

# Product Guide

## HALion String Edition 2

---

Steinberg Media Technologies GmbH  
August 2005



Product Guide - August 2005

## HALion String Edition 2

---

### Tagline

“The definitive solo and ensemble virtual string instrument”

### Positioning Statement

*HALion String Edition 2* brings the emotional power and vast sonic palette of orchestral strings to computer-based production environments.

The much-anticipated update to its successful predecessor *HALion String Edition 2* features 9GB of solo and ensemble double basses, cellos, violas and violins in various playing styles clearly organized in more than 750 programs.

Ideally suited to almost any musical style from classical to contemporary, *HALion String Edition 2* is so much more than just another sample library. Based on Steinberg's award-winning HALion 3.1 sampling engine, HSE 2 has been crafted to offer both exquisite playability and stunning realism.

Instantly accessible for the novice yet offering full control for the veteran composer, this unique instrument captures the full emotive power of orchestral strings – always with the composer in mind.

### About String Edition 2 - Capturing the emotions of orchestral strings

String Edition 2 will allow you to create ultra-expressive solo instrument lines as well as stunning string arrangements with the sound of a beautiful ensemble. Individual sections blend perfectly to create that silky, crystal clear and detailed string sound that only a top orchestra can produce. It puts all the important playing techniques and articulations at your fingertips without an overwhelming wealth of parameters and options.

### Not just Quantity....

With over 10000 Samples (9GB) organized in more than 750 programs of solo and ensemble double basses, cellos, violas and violins in various playing styles and articulations HALion String Edition 2 is the easy-to-use and 100% complete solution for any musician and composer looking for the real thing. The HALion String Player Instrument allows full control over articulations such as crescendo, bowing or portamento and also features 8 of the most important Parameters for every Program.

### ...but also the highest Quality

Based on the outstanding performances by one of Europe's leading orchestras, digitally recorded in 24-bit using top-grade equipment to ensure the highest sonic fidelity, String Edition 2 features a warm character, an outstanding sound quality and a rich but unobtrusive and controllable natural ambience.

## Real Ambience

Steinberg's RealAmbience feature offers true recorded ambience that can be perfectly blended into any mix or production. Using only recorded ambience with no artificial reverb, RealAmbience builds a controllable virtual concert hall environment, with fully adjustable ambience time and wet/dry balance.

## Maximum Usability

During the development of HALion String Edition 2, keeping the VSTi easy to use was a top priority - no more fighting with tons of parameters thanks to the predefined 8 Sound Parameters for any program. Instead Users now enjoy the well thought-out Library structure and the ability to access any sound within a maximum of 2 mouse clicks, sorted by instrument group or articulations.



## Low resource use

The advanced disk-streaming mode and efficient CPU performance both help the composer to effectively focus on composing rather than technology. Under the hood, HSE 2 is consequently optimized to give efficient computer resource use. The included special "Economy" versions of many programs can further reduce demands on the computer's resources, freeing up power for other processing tasks.



Incorporated into *HALion String Edition 2* is the RAMSave™ technology, first seen in Steinberg's HALion 3 virtual sampler VSTi, which allows for highly efficient use of the host computer's RAM. RAMSave™ allows the "freezing" of the instrument and automatically unloading unneeded samples from memory, resulting in low RAM usage and faster project load and save times.

## Versatility

The result of all this work is a universally usable string library, one that will work as well in the context of a movie as in a dance production. These strings will fit in wherever you need them. You can use them as they are, since we spent a long time mixing and matching the recordings to get the right sound. Or you can tweak them in the mix to meet your personal taste using reverb or equalization.

It suits almost any musical style from classical to contemporary and captures the full emotive power of orchestral strings. See below in the “Program Reference” for an extraordinary list of Programs and their variations in HALion String Edition 2.

## HSE2 connects to everything

*HALion String Edition 2* supports all major plug-in formats such as VST, DXi, and AU. ReWire support offers easy integration into Pro Tools®<sup>1</sup>, while the standalone version allows *HSE2* to be used without a host application.

## Who is it made for?

The HALion String Edition was developed for the demands of the majority of people using string orchestra instruments in a computer. A typical user of the HALion String Edition could be:

- a studio arranger creating a string track for a pop ballad
- a composer orchestrating his idea while writing the score
- a home recordist brushing up demo tracks originally created on a General MIDI player
- a keyboardist playing strings live on stage
- a film composer mocking up a layout that later will be performed or recorded by a real orchestra

Currently available string libraries leave a gap between two extremes:

- String orchestra sounds in workstations or on CD-ROMs for hardware samplers.

These usually are designed with the keyboard player in mind: for chord playing (instead of arranging separate sections), lacking authenticity, articulation, flexibility, playing and controlling options. While they produce convincing sound colours in background pads or slow melody lines, even the unskilled ear can distinguish them from a real orchestra.

- Huge string orchestra libraries created with the professional composer and arranger in mind.

While these usually offer all playing styles and creative options imaginable, they are almost unusable for normal musicians and require a healthy knowledge about string orchestra arranging and conducting. And ... they usually cost a fortune.

Most people, however, are looking for a string orchestra combining the advantages of both extremes: Superior sound quality, large ranges of articulations, yet easy to play and control – and at an affordable price. Our goal was to create exactly this library to fill the gap between these extremes.

HALion String Edition 2 was developed with the goal in mind to be easy to access and use, well structured and laid out.

---

<sup>1</sup> Pro Tools® is a registered trade mark of AVID Technology, Inc.

## About Claudius Brüse

Born in Germany, Claudius Bruese started his musical career in 1978 in Seattle with a scholarship from Cornish Institute. Back in Germany, he studied jazz composition and arrangement in Cologne, followed by studying composition at the Folkwangschule in Essen, where he graduated in electronic and computer composition in 1984. Over the years, he has composed a lot of contemporary concert music, ranging from chamber music to orchestral works, and a multitude of film and commercial music, including documentaries, television work and feature films on both sides of the Atlantic – frequently travelling between his two homes in Cologne and Los Angeles. He co-developed the Waldorf Wave synthesizer and has written numerous magazine articles and books on digital audio.

Claudius and Steinberg have done numerous projects together over the last years – the best-known being the “The Grand” VST instrument, highly valued worldwide as being the most accurate digital incarnation of a concert grand piano.

The String Edition 2 shows Claudius’ handwriting all over the place: The typical accuracy in the reproduction of the highly sensitive acoustic instrument sound, superior sound quality and transparency, perfection down to the tiniest detail and – last but not least – an unrivalled feel for playability and control.

## Top Reasons to update to HSE 2

- **All new high-end Solo String Sounds** in all expressive variations to complement Vol.1 Tutti ensemble sounds
- **Includes optimized** and reprogrammed versions of the entire **String Edition Vol.1 content** (orchestral strings - Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass Sections)
- **Advanced Sound Category System** makes browsing the library a real joy and allows filtering by instrument or articulation groups
- **RealAmbience feature** offers true recorded ambience with parametric control of mix and reverb time to perfectly blend into any mix – no artificial reverb!
- **Q-controls:** each Program features the 8 most important parameters for instant sound shaping, like the “Body” & “Air” controls to quickly add warmth and richness.
- **RAMSave™ support** for low RAM usage and faster project load and save times
- **Advanced Disk-streaming support** allows lowest buffer sizes down to 0.1 sec for lowest possible RAM usage and rock solid streaming performance
- **Supports all major formats:** VST, DXi, AU + Rewire for easy Pro Tools® Integration
- **Standalone version** with multiple-out support included

## Key Features

- **All new high-end Solo String Sounds** in all expressive variations to complement Vol.1 Tutti ensemble sounds
- **Includes optimized** and reprogrammed versions of entire **String Edition Vol.1 content** (all orchestral strings - Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass Sections)
- **Covers all common articulations & Bowings** such as legato, tremolo, pizzicato, or spiccato in unrivalled expressiveness and full dynamic range. Tons of playing techniques & effects at composer's fingertips
- **Over 10,000 Samples** on 2 DVDs (9GB total) featuring more than **750 different instrument patches & combinations**.
- **High-Resolution State-of-the-Art 24bit** digital recording for highest accuracy and audio fidelity. Warm and defined sound character, perfectly balanced low noise, natural.
- **Suits all musical styles** from classical to contemporary, making most popular compromise between flexibility/options on the one hand and usability/overview on the other
- **Made for Players** – actually play the sounds like performers are used to, instead of arduously “programming” string arrangements
- **Advanced Sound Category System** makes browsing the library a real joy and allows filtering by instrument or articulation groups
- **RealAmbience feature** offers true recorded ambience with parametric control of mix and reverb time to perfectly blend into any mix
- **Q-controls:** each Program features the 8 most important parameters for instant sound shaping, like the “Body” & “Air” controls to easily add warmth and richness.
- **RAMSave™ support** for low RAM usage and faster project load and save times
- **“Economic” versions** of most programs available for quick loading and resource saving
- **Advanced Disk-streaming support** allows lowest buffer sizes down to 0.1 sec for lowest possible RAM usage and rock solid streaming performance
- **All Sounds can be loaded in HALion 3.1** for deeper creative editing and limitless combinations with other sounds and in the HALion Player.
- **Supports all major formats:** VST, DXi, AU + Rewire for easy Pro Tools® Integration
- **Standalone version** with multiple-out support included

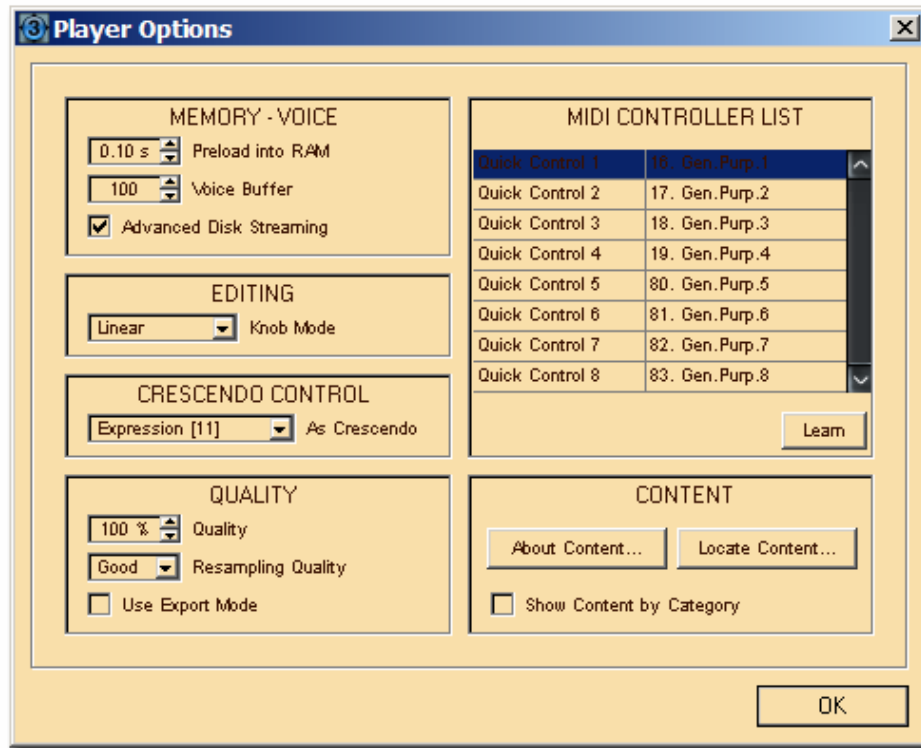
## HALion String Edition 2 – Instrument Screenshot



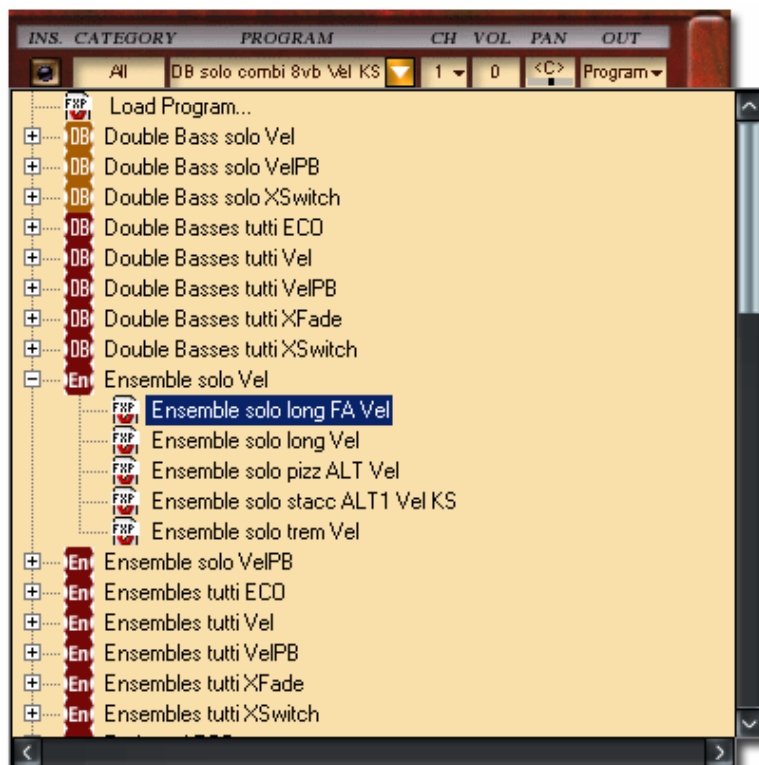
## HALion String Edition 2 – About Content Screenshot



## HALion String Edition 2 – Options Screenshot



## HALion String Edition 2 – Advanced Sound Category System



## Detailed Content Listing

# HALion String Edition 2

---

### Program Categories

Vel	Velocity (Pitchbend on Pitch)
Vel PB	Velocity + Volume on Pitchbend
Xfade	Crossfade of all respective layers
Xswitch	Cross-switch of all respective layers

### Instruments

<b>Vln</b>	Violins
<b>Vla</b>	Violas
<b>Vlc</b>	Cellos (Violoncelli)
<b>DB</b>	Double Bases

<b>tutti</b>	large string section
<b>solo</b>	only one player

### Articulations

<b>8vb</b>	One octave lower than written
<b>Acc</b>	Accent
<b>cresc ctrl</b>	Crescendo Controller
<b>combi</b>	Combination Program with multiple articulations
<b>cresc-decr</b>	crescendo followed by decrescendo
<b>espressivo</b>	more intense natural vibrato
<b>fast</b>	fast attacks
<b>legato</b>	Legato
<b>long</b>	long bows, looped
<b>short</b>	single bows, unlooped
<b>leg X trem</b>	crossfade from normal legato to tremolo
<b>oct</b>	octave
<b>pizz</b>	Pizzicato
<b>port/porta</b>	Portamento
<b>spicc</b>	Spiccato (short notes)
<b>stacc</b>	Staccato (short notes)
<b>trem</b>	Tremolo
<b>HT trill</b>	Half Tone Trills
<b>WT trill</b>	Whole Tone Trills
<b>HT orna</b>	Half Tone ornament
<b>WT orna</b>	Whole Tone ornament
<b>uni</b>	unisono
<b>up</b>	up-bow
<b>dn</b>	down-bow
<b>Alternating</b>	Alternating between multiple samples or different bowing (up<->down)
<b>ALT 1</b>	multiple alternations of all variations, no change via Velocity or Cresc-Ctrl
<b>ALT 2</b>	simple alternation between up and down bows, variations changes via Velocity or Cresc-Ctrl

## Program Reference

x= variations of the program

### Violins tutti (41)

Programs	ECO	XFade	XSwitch	Vel	Vel PB	KeySwitch
Vln I Combi		X	X	X	X	X
Vln I Combi espressivo		X	X	X	X	X
Vln I espressivo		X	X	X	X	
Vln I A legato	X	X	X	X	X	
Vln I A legato+porta		X	X	X	X	X
Vln I A legato soft		X	X	X	X	
Vln I A legato loud		X	X	X	X	
Vln I A legato loud+port		X	X	X	X	X
Vln I A legato + accent		X	X	X	X	
Vln I B legato	X	X	X	X	X	
Vln I A+B		X	X	X	X	
Vln I 16 to 32 players		X	X	X	X	
Vln I legato X tremolo		X	X	X	X	
Vln I legato + octave		X	X	X	X	
Vln II Combi		X	X	X	X	X
Vln II A legato	X	X	X	X	X	
Vln II A legato+port		X	X	X	X	X
Vln II A legato soft		X	X	X	X	
Vln II A legato loud		X	X	X	X	
Vln II A legato loud+port		X	X	X	X	X
Vln II B legato	X	X	X	X	X	
Vln tremolo	X	X	X	X	X	
Vln tremolo+accent		X	X	X	X	
Vln trills HT		X	X	X	X	
Vln trills WT		X	X	X	X	
Vln trills WT-HT		X	X	X	X	X
Vln pizzicato loose Alt			X	X	X	
Vln pizzicato loose			X	X	X	
Vln pizzicato tight Alt			X	X	X	
Vln pizzicato tight			X	X	X	
Vln spicc A Alternating1		X	X	X	X	
Vln spicc A Alternating2		X	X	X	X	
Vln spicc A down Alt			X	X	X	
Vln spicc A up Alt			X	X	X	
Vln spicc A down			X	X	X	
Vln spicc A up			X	X	X	
Vln spicc B Alternating1		X	X	X	X	
Vln spicc B Alternating2		X	X	X	X	
Vln spicc B down Alt			X	X	X	
Vln spicc B up Alt			X	X	X	
Vln spicc B down			X	X	X	
Vln spicc B up			X	X	X	

## Violas tutti (28)

<u>Programs</u>	<u>ECO</u>	<u>XFade</u>	<u>XSwitch</u>	<u>Vel</u>	<u>Vel PB</u>	<u>KeySwitch</u>
Via Combi		X	X	X	X	X
Via Combi espressivo		X	X	X	X	X
Via espressivo		X	X	X	X	
Via A legato	X	X	X	X	X	
Via A legato soft		X	X	X	X	
Via A legato loud		X	X	X	X	
Via B legato	X	X	X	X	X	
Via A+B		X	X	X	X	
Via tremolo	X	X	X	X	X	
Via tremolo+accent		X	X	X	X	
Via trills HT		X	X	X	X	
Via trills WT		X	X	X	X	
Via trills WT-HT		X	X	X	X	X
Via pizzicato loose Alt			X	X	X	
Via pizzicato loose			X	X	X	
Via pizzicato tight Alt			X	X	X	
Via pizzicato tight			X	X	X	
Via spicc A Alternating1		X	X	X	X	
Via spicc A Alternating2		X	X	X	X	
Via spicc A down Alt			X	X	X	
Via spicc A up Alt			X	X	X	
Via spicc A down			X	X	X	
Via spicc A up			X	X	X	
Via spicc B Alternating1			X	X	X	X
Via spicc B Alternating2			X	X	X	X
Via spicc B down Alt			X	X	X	
Via spicc B up Alt			X	X	X	
Via spicc B down			X	X	X	
Via spicc B up			X	X	X	

## Cellos tutti (29)

Programs	ECO	XFade	XSwitch	Vel	Vel PB	KeySwitch
Vlc Combi		X	X	X	X	X
Vlc Combi espressivo		X	X	X	X	X
Vlc espressivo		X	X	X	X	
Vlc A legato	X	X	X	X	X	
Vlc A legato+porta		X	X	X	X	X
Vlc A legato soft		X	X	X	X	
Vlc A legato loud		X	X	X	X	
Vlc A legato loud+port		X	X	X	X	X
Vlc B legato	X	X	X	X	X	
Vlc A+B		X	X	X	X	
Vlc tremolo	X	X	X	X	X	
Vlc tremolo+accent		X	X	X	X	
Vlc trills HT		X	X	X	X	
Vlc trills WT		X	X	X	X	
Vlc trills WT-HT		X	X	X	X	X
Vlc pizzicato tight Alt			X	X	X	
Vlc pizzicato tight			X	X	X	
Vlc pizzicato very tight			X	X	X	
Vlc spicc A Alternating1		X	X	X	X	
Vlc spicc A Alternating2		X	X	X	X	
Vlc spicc A down Alt			X	X	X	
Vlc spicc A up Alt			X	X	X	
Vlc spicc A down			X	X	X	
Vlc spicc A up			X	X	X	
Vlc spicc B Alternating1			X	X	X	X
Vlc spicc B Alternating2			X	X	X	X
Vlc spicc B down Alt			X	X	X	
Vlc spicc B up Alt			X	X	X	
Vlc spicc B down			X	X	X	
Vlc spicc B up			X	X	X	

## Double Basses tutti (15)

Programs	ECO	XFade	XSwitch	Vel	Vel PB	KeySwitch
DB Combi		X	X	X	X	X
DB Combi espressivo		X	X	X	X	X
DB espressivo		X	X	X	X	
DB espressivo 8vb		X	X	X	X	
DB A legato	X	X	X	X	X	
DB A legato 8vb		X	X	X	X	
DB tremolo	X	X	X	X	X	
DB tremolo 8vb		X	X	X	X	
DB tremolo+accent		X	X	X	X	
DB tremolo+accent 8vb		X	X	X	X	
DB pizzicato			X	X	X	
DB pizzicato 8vb			X	X	X	
DB spicc Alt			X	X	X	
DB spicc Alt 8vb			X	X	X	
DB spicc			X	X	X	
DB spicc 8vb			X	X	X	

### Ensemble Strings tutti (10)

<u>Programs</u>	<u>ECO</u>	<u>XFade</u>	<u>XSwitch</u>	<u>Vel</u>	<u>Vel PB</u>	<u>KeySwitch</u>
Ensemble legato	X			X	X	
Ensemble tremolo	X			X	X	
Ensemble pizzicato	X			X	X	
Ensemble spiccato	X			X	X	
Violins octave		X	X	X	X	
Vlc+Vla unisono		X	X	X	X	
Vlc+Vla octave		X	X	X	X	
DB+Vlc unisono		X	X	X	X	
DB+Vlc octave		X	X	X	X	
DB+Vlc octave 8vb		X	X	X	X	

### Pads tutti (11)

<u>Programs</u>	<u>ECO</u>	<u>XFade</u>	<u>XSwitch</u>	<u>Vel</u>	<u>Vel PB</u>	<u>KeySwitch</u>
Vln I A legato Pad	X	X	X	X	X	
Vln I B legato Pad	X	X	X	X	X	
Vln II A legato Pad	X	X	X	X	X	
Vln II B legato Pad	X	X	X	X	X	
Vla A legato Pad	X	X	X	X	X	
Vla B legato Pad	X	X	X	X	X	
Vlc A legato Pad	X	X	X	X	X	
Vlc B legato Pad	X	X	X	X	X	
DB legato Pad	X	X	X	X	X	
DB legato 8vb Pad	X	X	X	X	X	
Ensemble legato Pad	X	X	X	X	X	

### Violin solo (19)

<u>Programs</u>	<u>XSwitch</u>	<u>Vel</u>	<u>Vel PB</u>	<u>KeySwitch</u>
Vln Combi	X	X	X	X
Vln Combi fast	X	X	X	X
Vln long	X	X	X	
Vln long fast	X	X	X	
Vln short Alternating	X	X	X	X
Vln short down	X	X	X	
Vln short up	X	X	X	
Vln tremolo	X	X	X	
Vln tremolo+accent	X	X	X	
Vln trill HT	X	X	X	
Vln trill WT	X	X	X	
Vln trills WT-HT	X	X	X	
Vln ornament HT	X	X	X	
Vln ornament WT	X	X	X	
Vln cresc-decresc	X	X	X	
Vln pizzicato	X	X	X	
Vln stacc Alternating1	X	X	X	X
Vln stacc Alternating2	X	X	X	X
Vln stacc down Alt	X	X	X	
Vln stacc up Alt	X	X	X	

### Viola solo (19)

<u>Programs</u>	<u>XSwitch</u>	<u>Vel</u>	<u>Vel PB</u>	<u>KeySwitch</u>
Via Combi	X	X	X	X
Via Combi fast	X	X	X	X
Via long	X	X	X	
Via long fast	X	X	X	
Via short Alternating	X	X	X	X
Via short down	X	X	X	
Via short up	X	X	X	
Via tremolo	X	X	X	
Via tremolo+accent	X	X	X	
Via trill HT	X	X	X	
Via trill WT	X	X	X	
Via trills WT-HT	X	X	X	X
Via ornament HT	X	X	X	
Via ornament WT	X	X	X	
Via cresc-decresc	X	X	X	
Via pizzicato Alt	X	X	X	
Via stacc Alternating1	X	X	X	X
Via stacc Alternating2	X	X	X	X
Via stacc down Alt	X	X	X	
Via stacc up Alt	X	X	X	

### Cello solo (20)

<u>Programs</u>	<u>XSwitch</u>	<u>Vel</u>	<u>Vel PB</u>	<u>KeySwitch</u>
Vic Combi	X	X	X	X
Vic Combi fast	X	X	X	X
Vic long	X	X	X	
Vic long fast	X	X	X	
Vic short Alternating	X	X	X	X
Vic short down	X	X	X	
Vic short up	X	X	X	
Vic tremolo	X	X	X	
Vic tremolo+accent	X	X	X	
Vic trill HT	X	X	X	
Vic trill WT	X	X	X	
Vic trills WT-HT	X	X	X	X
Vic ornament HT	X	X	X	
Vic ornament WT	X	X	X	
Vic cresc-decresc	X	X	X	
Vic pizzicato	X	X	X	
Vic stacc Alternating1	X	X	X	X
Vic stacc Alternating2	X	X	X	X
Vic stacc down Alt	X	X	X	
Vic stacc up Alt	X	X	X	

### Double Bass solo (11)

<u>Programs</u>	<u>XSwitch</u>	<u>Vel</u>	<u>Vel PB</u>	<u>KeySwitch</u>
DB Combi	X	X	X	X
DB long	X	X	X	
DB short Alternating	X	X	X	X
DB short down	X	X	X	
DB short up	X	X	X	
DB cresc-decresc	X	X	X	
DB pizzicato	X	X	X	
DB stacc Alternating1	X	X	X	X
DB stacc Alternating2	X	X	X	X
DB stacc down Alt	X	X	X	
DB stacc up Alt	X	X	X	

### Ensemble Strings solo (6)

<u>Programs</u>	<u>XSwitch</u>	<u>Vel</u>	<u>Vel PB</u>	<u>KeySwitch</u>
Ensemble solo long		X	X	
Ensemble solo longfast		X	X	
Ensemble solo tremolo		X	X	
Ensemble solo pizz		X	X	
Ensemble solo stacc		X	X	