






Home Studio Gear List

Software Application	Price (HKD)
<p>Cakewalk - Sonar 5 Producer Edition (upgrade for Sonar 4)</p>  <p>http://www.cakewalk.com/Products/SONAR/default.asp Our core Digital Audio Workstation. I'm particular impressed that version 5 comes with Roland's vocal tuning plug-in "V-Vocal" that could rival the industry standard "Auto-tune".</p>	\$1388
<p>Tascam GigaStudio 3.1</p>  <p>http://www.tascamgiga.com/ GigaStudio has been the highest quality sample playing application. Although version 3 is not stable yet, I believe the upcoming patches will fix the problems. It is still a valuable tool to us and it will be installed into a new dedicated desktop computer to enhance our sampling power.</p>	\$3870
<p>Eastwest Quantum Leap - Symphonic Orchestra Platinum</p>  <p>http://www.soundsonline.com/sophtml/details.phtml?sku=EW-155 Eastwest Quantum Leap - Symphonic Orchestra Platinum Pro XP</p>  <p>http://www.soundsonline.com/sophtml/details.phtml?sku=EW-155PRO Agreed by all international sources and all local musicians I know, this is a must-have for serious orchestral sample scoring. These 2 packs add up to be 138GB in memory size and it is possible that they'll suck up all the computer CPU power. I don't know if they'll run on our computer smoothly. So we'll get it in stage one, let John get himself familiar with how it works and test on the CPU performance. If it is necessary, we'll get a "Receptor" in Stage 2 to increase the processing power.</p>	\$27851
<p>Eastwest Quantum Leap - Colossus</p>  <p>http://www.soundsonline.com/sophtml/details.phtml?sku=EW-164 This is a high quality all-around sound source including all general MIDI patches plus some extra goodies. It serves like a software general MIDI sound module.</p>	\$7715
<p>Eastwest Quantum Leap - RA</p>  <p>http://www.soundsonline.com/sophtml/details.phtml?sku=EW-160 RA is a rare instrument collection that makes alternative ethnic composition possible. We don't do this kind of music often but it'll come in handy every once in a while.</p>	\$3838
<p>Eastwest Quantum Leap Symphonic Choir</p>  <p>http://www.soundsonline.com/sophtml/details.phtml?sku=EW-165 Symphonic choir is particular useful in complimenting the orchestra for movie soundtrack scoring that we're targeting at.</p>	\$6940

<p>Best Service - Ethno World 3</p>  <p>http://www.soundsonline.com/sophtml/details.phtml?sku=BS-392 Ethno World has a long history and good reputation since the Akai sampling era and it keeps expanding the number instruments from all over the world. This is almost all it takes to make ethnic music arrangement.</p>	\$3102
<p>FXPansion - BFD</p>  <p>http://www.fxansion.com/product-bfd-main.php The sound quality of BFD is the best I heard among all the drum sets sample libraries. The adjustable multi-mic setting yields very realistic sonic quality and provides great mixing flexibility.</p>	\$2551
<p>Percussive Adventure</p>  <p>http://www.soundsonline.com/sophtml/details.phtml?sku=EW-154 PA is a great tool for film scoring. Its samples and loops can be heard in many movies. PA 2 is even more comprehensive. It's particularly great for John since he is less competitive in percussion arrangement comparing to other instrumentations.</p>	\$2784
<p>Eastwest Quantum - Leap Storm Drums</p>  <p>http://www.soundsonline.com/sophtml/details.phtml?sku=EW-162 An all-around drum module. Combining with PA2 and BFD, we have all the percussion we need.</p>	\$3102
<p>Native Instrument Komplete 3</p>  <p>http://www.nativeinstruments.de/index.php?id=komplete3_us REAKTOR 5 B4 II INTAKT ABSYNTH 3 FM7 KOMPAKT KONTAKT 2 VOKATOR PRO-53 BATTERY 2 GUITAR RIG 2 NI-SPEKTRAL DELAY ELEKTRIK PIANO</p> <p>All the soft synth and sampling power we'll ever need.</p>	\$10080
<p>Synthogy -Ivory Pianos 1.5</p>  <p>http://www.synthogy.com/ It is so realistic that a friend of mine actually fooled a professional mixing engineer.</p>	\$2706

<p>Garritan Stradivari Solo Violin</p>  <p>http://www.garritan.com/stradivari.html I'm stunned by the demo music and demo video showing how it works. The best solo violin samples I've ever heard.</p>	<p>\$1543</p>
<p>Garritan Big Band</p>  <p>http://www.garritan.com/jazz.html Not very high quality but specialized. It just makes scoring big band much more convenient.</p>	<p>\$2008</p>
<p>Musiclab RealGuitar</p>  <p>http://www.soundsonline.com/sophtml/details.phtml?sku=BS-388 Very realistic guitar sample library. The strumming sound and simulated noises are particularly impressive. Number of patches is still limited but it's ok since we don't consider it as a major tool.</p>	<p>\$1931</p>
<p>Spectrasonics Trilogy</p>  <p>http://www.spectrasonics.net/instruments/trilogy.html It covers all the bass parts. Too many musicians are using it. Can't be wrong.</p>	<p>\$2706</p>
<p>Spectrasonics Atmosphere</p>  <p>http://www.spectrasonics.net/instruments/atmosphere.html It covers all pads and atmospheric instruments.</p>	<p>\$3094</p>
<p>PSP Master Pack</p>  <p>http://www.pspaudioware.com/ Great mixing mastering tools, especially the industry standard "Vintage Warmer".</p>	<p>\$3016</p>
<p>Isotope Ozone 3</p>  <p>http://www.izotope.com/products/audio/ozone/ Very good all-in-one mastering tool. Everything is integrated in a single plug-in. Great quality but I personally think the interface design is not that user-friendly.</p>	<p>\$1938</p>

<p>Dell Dimension™ 9150 desktop computer (identical to the current desktop in use)</p>  <p>Multi-function Workstation (GigaStudio, sample libraries, sound effects library, general backup data storage, multimedia applications)</p> <p><u>Configuration:</u></p> <p>Dimension™ 9150 Intel® Pentium® D 830 Processor with Dual Core Technology Windows® XP Professional SP2 Edition 2GB (2x1024) NECC Dual Channel DDR2 533MHz SDRAM Memory Hard Drive (system): 250GB SATA (7200RPM) Hard Drive Hard Drive (data): 250GB SATA (7200RPM) Hard Drive 16X DVD+/-RW Drive Sound Blaster® Live!™ 24-bit 7.1 Digital Sound Card Dell(TM) ADA525 Speakers with Subwoofer Dell(TM) IEEE Firewire 1394 PCI Card</p> <p>http://www.dell.com</p> <p>"Dell is one of the most reliable brands of computers for audio production", experienced by two of my trusted professional musician friends. John is current using exactly the same model and it's very reliable. So I'll get him an extra, dedicated to run GigaStudio, to double the processing power.</p>	\$15000
<p>Mackie HR624 Monitor Speakers</p>  <p>http://www.mackie.com/products/hr624/index.html to supplement our beloved Yamaha NS10M, for additional reference.</p>	\$6200
<p>Muse Research – Receptor</p>  <p>http://www.museresearch.com/</p> <p>If our system can't run the new orchestral libraries reliably, we'll have to get a "Receptor". It is a "hardware plug-in player" that will make our heavy orchestral sample playing more reliable. I've played it at a local dealer and it sounds great with no latency, just like a very high quality sound module. We'll use "Receptor" as a dedicated orchestral sample player. One reason is that orchestral work is our first priority. Secondly, Receptor's memory size is limited. Right now, the largest hard disk size is 160GB. So there won't be much room left for other big libraries since the Symphonic Orchestra Platinum and Platinum Pro XP already add up to 138GB. Other big sample libraries have to stay in the desktop computer.</p>	\$16000
<p>Mackie Universal Controller</p>  <p>http://www.mackie.com/products/mcu/</p> <p>This controller is used to enhance John's production efficiency, especially on automation tasks in Sonar. It also yields a better feel of touch just like an analogue mixer.</p>	\$7745
<p>Mackie Big Knob</p>  <p>http://www.mackie.com/products/bigknob/index.html</p> <p>Now we can switch between different monitor speakers and adjust their volume more conveniently. It makes sound quality comparison much easier.</p>	\$2318

System Diagram

