SONIC AIR

1.0.2

USER MANUAL

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1.1 INTRODUCTION

Welcome to **Sonic Air**, an advanced audio processing plugin designed to enhance your music production with powerful high-frequency exciters and air-boosting capabilities. This version introduces dynamic gain tracking, harmonic mode selection, and advanced transient detection for more precise and musical results. **Sonic Air** ensures clarity, depth, and analog warmth in your mixes.

1.2 KEY FEATURES

HF EXCITER
Enhances high-frequency content to add brightness and presence to your mix. The HF Exciter parameter allows fine-tuning of the exciter amount to achieve the desired level of enhancement.

HF START
Sets the cutoff frequency for the HF Exciter, allowing precise control over which frequencies are affected. This control ranges from 2000 Hz to 10,000 Hz.

MID AIR AND HIGH AIR
Provides dynamic enhancement for the mid and high-frequency ranges, adding air and clarity. These controls adjust the intensity of the enhancement, bringing out details in your mix.

STRENGTH
Controls the intensity of the dynamic enhancement applied to the exciter bands. Higher values result in stronger and more aggressive harmonic processing.

HARMONIC MODE
Selects between different harmonic saturation modes for high-frequency enhancement, including Tube, Tape, Retro, Warm, and Inflator.

CLIP 0dB
Includes a dual-stage clipping mechanism to prevent digital clipping and maintain pristine audio quality at high output levels. Providing both protection and a pleasing analog-like distortion.

LISTEN MODE
Allows users to isolate the processed high-frequency content for detailed adjustments.

INTERNAL DYNAMIC ENHANCEMENT
The plugin uses an internal dynamic enhancement technique that applies soft clipping to add harmonic distortion. This processing step adds warmth and character to your mix, making it sound more analog-like and musical.

TRANSIENT ENHANCEMENT
The plugin automatically applies transient enhancement to high-frequency content, making percussive elements and other transient-heavy sounds more prominent without adding harshness. This internal feature ensures that your mix retains clarity and impact.

2.1 USER INTERFACE - MAIN CONTROLS

HF Exciter (%): Adjusts the amount of high-frequency excitation.

Cutoff Frequency (Hz): Sets the cutoff frequency for the HF Exciter.

Mid Air (%): Controls the enhancement level for mid frequencies.

High Air (%): Controls the enhancement level for high frequencies.

Strength (%): Adjusts the intensity of dynamic enhancement.

Harmonic Mode: Selects between Tube, Tape, Retro, Warm, and Inflator.

Trim (dB): Adjusts the final output gain.

Clip 0dB (on/off): Engages the Smart Clip 0dB feature, which uses dual-stage clipping:
• Soft Clipping: Gradually limits the signal as it approaches the threshold, providing smooth distortion.
• Hard Clipping: Ensures that the signal does not exceed the threshold, providing absolute protection against digital clipping.
• Soft Limiting: Adds an additional layer of control, reducing peaks in a more musical manner, preserving the natural dynamics of the audio.

Listen Mode (on/off): Outputs only the excited signal for fine-tuning.

Effect In (on/off): Enables or bypasses the processing.

2.2 USER INTERFACE - ADDITIONAL CONTROLS

PRECISE MOVEMENTS

Holding down the 'Shift' key while adjusting a knob will enable you to make precise movements. Allowing for finer control over the audio processing parameters.

RESET KNOB

Right clicking a knob will reset its value. This action will restore the knob or fader to its default or initial position. Alt + click also works (MacOS: ‘option’ + click).

ADJUST VALUE

Double-clicking a knob allows you to adjust its value directly. This action provides a quick and intuitive way to fine-tune parameters with precision.

UNDO/REDO

Access Undo and Redo from the menu bar to easily correct or reapply changes. Undo reverses the last adjustment, preventing errors, while Redo restores it, essential for efficient workflow and precise edits.

GUI OPACITY

From the menu bar, users can adjust the GUI Opacity from 0% to 100%. This control allows for varying the transparency of the plugin interface, offering better visibility of underlying work areas or personal preference adjustments.

RESIZE

The interface can be resized from 70% to 200% of its original size via the menu bar. This feature accommodates different screen sizes and resolutions, ensuring Sonic Air is accessible and comfortably usable on a wide range of devices and display settings.

PRESET MENU

Accessible from the menu bar, the Preset Menu provides a comprehensive interface for browsing, loading, and selecting factory presets, enhancing the ease of finding the right settings for any session. Additionally, users can Load/Save, and Copy/Paste presets.

SETTING THE HF EXCITER

1) Adjust the HF Exciter parameter to enhance the high-frequency content in your mix.
2) Use the HF Start parameter to control which high frequencies are affected.
3) Strength modifies the power of the enhancement.
4) Choose a Harmonic Mode to shape the harmonic saturation.

MID AIR AND HIGH AIR ENHANCEMENT

1) Mid Air adds presence and clarity to vocals and instruments.
2) High Air introduces shimmer and detail to the top end.
3) Start with small increments to avoid excessive enhancement.
4) Experiment with Harmonic Mode to tailor the character of the air boost.