depending on wall material, the echo sound decays earlier on higher frequency than on lower frequency. Levels of 0 to 10 are allowed. 0 means no damping effect and 10 means maximum damping effect of the room.

#### *Width*

Here you adjust the lengths of the simulated room. Levels from 0 to 10 are allowed. The null means no length and 10 means the max lengths of a room.

## Delay



### *Level*

Here you adjust the time gap between the original signal and the following echo. Levels from 0 to 10 are allowed. The null means no echo and 10 means the maximum time for the repeat of the echo.

### *Time*

Here you can adjust the number of gradually softening repeating echoes. Levels from 0 to 10 are allowed. The null means no echo and 10 means the maximum repeating of the echo.

### *Feedback*

Here you adjust the volume level of the echo in connection with the original signal. Levels from 0 to 10 are allowed. The null means no echo and 10 means the maximum echo volume.

## Flanger



### *Rate*

Here you adjust the velocity of the flanger effect (filter sweep). Levels from 0 to 10 are allowed. The null means extreme slow filter sweep and 10 means maximum velocity of the filter-sweep.

### *Feedback*

Control the intensity of the flanger effect (filter-sweep) here. Levels from 0 to 10 are allowed. The null means no flanger effect and 10 means the maximum flanger-effect.

## SDFX System Parameters

### Performance Issues and Dynamic Polyphony Reduction

The IVC- and DIVC- functions of the SDFX drum-slots require by the system a high internal allocation of voices for each drum-slot (polyphony). This is necessary with long and fast drum rolls so that the interval control does not fail. If this would happen you would hear a "machine gun effect". Specially affected are the long releasing samples like the tom and cymbal. Some snare samples also release long and the faster you play them the more voices you need. A high voice count also uses more internal computing time, which affects the performance of the SDFX. Without the IVC- and DIVC- functions, the SDFX could work with fewer voices per drum-slot and therefore would use a lot less internal computing time.

To fix this problem dynamic polyphony reduction was built into SuperDrumFX. You only need this reduction for drum-slots were you use slow release sounds, which also can be played fast. The cymbal drum-slots are not one of them. Only the snare- and tom drum-slots need this feature.

### Functioning of the Dynamic Polyphony Reduction

The more voices are used for a drum-slot, at a given moment, the shorter the release adjustment of the playing sample. This happens in real time and afterwards, meaning already sounding samples are shortened afterwards depending on how many voices are currently used. This way, an effective, almost inaudible reduction is possible, which has a positive effect on the speed performance of the SDFX. You can adjust the release, depending on the number of voices, with the parameters **PExp** and **PMul**.

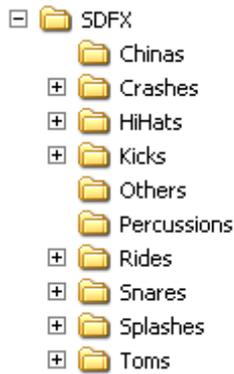
### PExp and PMul

The PExp and PMul sliders are multipliers, which are being multiplied with the current number of voices. The product of this multiplication is being subtracted from the associated drum-slot release time. This calculation is done in real time, meaning during playing of the associated drum-slot. Both "sliders"-values are also dependent on the "release"-parameter in the associated drum-slot. Thus with "Snare PExp" it is the "Release"-level in the snare drum-slot and with "Tom PExp" it is the "Release" - parameter in the just played tom drum-slot. The standard level for **PExp** is 8.00 and for **PMul** it is 0.005.

## SDFX Library and SDFX Library Path

This field should be populated with the included "SuperDrumFX Drum Sample Library" data path. The standard path is "C:\SDFX\" and means that the SDFX Library is located on drive "C:" in folder "SDFX". The last digit of the path must be "\" (back slash) or the library cannot be found.

The folder tree of the SDFX Library looks like:



If the library was saved directly on drive "D:", then the path is: "**D:\SDFX\**".

If the library was saved to drive "M:" in folder "Audio" and folder "Drum Samples", then the path is: "**M:\Audio\DrumSamples\SDFX\**".

If you created another folder with a unique name like "SuperDrumFX Samples" then the path is: "**M:\Audio\DrumSamples\SuperDrumFX Samples\**".

**ATTENTION:** You should not change the internal folder structure if possible. If you want to include your own samples or folders into the library, or want to change a folder or filename, then you have to adapt the text files, which are included in the SDFX library (see below). Note that each row must be completed with a ";" (semicolon). In case of blank lines, there should be at least one white space entered before the ";" - character.

|   |      |              |
|---|------|--------------|
|  carpets.txt | 1 KB | Textdokument |
|  closehh.txt | 1 KB | Textdokument |
|  cymbals.txt | 1 KB | Textdokument |
|  foothh.txt  | 1 KB | Textdokument |
|  kicks.txt   | 1 KB | Textdokument |
|  openhh.txt  | 1 KB | Textdokument |
|  rides.txt   | 1 KB | Textdokument |
|  snares.txt  | 2 KB | Textdokument |
|  toms.txt    | 3 KB | Textdokument |

## Master Volume

You can adjust the total volume of the SuperDrumFX with the “Master Volume” slider. The standard level is 10. Levels between 0 (soft) and 10 (loud) are possible. This volume adjusts the stereo exit mix L/R, as well as the single exits kick L/R, and snare L/R, toms L/R and cymbals L/R.

## Choke Function

The choking is a drum specific play technique where generally you hold the edge of the cymbal with your hand after the cymbal has been hit. The sound of the cymbal is therefore abruptly stopped. Because this effect is very popular in rock music and of course also in live drumming, it was also implemented on e-drum systems. Here the cymbal sound stops abruptly when the edge of the associated cymbal e-pad is pressed together. Not all e-drum modules and not each e-drum pad support this function.

## Choke ON

In this field you can enter the MIDI rule for the “Choke ON” signal. The default entry is

```
„ *,KeyAff,*,*,127,127,n,*,ctrl,3,3,*,* “.
```

The exact meaning is explained in the **chapter "MIDI Rules"**. Different MIDI signals can be used for implementing the choke function.

## Choke OFF

In this field you can enter the MIDI rule for the Choke OFF signal. The default entry is „ \*,NoteOn,\*,\*,\*,n,\*,ctrl,3,3,0,0 “. The exact meaning is explained in the **chapter "MIDI Rules"**. Different MIDI signals can be used for implementing the choke function.

## int. Choke CC

With this drop-down-field, you can choose the MIDI control number for the internal choke function. The default number is 3. The below shown “Choke ON” and “Choke OFF” MIDI choke rules must be adjusted to the here shown number. Standard is 3.

## MIDI Rule 1 and 2

You can enter MIDI rules in text fields “**MIDI Rule 1**” and “**MIDI Rule 2**” for the entire SDFX-program. The default of “**MIDI Rule 1**” is `*,NoteOff,*,*,*,n,*,NoteOff,*,*,*`. This default does absolutely nothing and should only be used as an example for an input text. This field can be left empty. The default for “**MIDI Rule 2**” is empty. The MIDI-Manipulator (which is adjusted here) is technically positioned right after the **MIDI-IN**. It is useful to adapt exotic e-drum-modules with the SDFX and therefore improves compatibility.

## MIDI Rules

The MIDI-Manipulator, which represents the basis of the choke- and MIDI rules, is mainly done with the **SynthEdit** Modul “**DH MIDI Munger**” from **Dave Haupt**. On Dave Haupt’s web page you can find an exact explanation of this function as well as the make of the filter rules of the “**DH MIDI Munger**”.

**ATTENTION:** With the MIDI rules you can screw up the entire internal communication of the SDFX. Thus be careful. However this function could be the only way to adjust the SDFX to exotic or older e-drum systems.

**ATTENTION:** The two internal MIDI manipulators are connected together in parallel mode to realize the choke function. Thus set the "n" - **flag** in the "Choke Off" rule. This does not apply to the MIDI Rule 1 and 2. Would the MIDI manipulators connected together in serial mode, the "y" - **flag** must be set, because the "Note ON" signal otherwise lost, since it would be converted to another signal. (**y = Insert, n = Replace**)

Two internal MIDI manipulators are used parallel for the choke function, thus it is enough to set the "n"-**flag** on the "Choke Off" rule. This is not valid for MIDI Rule1 and 2. Would the MIDI manipulators are used in series, the "y"-**flag** must be set to not lose the ON signal, since it would be converted to another signal. (y = insert, n = replace).

**For possible message types see "Appendix".**

### Examples for Choke- and MIDI Rules

Choke ON:

| \* , KeyAff, \* , \* , 127 , 127 , n , \* , ctrl , 3 , 3 , \* , \* |

Nr.: 1 , 2 , 3 , 4 , 5 , 6 , 7 , 8 , 9 , 10 , 11 , 12 , 13

| No. | Rule   | MIDI     | Declaration                                       |
|-----|--------|----------|---|
| 1   | *      | Channel  | * = all channels                                  |
| 2   | KeyAff | Type     | KeyAff = key aftertouch or p-press (key pressure) |
| 3   | *      | DB 1 Min | all MIDI notes                                    |
| 4   | *      | DB 1 Max | all MIDI notes                                    |
| 5   | 127    | DB 2 Min | from pressure value 127                           |
| 6   | 127    | DB 2 Max | to pressure value 127 (thus only 127)             |
| 7   | n      | y/n Flag | n = original MIDI signal gets converted to:       |
| 8   | *      | Channel  | * = all channels                                  |
| 9   | ctrl   | Type     | MIDI controller                                   |
| 10  | 3      | DB 1 Min | from channel 3                                    |
| 11  | 3      | DB 1 Max | to channel 3                                      |
| 12  | *      | DB 2 Min | all values  |
| 13  | *      | DB 2 Max | all values  |

### Explanation :

All incoming "MIDI Key Aftertouch "- signals (all channels and all notes) with a value of 127, will be converted to "MIDI controller 3" - signals with the same value.

Choke OFF:

| \* , NoteOn, \* , \* , \* , \* , y , \* , ctrl , 3 , 3 , 0 , 0 |

No.: 1 , 2 , 3 , 4 , 5 , 6 , 7 , 8 , 9 , 10 , 11 , 12 , 13

| No. | Rule   | MIDI     | Declaration                                 |
|-----|--------|----------|---|
| 1   | *      | Channel  | * = all channels                            |
| 2   | NoteOn | Type     | Note ON – signal (note gets played)         |
| 3   | *      | DB 1 Min | all notes                                   |
| 4   | *      | DB 1 Max | all notes                                   |
| 5   | *      | DB 2 Min | all velocity values (hit strengths)         |
| 6   | *      | DB 2 Max | all velocity values (hit strengths)         |
| 7   | n      | y/n Flag | n = original MIDI signal gets converted to: |
| 8   | *      | Channel  | * = all channels                            |
| 9   | ctrl   | Type     | MIDI controller                             |
| 10  | 3      | DB 1 Min | from channel 3                              |
| 11  | 3      | DB 1 Max | to channel 3                                |
| 12  | 0      | DB 2 Min | from 0                                      |
| 13  | 0      | DB 2 Max | to 0 (thus only 0)                          |

**Explanation :**

All incoming "MIDI Note On "- signals (all notes and all hit strengths) will be converted in MIDI controller 3" - signals with the value of 0.

MIDI Rule 1:

| \* , NoteOff, \* , \* , \* , \* , n , \* , NoteOff , \* , \* , \* , \* |

No.: 1 , 2 , 3 , 4 , 5 , 6 , 7 , 8 , 9 , 10 , 11 , 12 , 13

| No. | Rule    | MIDI     | Declaration                                 |
|-----|---------|----------|---|
| 1   | *       | Channel  | * = all channels                            |
| 2   | NoteOff | Type     | Note Off – signal (note end)                |
| 3   | *       | DB 1 Min | all notes                                   |
| 4   | *       | DB 1 Max | all notes                                   |
| 5   | *       | DB 2 Min | all velocity values (hit strengths)         |
| 6   | *       | DB 2 Max | all velocity values (hit strengths)         |
| 7   | n       | y/n Flag | originales MIDI Signal wird umgewandelt in: |
| 8   | *       | Channel  | * = all channels                            |
| 9   | NoteOff | Type     | Note Off – signal (note end)                |
| 10  | 3       | DB 1 Min | all notes                                   |
| 11  | 3       | DB 1 Max | all notes                                   |
| 12  | 0       | DB 2 Min | all velocity values (hit strengths)         |
| 13  | 0       | DB 2 Max | all velocity values (hit strengths)         |

**Explanation :**

All incoming "MIDI Note Off "- signals will be converted in "MIDI Note Off" - signals containing the same values. Thus, nothing happens.

## Tips and tricks to produce basis samples

### Requirements

The prerequisites for producing good drum samples is foremost a good tuned, high quality drum set, a high quality microphone amplifier, high quality microphones and a good sounding digital recorder. A drum set and some experience in producing digital sound recordings are also of advantage. Familiarity with PC systems as well as experience recording and producing sound signals with the help of sound adjustment software are prerequisites for following tips and tricks. All produced samples should be normalized (brought up to maximum level), so that the SDFX standard parameter values can be a good starting point for your own drum sets.

### Production of your own snare samples

#### Sampling of the snare

With a good dynamic microphone, use the microphone very close to the snare from above. Hit the middle of the snare one time each in intervals of approximately 3 seconds soft, medium and strong. Repeat this procedure several times. This way you can choose the best sample and still have enough sample material to be used for the below explained cheap tricks.

#### Sampling of the snare carpet (alternating samples)

##### *Variant 1*

With a good dynamic microphone or a condenser microphone, use the microphone very close to the snare from below. Hit the snare several times alternating (left/right) in intervals of approximately 3 seconds. Use the hit strengths which would best suit the carpet. At the end choose a left and a right sample with a strong carpet part. However, be careful that they do not sound too much alike.

##### *Variant 2 (cheap-trick)*

With a good dynamic microphone or a condenser microphone, use the microphone very close to the snare from below. Play a fast series to bring the carpet in good swing. At the end, with a sound adjustment program of your choosing, cut two consecutive hits and divide them into two individual samples. The samples are then a little too short for use as carpet samples. To increase their lengths, just use the time-stretch-function of your sound adjustment program. The end of the sample should then be softly blended.

As an alternative you can also copy the end of a normal snare-sample and add it to the sample that is too short. Be careful not to use the same snare sample that you used here for a sample-slot of a future snare, because you would get an unpleasant sounding flanging effect.

However, if you have to do this (because you don't have enough samples), you can slightly tune new created carpet sample different as the original snare-sample. To do this you can use the pitch adjuster for each sample-slot.

**Tip:** *Variant 2 is more involved, but could give you a more realistic sounding snare than Variant 1.*

### Sampling of the snare position samples

With a good dynamic microphone, use the microphone very close to the snare from above. Hit the rim of the snare head several times hard in intervals of 3 seconds. Choose the best sample.

### Sampling of the rim shot samples

With a good dynamic microphone, use the microphone very close to the snare from above. In intervals of 3 seconds, hit simultaneously the middle and rim area of the snare (rim). Choose the best sample.

### Sampling of the cross stick samples

With a good dynamic microphone, use the microphone very close to the snare from above. Place the drum stick diagonal over the snare, so that the top end sticks out over the rim, but the back end touches the head on the other side. Lift the stick so that the back end stays on the fur. Now in this position, hit the rim of the snare (rim). With a little practice this will sound like the typical "Cross Stick" sound. Repeat this several times in 3 second intervals. Choose the best sample.

## Production of your own tom samples

### Sampling of the toms

With a good dynamic microphone, use the microphone very close to the tom from above. Hit in intervals of 3 seconds each soft and strong to the middle of the toms. Repeat this several times to choose the best sample at the end. You will need a sample that was hit soft and a sample that was hit strong. These samples are later blended in each tom-slot (of the SDFX) depending on their hit strengths.

### Sampling of the alternating tom samples

With a good dynamic microphone, use the microphone very close to the tom from above. Hit the tom several times alternating (left/right) in intervals of approximately 4 seconds. Choose middle to strong hit strengths. At the end choose a left and a right sample of the same tom. However, be careful that they do not sound too much alike. Make sure you did not use the same tom-samples that you used for the normal tom-samples.

You would get an unpleasant flanging effect. If you have to use the same samples for the main and alternating drum slots (tom 1 + tom 1 alternate), make sure you use the pitch adjuster to minimize the flanging effect.

## Production of your own kick samples

### *Variant 1 (1 Microphone)*

With a good dynamic microphone, use the microphone very close within the shell. The microphone should also reach the bass area. Maybe you could use a special bass microphone for this. Start the microphone in the middle of the shell. If you want you can move the microphone around. When you find a good microphone position, record in different positions and decide afterwards which sample to use. Recording closer to the hit area makes a higher sound than recording further away where you get a softer more bass sound. Kick in intervals of 2 seconds weak and hard the bass drum pedal. Repeat this procedure several times to get the best samples. You need a soft and strong kicked bass drum sample. These two samples are going to be softly blended in the kick-drum-slot of the SDFX.

### *Variant 2 (2 Microphones)*

This variant is more labor intensive, but gives you more flexibility in choosing or making your final bass drum samples. You need 2 microphones for this. One specialized for low sounds and has therefore a good coverage in the bass- and low bass area. Position the microphone in the shell or even outside the sound area. The other microphone is good recording high notes and therefore is placed in the shell directly in front of and in the direction of the fur. Don't mix both microphone signals together, but adjust one of the signals extremely to the left and the other to the right. The digital recorder will record in stereo and both microphone signals will be available separate.

Use the bass drum pedal in intervals of 2 seconds one soft and strong. Repeat several times and choose the 4 best samples (2 soft and 2 strong). With the sound adjustment software you can mix the two separated samples to get different bass drum sounds. In the end you will need one soft and one strong kicked bass drum sample. Both samples are going to be over blended later in the kick-drum-slot of the SDFX.

## Production of your own hihat samples

With a good condense microphone, use the microphone very close to the hihat. The microphone should cover the mid- and high area.

### *Sampling of the HH Foot samples (stepped hihat)*

In intervals of 2 seconds step fast and slow onto the HiHat-Pedal, so that the upper and lower cymbal of the HiHat hit together one time hard and one time soft. It produces a "chick" like sound. Repeat this procedure several times and choose the two best samples. You need one soft and one strong sample. Both samples are going to be blended in "HH Foot"-slot of the SDFX.

### **Sampling of the HH Close samples (closed hihat)**

Step strong on the HiHat-Pedal so that the upper and lower cymbal of the HiHat are tight together. In intervals of 2 seconds hit one time soft and one time strong on the rim of the closed HiHat. Repeat this procedure several times and choose the two best samples. You need one soft and one strong sample. Both samples are going to be blended in "HH Close"-slot of the SDFX.

### **Sampling of the HH Open samples (open hihat)**

Take your foot off the HiHat-Pedal so that the upper and lower cymbals of the HiHat can swing freely. In intervals of 4 seconds hit one time soft and one time strong on the rim of the open HiHat. Repeat this procedure several times and choose the two best samples. You need one soft and one strong sample. Both samples are going to be blended in "HH Open"-slot of the SDFX.

### **Production of your own cymbal samples**

Depending on preference choose a close or more medium distance of the microphone to each cymbal. Recording is done from above with a good small- or large- membrane condense microphone (depending on preference). The microphone should be able to cover the middle and high areas. In intervals of 5 seconds hit one time soft and one time strong on the rim of each cymbal. Repeat this procedure several times and choose the two best samples. You need one soft and one strong sample. Both samples are going to be blended in the cymbal-slots of the SDFX.

### **Production of your own ride samples**

Depending on preference choose a close or more medium distance of the microphone to the ride-cymbal. Recording is done from above with a good small- or large- membrane condense microphone (depending on preference). The microphone should be able to cover the middle and high areas.

### **Sampling of the ride rim samples (outer rim of the ride cymbals)**

In intervals of 5 seconds hit one time soft and one time strong on the rim of the ride cymbals. Repeat this procedure several times and choose the two best samples. You will need one soft and one strong sample. Both samples are going to be blended in "Ride Rim"-slot of the SDFX.

### **Sampling of the ride bell samples (cup of ride cymbals)**

In intervals of 5 seconds hit one time soft and one time strong on the bell of the ride cymbals. Repeat this procedure several times and choose the two best samples. You will need one soft and one strong sample. Both samples are going to be blended in "Ride Bell"-slot of the SDFX.

## Epilogue

I hope you have as much fun playing the SuperDrumFX as I do. From the idea, the first steps until the program development took almost 3 years. Support my work in the support-forum of the SuperDrumFX on the web site [www.superdrumfx.com](http://www.superdrumfx.com) by offering to other users your own produced drum samples and sound programs. Also support other users in the forum by answering their questions. You also can donate a small amount of money. I would love any kind of recognition of my project.

Greetings

*Denis Eismann*

## Appendix

### MIDI Number to MIDI Note Conversation Table

| MIDI Number | MIDI Note | MIDI Number | MIDI Note |
|-------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| 35          | B1        | 54          | F# 3      |
| 36          | C2        | 55          | G3        |
| 37          | C# 2      | 56          | G# 3      |
| 38          | D2        | 57          | A3        |
| 39          | D# 2      | 58          | A# 3      |
| 40          | E2        | 59          | B3        |
| 41          | F2        | 60          | C4        |
| 42          | F# 2      | 61          | C# 4      |
| 43          | G2        | 62          | D4        |
| 44          | G# 2      | 63          | D# 4      |
| 45          | A2        | 64          | E4        |
| 46          | A# 2      | 65          | F4        |
| 47          | B2        | 66          | F# 4      |
| 48          | C3        | 67          | G4        |
| 49          | C# 3      | 68          | G# 4      |
| 50          | D3        | 69          | A4        |
| 51          | D# 3      | 70          | A# 4      |
| 52          | E3        | 71          | B4        |
| 53          | F3        | 72          | C5        |

### MIDI Message Types and Data Bytes (DB)\*

| Message Type            | DH_MIDI Munger Abbreviation | Data1 (values 0 - 127)       | Data2 (values 0 - 127)      |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Note Off                | NoteOff                     | MIDI Note Number             | Velocity                    |
| Note On                 | NoteOn                      | MIDI Note Number             | Velocity                    |
| Polyphonic Key Pressure | KeyAft                      | MIDI Note Number             | Pressure                    |
| Control Change          | Ctrl                        | Controller Number            | Data Value                  |
| Program Change          | ProgChg                     | Program Number               | Not Used                    |
| Channel Aftertouch      | ChanAft                     | Pressure                     | Not Used                    |
| Pitch Bend              | PitchB                      | Least Significant Byte (LSB) | Most Significant Byte (MSB) |

\*by Dave Haupt, [www.dehaupt.com](http://www.dehaupt.com)