

**KAWAI**

*Concert Artist*

CA97 / CA67





THE CONCERT GRAND EXPERIENCE  
IN THE COMFORT OF YOUR HOME.

Kawai has been crafting musical instruments for over 85 years, maintaining traditional processes while embracing unique, original ideas. These decades of experience afford our engineers a wealth of knowledge from which to create stunning digital instruments, in a quest to perfect the *art* of the piano.

A digital piano that will transform enthusiastic players into accomplished pianists, and modest rooms into grand concert halls. This is the ambitious philosophy behind Concert Artist digital pianos – premium instruments that capture the essence of playing a magnificent concert grand piano, and inspire musicians to realise their true artistic potential.

To achieve this ambition, every aspect of the latest Concert Artist series has been developed to ensure that these flagship instruments provide the most authentic playing experience of any digital piano.

The instrument's new *Grand Feel II* keyboard action reinforces Kawai's reputation as an industry leader, utilising real wooden keys with luxurious *Ivory & Ebony Touch* surfaces, and incorporating premium features such as *let-off* simulation and triple-sensor key detection. This class-leading keyboard action is bolstered by powerful digital audio technologies that faithfully reproduce the exquisite sound of Kawai's magnificent SK-EX and EX concert grand pianos.

With the latest *Harmonic Imaging XL* sound sampling, remarkable 256 note polyphony, and stunning reverberation and resonance modelling effects, the new Concert Artist delivers unparalleled acoustic realism that is guaranteed to enthral performers and audience members alike.

Yet despite the abundance of powerful technology on the inside, the Concert Artist still delivers a remarkably traditional piano playing experience. This is thanks to the instrument's understated cheekblock control panel and handsome cabinet design, with a selection of distinctive grand piano-like characteristics that celebrate Kawai's rich, classical pedigree.

And there is no finer way to demonstrate this harmonious marriage of groundbreaking modern technology and long-established traditional approaches than Kawai's unique *Soundboard Speaker System*. This triumph of audio design channels the Concert Artist's high fidelity digital sound onto a genuine spruce soundboard, producing a warm, unmistakably acoustic tone that is more naturally balanced than any other digital piano.

Unrivalled grand touch, breathtaking acoustic tone, distinctive traditional design, and inspirational modern features. Concert Artist from Kawai – the concert grand piano experience in the comfort of your home.

# THE TOUCH OF A GRAND PIANO

The keyboard action of an acoustic grand piano is composed of black and white keys, graded hammers, and numerous other components working in harmony when each note is pressed. This beautifully designed mechanism allows gifted pianists to express a wealth of feeling and emotion in their music, as they appreciate and respond to the tactile nuances transmitted through the keyboard.

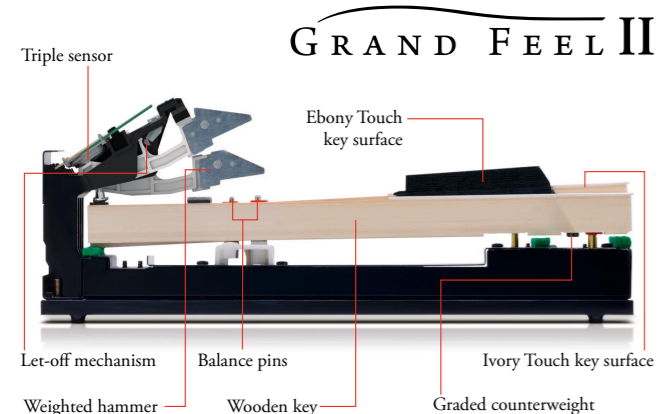
Translating the piano action's intricate movements to a digital instrument, while retaining these acoustic-like subtleties is a stunning achievement – one which has drawn upon over 85 years of experience in crafting the world's finest pianos.

## GRAND FEEL II KEYBOARD ACTION

Embracing many of the long-established principles associated with an acoustic piano, the new *Grand Feel II* keyboard action utilised by the latest Concert Artist combines realistic materials, motion, and mechanism to recreate the exceptional touch of the finest concert grand pianos.

All eighty-eight black and white keys are crafted entirely from long pieces of wood, with finely textured ivory and ebony-like surfaces applied to absorb moisture and assist control. Each wooden key pivots smoothly on a balance pin – the ends rising and falling to replicate the familiar 'seesaw' motion of an acoustic piano action. When pressed, the back of the key lifts, triggering a grade-weighted hammer to strike a pressure switch. The amount of force applied to this switch is then measured, and the corresponding note played with authentic tonal character and volume.

In addition, graded counterweights attached towards the front of each key help to lighten their touch during pianissimo passages, with *let-off* simulation also reproducing the delicate 'notch' sensation felt when playing the keys of a grand piano very softly. These subtle characteristics allow discerning pianists to practise their expanding repertoire with confidence, and ensure that there are no unpleasant surprises when called upon to perform using the finest acoustic grand pianos.



## IVORY & EBONY TOUCH KEY SURFACES

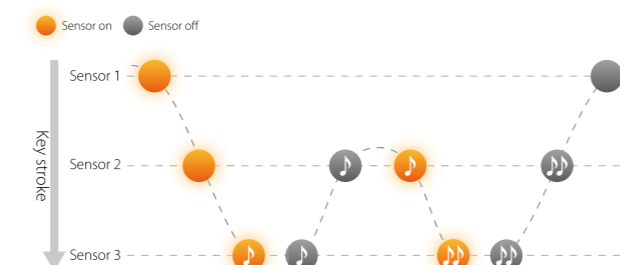
The exceptional Concert Artist features Kawai's highly regarded *Ivory Touch* white key surfaces as standard. This finely textured material gently absorbs fingertip perspiration and oils to assist playing control, and possesses a natural, matte finish that is smooth but not slippery.

To complement these premium white keys, Kawai has developed *Ebony Touch*, an all-new black key material that reproduces the finely-textured grain and rich lustre of real ebony wood. The result is a keyboard surface that looks and feels as luxurious as some of the finest grand pianos.



## TRIPLE-SENSOR KEY DETECTION

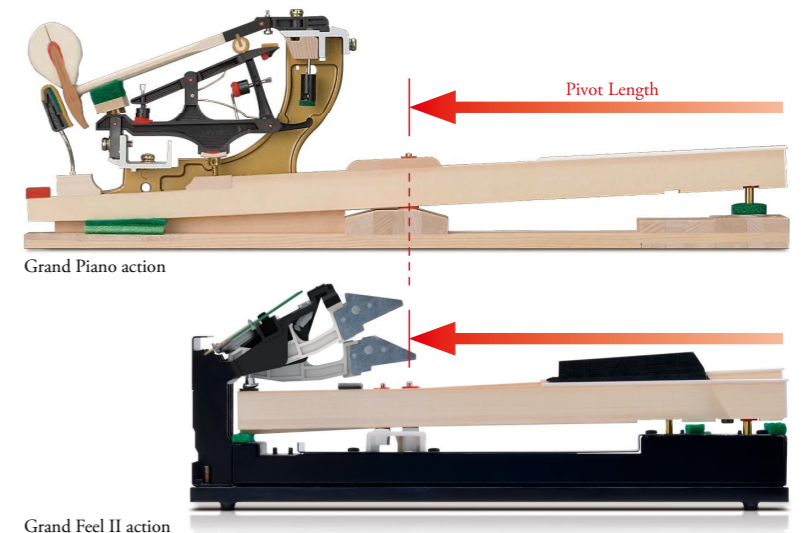
The *Grand Feel II* action features Kawai's latest triple-sensor detection system for enhanced accuracy and responsiveness when playing the same key repeatedly. This third sensor allows the sound of a single note to be gradually 'layered' without previous tones being lost, while also supporting advanced techniques such as playing notes from the *let-off* point.



## LONGEST KEYS, LONGEST PIVOT LENGTH

In addition to having the longest keys of any digital piano, *Grand Feel* keyboard actions also boast the longest key pivot length – matching that of a Kawai grand piano.

This improvement ensures a more evenly balanced key touch weight from front to rear, and is particularly beneficial when playing complicated chords with fingers positioned towards the back of the keyboard.



## THE SIGNIFICANCE OF REAL WOODEN KEYS

Wood has been the preferred material for acoustic piano keys for centuries, and was first introduced in Kawai digital pianos over 25 years ago. Yet despite the countless improvements to acoustic and digital piano action technologies in recent years, engineers still recognise that wood remains the best material for the keyboard.

Unlike plastics and most other man-made substances, wood possesses unique characteristics that allow it to absorb a degree of movement energy and flex slightly when compressed. This means that when a pressing a wooden key it reaches the cushioned felt keybed with a natural, reassuring stop, rather than a jarring, noisy halt.

The outstanding resonance properties of wood are widely accepted, making it an ideal choice for stringed instruments such as guitars, violins, and of course pianos. Wooden piano keys are also known to vibrate, subtly channelling the sound energy of the instrument back through the fingertips, and enhancing the musician's playing experience.

Finally, wooden keys are inherently special. The look, feel, and even the smell of wooden keys furnish the Concert Artist with an organic quality that helps the player to feel a closer connection with their piano. And it is this important personal connection that ultimately allows pianists to relax, and lose themselves in the joy of making music.



## THE SOUND OF A GRAND PIANO

Earning a reputation as the 'premier pianos of Japan', Shigeru Kawai instruments grace the stages of concert halls and musical institutions throughout the world, and are prized for their outstanding tonal clarity and exceptional dynamic range.

The new Concert Artists capture the magnificent tone of two Shigeru Kawai instruments, the flagship SK-EX Concert and medium-sized SK-5 Studio grand pianos, allowing musicians to enjoy the contrasting properties of each.

In addition, the CA97 & CA67 also feature the distinctive sound of Kawai's highly acclaimed EX concert grand piano, which has frequently been selected by professional pianists in such prestigious events as the Chopin, Tchaikovsky, and Rubinstein international piano competitions, among others.

All three instruments are faithfully reproduced with full 88-key sampling using the latest *Harmonic Imaging™* sound technology, to establish a new standard in digital piano tonal quality.



1 → 88

### 88-KEY PIANO SAMPLING

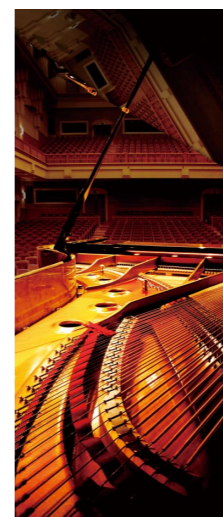
The rich, expressive sound of the SK-EX, SK-5, and EX grand pianos is at the heart of the new Concert Artist, with all eighty-eight keys of these world-class instruments painstakingly recorded, meticulously analysed, and accurately reproduced as high-fidelity digital waveforms.

Recording each key individually in this way – as opposed to stretching the same tone over several different notes – preserves the grand pianos' unique harmonic character, and guarantees that the sound heard when playing any one of the Concert Artist's wooden keys is a faithful representation of the original acoustic source.

## HARMONIC IMAGING TECHNOLOGY

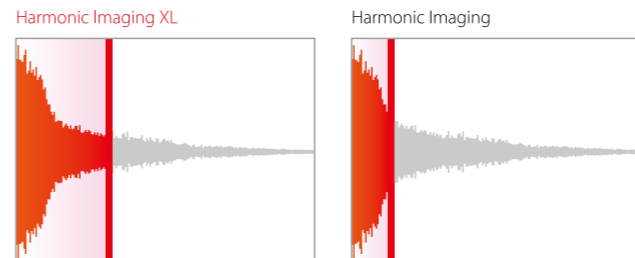
When playing a fine piano, the amount of pressure applied to the keyboard affects not only the volume of the sound produced, but also the unique tonal character of each note. Therefore, in order to construct a realistic acoustic portrait of each grand piano, not only is each key recorded individually, but also at a wide variety of different volume levels, ranging from gentle pianissimo to thunderous fortissimo.

The new Concert Artist offers a highly detailed acoustic portrait, with *Harmonic Imaging XL* technology ensuring smooth tonal transitions across the keyboard and throughout the entire dynamic range.



### EXTRA-LONG SAMPLING (HI-XL)

With expanded piano sound memory, the new Concert Artist boasts the largest sample size of any Kawai digital piano. This 'eXtra Long' standard of *Harmonic Imaging* technology extends the important attack portion of the piano sound by up to 120%, articulating the natural detail and resonance characteristics of each note more clearly, and improving the instrument's organic tonal quality overall.



### ACOUSTIC PIANO VARIETY

Alongside the classically voiced SK-EX, SK-5, and EX grand piano sounds, the Concert Artists also showcase a selection of Jazz, Modern, and Pop variations suitable for a range of musical periods and styles. Traditional Kawai upright piano sounds are also included, for pieces that suggest a feeling of nostalgia, or call for a slightly more intimate tonal character.



## IMPROVED VIRTUAL TECHNICIAN

The Concert Artist's improved *Virtual Technician* functions invite discerning musicians to shape aspects of the selected piano's character to suit their preferences.

Players can perform touch and voicing adjustments, regulate hammer and key release noises, and fine-tune string, lid, and damper resonances. It is even possible to adjust the precise tuning and volume of individual notes – all in real-time. Then, with the desired refinements complete, save the personally prepared instrument to internal memory or a connected USB device, or exchange favourite settings with other Concert Artist owners online.



### IMPRESSIVE EFFECTS & REVERB

The Concert Artist's powerful digital effects engine further enhances the instrument's superior core sounds, applying additional layers of detail and realism that bring performances to life.

Studio quality chorus, tremolo, delay, and auto-pan effects can be used to tailor a sound's character and feeling, with modelled amplifier/speaker simulations applying vintage warmth to electric pianos and trademark growl to drawbar organs. The depth of a performance can then be transformed using the Concert Artist's strong reverb features, allowing pianists to position themselves within one of six acoustic environments, ranging from a small practise room to an inspirational grand cathedral.

### SUPERIOR SPEAKER SYSTEMS

The Concert Artists feature high fidelity 3-way speaker systems that have been specially designed to deliver deep bass and crisp treble frequencies. The high-specification CA67 boasts a new 6-speaker configuration that immerses the performer, while the flagship CA97 piano also incorporates the latest version of Kawai's highly-regarded *Soundboard Speaker System*.

This unique audio technology embraces the rich, harmonic qualities of wood, channelling sound energy onto a traditional soundboard in order to produce a natural, organic tone. Long wooden ribs securely attached to the soundboard further broaden the frequency range and volume of the resonating sound, resulting in a remarkably authentic playing experience that faithfully reproduces the tonal ambience of an acoustic piano.



## THE VARIETY OF A DIGITAL PIANO

Complementing the instrument's class-leading *Grand Feel II* keyboard action and stunning *Harmonic Imaging XL* grand piano sound, the Concert Artist also offers a strong selection of digital features that further enhance one's musical enjoyment.

USB audio recording and playback, Dual, Split, and Four Hands keyboard modes, and a rich assortment of customisable instrument voices add greater variety to players' performances, while the convenient metronome function and integrated classical etudes and *Alfred* course books ensure that regular practise is both productive and engaging for aspiring pianists.

## RICH SOUND SELECTION

Supplementing the beautiful acoustic piano voices, the Concert Artist also features an excellent selection of additional sounds, ranging from electric pianos and drawbar or church organs, to strings, human choirs, and synth pads, inviting musicians to add greater variety to their performances.

Furthermore, the Dual playing mode also allows two different sounds, such as grand piano and strings, to be layered together, while the Split and Four Hands modes divide the keyboard into two independent sections. The volume balances and other settings for each playing mode can also be adjusted quickly and easily using the real-time panel controls.

## LESSON & FINGER EXERCISES

The Concert Artist's convenient lesson function allows aspiring pianists to learn piano with classical Czerny, Burgmüller, Beyer, Bach, and Chopin etudes, or a collection of songs from the popular *Alfred* Basic, Adult, and Premier course books. With a strong emphasis on acoustic piano realism, both models also feature traditional finger exercises, scales, and warm-up drills, and include a companion book of printed scores to further aid one's practise.



## GRAND FEEL PEDAL SYSTEM

Reinforcing the Concert Artist's reputation as the most realistic digital piano is Kawai's *Grand Feel Pedal System*. This unique development accurately replicates the individual weighting of the damper, soft, and sostenuto pedals of the SK-EX and EX concert grand pianos to further enhance the Concert Artist's acoustic piano authenticity.

Moreover, it is also possible to adjust the half-pedal sensitivity of the damper pedal, and effectiveness of the soft pedal using specially engineered *Virtual Technician* parameters, allowing musicians to personalise the instrument's response to match their preferred pedalling technique.



## IMPROVED HEADPHONE EXPERIENCE

The Concert Artist's new *Spatial Headphone Sound* (SHS) technology enhances the depth and realism of the instrument's acoustic piano sounds when using headphones or earphones, while also helping to reduce auditory fatigue when listening for extended periods of time.

## FLEXIBLE USB CONNECTIVITY

The Concert Artist is equipped with modern USB connectors that not only allow the instrument to be connected to a computer for MIDI use, but also to load and save data to USB memory devices directly.

This latter *USB to Device* functionality allows favourite instrument settings, registrations, and memorable recorder songs stored in internal memory to be safely preserved on USB, or standard MIDI files (SMF) downloaded from the internet to be listened to using the instrument's exquisite *Harmonic Imaging XL* sounds without additional hardware.



## MP3 AUDIO PLAYBACK & RECORD

USB memory devices can also be used to play back MP3 or WAV audio files, allowing musicians to learn the chords or melody for a new piece, or to simply play along with their favourite songs. It is even possible to record entire performances (including external line-in audio) directly as MP3 or WAV audio files for emailing to family and friends, or casual listening away from the piano.



## USEFUL CONNECTIVITY OPTIONS

In addition to *USB to Host* and *USB to Device* connectors, the Concert Artist also features standard LINE-level audio and MIDI jacks. These useful connectivity options allow the instrument to be enjoyed in larger settings such as churches or school halls, and provide greater flexibility when using computers and other audio devices.



## APPRECIATING ACOUSTIC PIANO DESIGN

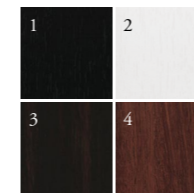


Standing proudly amongst other items of fine furniture, a piano is often considered the centrepiece of any room it occupies.

With elegant cabinetry, striking accents, and a natural wooden finish, the exterior appearance of a piano contributes more to the overall aesthetic of playing and listening to music than arguably any other instrument.

This shared belief inspires Kawai's digital and acoustic piano designers to work together, developing original ideas that improve functionality, without detracting from an instrument's traditional character.

1. Premium Satin Black
2. Premium Satin White <sup>1</sup>
3. Premium Rosewood
4. Premium Mahogany <sup>1</sup>



## GRAND FEEL DESIGN: CHARACTER & PURPOSE



Sitting down at the new Concert Artist, the first thing that strikes the player is the instrument's flat fascia and tall upper board, giving the impression of a grand piano and immediately elevating the musical aspirations of the performer. The distinctive KAWAI logo – representing over 85 years of piano excellence – adorns the Concert Artist's fallboard, its warm, metallic finish glimmers in the light, capturing the movements of the keyboard below. The sharp, stylish lines accenting either side of the cabinet are balanced by the instrument's handsome tapered leg design. These front legs are supported by real wooden toe blocks, conveying stability, distinction, and a classical presence.

The instrument's broad music rest is designed to accommodate the most ambitious musical works, with smoothly rounded edges and simulated leather lining the base. As with a grand piano, the viewing angle of the Concert Artist's music rest can be adjusted to suit the performer's playing position, or laid flat for convenience when notating scores or sketching musical ideas.



Subtly concealing its impressive digital features, the Concert Artist's main control panel is discreetly embedded within the piano's left cheek block. This helps to preserve the instruments' grand piano-like appearance, and allows performers to enjoy the simple pleasure of playing music without the distraction of flashing lights and rows of buttons. And for added convenience, the Concert Artist's USB and dual headphone jacks are separated from the instrument's main connections panel, mounted beneath the keyboard in an accessible position, yet hidden from the player's eye-line.

	CA97	CA67
Keyboard	88 wooden keys with Ivory and Ebony Touch key surfaces / Grand Feel II (GFII) action with Let-Off, Triple Sensor, and Counterweights	
Sound Source	Harmonic Imaging™ XL (HI-XL), 88-key piano sampling	
Internal Sounds	80 voices	60 voices
Polyphony	max. 256 notes	
Keyboard Modes	Dual Mode, Split Mode, Four Hands Mode (Volume/Balance adjustable)	
Reverb	Type:	Room, Lounge, Small Hall, Concert Hall, Live Hall, Cathedral
	Parameters:	Reverb Depth, Reverb Time
Effects	Type:	Mono Delay, Ping Delay, Triple Delay, Chorus, Classic Chorus, Ensemble, Tremolo, Classic Tremolo, Vibrato Tremolo, Tremolo+ Amp, Auto Pan, Classic Auto Pan, Auto Pan+ Amp, Phaser+ Auto Pan, Phaser, Classic Phaser, Phaser+ Amp, Phaser+ Chorus, Rotary (1-6)
	Parameters:	Dry/Wet, Time, Speed, Mono/Stereo, Accel./Rotary Speed – Parameters dependent on effect.
Virtual Technician	Touch Curve:	Light+, Light, Normal, Heavy, Heavy+, Off (Constant), User Touch Curve
	Voicing:	Normal, Mellow 1, Mellow 2, Dynamic, Bright 1, Bright 2, User Voicing
	Resonance, Noise & Effects:	Damper Resonance, Damper Noise, String Resonance, Undamped String Resonance, Cabinet Resonance, Key-off Effect, Fall-back Noise, Topboard Simulation, Decay Time
	Temperament & Tuning:	Equal, Pure Major, Pure Minor, Pythagorean, Meantone, Werckmeister, Kirnberger User Temperament, Temperament Key, Stretch Tuning, User Tuning
Others:	Hammer Delay, Minimum Touch, User Key Volume, Half-Pedal Adjust, Soft Pedal Depth	
Internal Recorder	10 song, 2 track recorder – approximately 90,000 note memory capacity	
USB Functions	Playback & Record:	MP3, WAV, SMF
	Others:	Load Song, Load Registration All/Single, Load Startup Setting, Save Internal Song, Save SMF Song, Save Registration All/Single, Save Startup Setting, Rename File, Delete File, Format USB, Convert Song to Audio, Overdub Audio
Metronome	Beat:	1/4, 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 5/4, 3/8, 6/8, 7/8, 9/8, 12/8 + 100 drum rhythms
	Tempo:	10 - 400 bpm (20 - 800 bpm for eighth note rhythms)
Internal Songs	Demo Songs:	39 songs
	Piano Music:	29 or 42 pieces <sup>1</sup>
	Lesson Function:	Songs from Alfred, Burgmüller, Czerny, Beyer, Bach, and Chopin lesson books <sup>2</sup> . Finger Exercises
Concert Magic:	176 songs (88 x 2 banks)	
Registrations	16 memories (8 x 2), Edit Registration	
Other Settings & Functions	Key/Song Transpose, Tone Control (incl. User EQ), Speaker Volume, Line In Level, Wall EQ*, Tuning, Damper Hold, Split, Four Hands, LCD Contrast, Startup Setting, Factory Reset, SHS Mode, Phones Type/Volume, Lower Octave Shift, Lower Pedal On/Off, Split Balance, Layer Octave Shift, Layer Dynamics, Dual Balance, MIDI Channel, Send PGM#, Local Control, Transmit PGM#, Multi-timbral Mode, Channel Mute, Auto Power Off, Audio Recorder Gain	
Display	128 x 64 pixel LCD with backlight	
Pedals	Damper (with half-pedal support), Soft, Sostenuto. Grand Feel Pedal System	
Jacks	LINE IN (1/8" STEREO), LINE IN Level, LINE OUT (1/4" L/MONO, R), LINE OUT Level Headphones x 2 (1/4", 1/8") MIDI (IN/OUT), USB to Host, USB to Device	
Speaker System	Speakers:	7 cm x 4 (top speakers) 1.4 cm x 2 (dome tweeters) Soundboard Speaker System
	Output Power:	45 W x 2 + 45 W transducer
Power Consumption	55 W	
Dimensions (not including music rest)	1455 (W) x 465 (D) x 925 (H) mm	
	57 1/8" (W) x 18 1/8" (D) x 36 1/2" (H)	
Weight	85.0 Kg / 187 1/2 lbs.	
	76.0 Kg / 167 1/2 lbs.	

\* CA97 only / <sup>1</sup> Depending on market location / <sup>2</sup> Lesson books sold separately

Specifications are subject to change without notice.

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THE FUTURE OF THE PIANO