Big Beautiful Door

User's Manual

System Requirements

This plugin was crafted to be as light as possible on your CPU, enabling you to put this on many tracks without eating up your processing power. For Mac, you must be running OSX 10.5 or greater. For windows, you need Windows XP or greater.

Available Formats

This plugin is available in both 32 and 64 bit versions of each format (except RTAS, which is 32 bit only). It is available in the following formats:

Mac	VST2, VST3, AU, RTAS, AAX Native
Windows	VST2, VST3, RTAS, AAX Native

Registration

The first time you run Big Beautiful Door, it will ask you for your username and serial number. You can find this information in your downloads page. If you do not have a serial number and you would like to demo the plugin you can press "Continue Trial" to use the plugin in trial mode.

Downloads page URL: http://www.bozdigitallabs.com/my-account/downloads/

Trial Mode

When Big Beautiful Door is in trial mode, you can use all of the plugin's functionality. The only difference is that it will not save it's settings when you close and reopen the plugin. The preset save function is also disabled, but the default presets will still load.

Background

Big Beautiful Door was designed to be a fresh new take on dynamics processing. It's not a gate, it's not a compressor, but it can act as both of these. The biggest changeup is the fact that you can EQ your opened and closed gate separately. This manual will walk you through the controls to get a better understanding of why/how this plugin can be used.

The Controls

For quick reference, Big Beautiful Door provides a short description of each control when you hover your mouse over any knob or button. This manual will give you a more in depth understanding of what these controls do.

HEADER BAR

Presets
Big Beautiful Door comes equipped with its own preset menu. To save a preset, just hit the 'Save' icon next to the preset menu, type the name of the preset and hit *enter*. If you enter a name of an existing preset, the old preset will be overwritten.

Presets can be organized into sub menus by sorting them into folders in your finder/explorer window. Note that the preset menu only supports one layer of sub folders, so if you put presets inside a folder that is inside a folder, the preset scanner will not find them.

Presets are sharable across formats, computers and operating systems. This means that if you save a preset in your DAW in OSX, you can send that preset file to a friend who uses a different DAW on Windows and it will work exactly the same.

Next to each preset control is a "Reset" button, which resets the controls to their default settings.

For convenience, you can scroll through the presets by hitting the next/previous buttons.

A/B Bank
This lets you quickly compare different settings in the plugin without losing your knob settings. As you make changes to the knobs on the plugin, those changes are saved into whichever bank is selected. Switch banks to change all the values to what is stored in the other bank. Note that

when you first open the plugin, all changes are stored to both banks until you switch banks for the first time.

Bypass Plugin
This switch enables/bypasses the entire plugin. The plugins background will turn dark when it is disabled. Nothing is worse than adjusting a knob and wondering why it isn't doing anything, only to find out the plugin is bypassed.

Main Controls
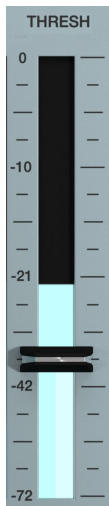
Threshold
This controls the level at which your gate opens and closes. When the input level rises above the threshold, the gate will "open," meaning all your sound will come through. When it drops below this threshold, your sound will turn down.

Note: There is a 3dB hysteresis set into the threshold. This means that your signal has to drop 3dB below the threshold in order to close. This prevents that gate from switching on and off super fast when your level is hovering around the threshold.

Input Display
This graph shows the input level history, and also the state of the envelope. This graph is helpful for dialing in your threshold, and viewing how your sound is being affected.
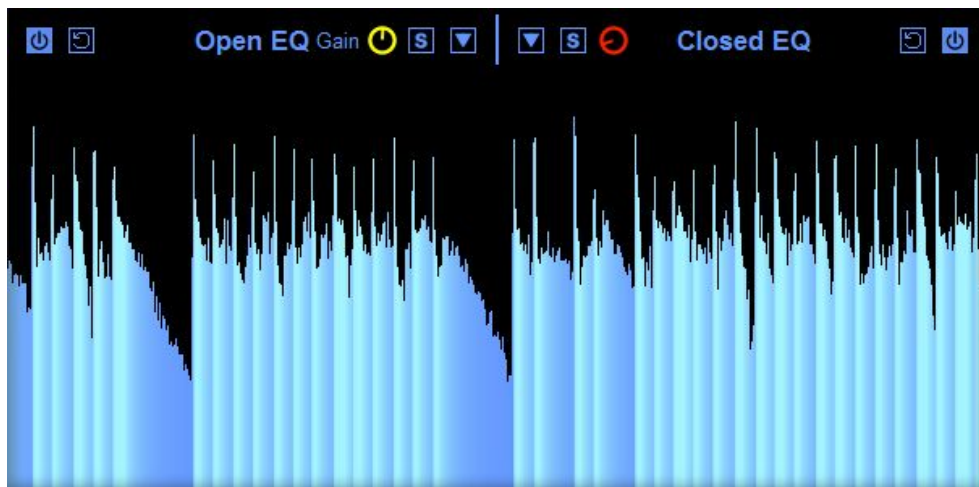
Envelope

Attack
This sets how quickly the envelope will open when the sidechain level rises above the threshold. Setting it to 0 means it will completely open instantly, which could result in a small pop. Setting the attack to a longer setting will make the sound fade in.

Release
This sets how quickly the envelope will decay after the sidechain drops below the threshold.

Hold
After the envelope opens, it will hold there for as long as this knob is set.

Ratio
After the sidechain drops below the threshold, it will the filter will drop to the "Closed" settings. Adjusting the ratio will give it sort of a soft threshold, so that it will gradually adjust from open to closed. When set to infinity, it will be a hard switch. When set to a lower ratio, the switch will be more gradual.

Lookahead
This is like a time machine that looks into the future. What this does is lets your gate open before the level crosses the threshold, so that by the time your signal is loud, your gate is already open. This is helpful for gating drums without making them click on with a 0ms attack time. Using this in combination with a slow attack can give much smoother gating results.

Note: When Lookahead is being used, there is a small delay introduced by Big Beautiful Door, which pretty much any modern DAW will compensate for the plugin won't introduce strange comb filtering. When you bypass the plugin here, it will retain that delay and continue reporting

the delay amount to your DAW. This makes it so you can switch the bypass on and off without the plugin popping as the DAW tries to realign the delay. This also means that there is an ever so slight amount of CPU power being used when this plugin is activated but bypassed with this switch. If you want to bypass the plugin completely, you can you your DAW's bypass switch.

Hysteresis
After the sidechain rises above the threshold, the the sidechain must drop below the threshold plus the hysteresis in order to close. For example, if your threshold is set to -12dB and your hysteresis is set to -6, then after your envelope opens, the sidechain must drop below -18dB (-12dB - 6dB) in order to close. This helps to prevent "chatter" (when you envelope opens and closes repeatedly very quickly) when you sidechain is hovering close to your threshold.

Sidechain

The sidechain section determines what audio will be used to send to the threshold detector. Use this to dial in with more detail how you want Big Beautiful Door to react to the incoming audio level.

Internal/External
This switch tells the source of the sidechain. When set to *Internal*, the envelope will react to the track's audio. When set to External, the envelope will react to whatever is routed to the external sidechain. You may need to look at your DAW's manual to learn how to route an external sidechain.

Listen
The headphone icon lets you listen to the affected sidechain. You can use this for troubleshooting or dialing in your filters.

Filter Mode
There are 3 filter modes:
● High Pass/Low Pass: This mode gives you an 18dB/Octave High Pass Filter and an 18dB/Octave Low Pass Filter

EQ Section

This is where Big Beautiful Door really gets interesting. Rather than creating a gate that turns up when the sidechain rises above the threshold and turns down when it drops below, Big Beautiful Door will switch between two independent EQs. When the sidechain rises above the threshold, it will trigger the Open EQ. When it drops below, it will trigger the Closed EQ.

Both the Open and the Closed EQ sections have the same controls.

Power
This switch lets you bypass each EQ section separately.

Reset
This button will reset the current EQ's settings to the default settings (flat).

Gain
This knob gives you gain control over your EQ. This knob is your friend, and you should use it.

Solo
Use this to solo one EQ, and mute the other. You can use this for troubleshooting, or for effect.

Show/Hide
This will let you show and hide the EQ section to reveal the input graph below.

Band 1
Band 1 of your EQ gives you 3 filter type options

- **High Pass Filter** - This filter removes low frequencies, while keeping the higher frequencies unchanged.
- **Low Shelf Filter** - This lets you control the gain of your low frequencies.
- **Bell** - This filter boosts or cuts sound at your given dialed in frequencies, but not the frequencies above and below it.

Band 2
- **Bell** - This filter boosts or cuts sound at your given dialed in frequencies, but not the frequencies above and below it.
- Band Pass - This filter removes any sound above and below whatever is set in your "Hz" control.
- Slant - This filter simultaneously boost (or cuts) the high frequencies while doing the opposite to the low frequencies. This is great for quickly adjusting the brightness/darkness of your tone.

Band 3
- **Low Pass Filter** - This filter removes high frequencies, while keeping the lower frequencies unchanged.
- **High Shelf Filter** - This lets you control the gain of your high frequencies.
- **Bell** - This filter boosts or cuts sound at your given dialed in frequencies, but not the frequencies above and below it.

Each band gives you separate control over the gain, frequency and bandwidth of each filter.

Credits

Plugin concept and design: Boz Millar
Graphic design: Boz Millar

Thank you

A quick thank you is in order for everybody who helped out making this plugin. Thank you to all of our beta testers who had to put up with all the changes we made since the first demo. A huge thanks to the CockOS team (http://www.cockos.com/) and Oliver Larkin (http://www.olilarkin.co.uk/) and Tale (http://www.martinic.com/combov/) for putting together a great set of tools for creating plugins, and putting up with all our stupid questions.

Contact

If you ever run into issues or have any questions, you can send an email to support@bozdigitallabs.com.

For information on becoming an affiliate marketer, you can contact us at affiliate@bozdigitallabs.com