

# Karma Music Workstation

## Operating System Version 2.0

Just when you thought it couldn't get any better, it does. **OS Version 2.0** for the Korg Karma opens up a whole new level of interactivity and control for this remarkable music workstation. Offering a creative and inspiring platform from which to launch the performer or composer's musical ideas, the Karma has revolutionized the music making process for thousands of musicians since its release in early 2001.

Since then, Korg has been busy working to keep up with a growing list of features that Karma owners have requested, as well as enhancing a number of existing features. The result of all this effort is the new operating system for the Karma Music Workstation, Version 2.0. **This upgrade will be available in May of 2002 as a free of download to all Karma owners and users.** This operating system upgrade is timed to coincide with the release of KARMA MW, a computer software - program (Mac/Windows) that allows in depth access to all of Karma's creative features.

### Load New GEs

The Karma Music Workstation comes pre-loaded with 1,190 different Generated Effects. **Version 2.0 adds 320 new locations for saving and storing User GEs.** These can be loaded in via floppy disk or MIDI dump, and can be created externally using the KARMA MW Computer Software. The "DANCE EXTREME" (EXB-PCM04) and "VINTAGE ARCHIVES" (EXB-PCM05) expansion boards are currently being voiced to add new GE's that make the most of these new samples and programs.

### Capture that Perfect Moment

Various degrees of randomization can be specified in controlling KARMA, contributing to the unique and human sounding patterns it can generate. One of the more valuable and exciting aspects of Version 2.0 is the **Freeze Randomize** feature - almost like asking a musician to come up with a new phrase, and then saying "I like that one - keep playing it while I try something on top!" Randomized musical effects can be repeatedly generated with the same randomizations - by setting a capture window of a specific measure length, a particular randomly generated phrase can be recalled (even after it has played), frozen and used over and over again - a predictable and reliable randomness! **Random Capture, Random FF/REW, Freeze Loop Length and a selectable Start Seed** all contribute to this new flexibility.

### Time and Tempo Control

Other new features packed into Version 2.0 include **Time Signature and Tap Tempo control.** Time Signature allows an existing (or new) KARMA Pattern to be re-sized to work in a new meter, overriding the internal settings of the GE. Tap Tempo allows the KARMA effects (and the sequencer) to be instantly set to a new tempo in real time by lightly tapping on the Timbre/Track button. This feature is also available from a footswitch.

### Intuitive Real-time Control

New KRTC (Karma Real Time Control) display features have been added. **The Name of the KRTC functions can be automatically updated** when you call up a new GE assignment or create a new Program or Combi - streamlining what used to be a laborious task. **As the KRTC knobs and switches are adjusted during performance, the display now automatically shows the values of the assigned parameters,** making it easier to lock-in a particular setting during real-time adjustment. **Controller functions, including KRTC knobs, switches and Chord Triggers now can be assigned to the optional foot switch and foot pedal.**

### Even More

The Karma Music Workstation can filter out various types of data that a GE generates. **Version 2.0 now allows Note data to be filtered out,** allowing the user to play freely while the KARMA technology provides unique controller and timbral changes. **The two KARMA Scenes can now be copied or exchanged** from one scene to another. **MIDI Start/Stop commands can now be sent when in Program and Combination modes,** allowing you to synchronize other devices to the KARMA function - perfect for live performance with other devices such as Korg's Electribe Series.

### Improved Sequencing

Version 2.0 also adds a slew of new parameters for melding KARMA into the sequencer. First and foremost, the **Auto Song Set-up** function easily copies the Program or Combination that you're currently playing into the Sequencer with all the right KARMA and Effect settings, and enables recording so you're ready to create that perfect song. A new **Copy from Program** command has been added to bring a single sound along with its effects and KARMA settings into a new Combination or Sequence as well. True **Swing quantization** has been added, allowing you to get that perfect hip-hop feel.

#### **Edit Sounds within a Track**

You can now "tweak" sounds inside the sequencer tracks without affecting the original programs, eliminating the need to save the edited programs and re-assign them to the tracks. There are a total of 16 "Tone Adjust" parameters available to shape your sound, and up to six can be used at one time on each track.

#### **Improved Performance with External Sequencers**

When using an external or computer based sequencer with the Karma, Version 2.0 is invaluable. **Sys-Ex data can now be transmitted and received for individual parameters in the Sequencer Mode**, giving you total control over all parameters of a Song. When you want to set the Karma to be a multi-timbral slave to your computer, the new "**Ignore Real-time Commands**" parameter ensures that the Karma's sequencer won't stop or reset itself, while all the effects, LFO's and KARMA functions still slave perfectly to the incoming clock signals. The **Auto MIDI Clock mode** guarantees that the Karma will be in sync no matter how your system is set up, allowing you to drive the Karma with external clock but still stop your sequencer and try out ideas directly on the Karma without changing clock modes, for example.

Many of these features came about thanks to user input and they are sure to enhance your KARMA-driven musical adventures.