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SONIC SURREALITY

You know **Sonic Reality** as the purveyor of **Ocean Way Drums** and innumerable Reason ReFills, but you might not know that founder Dave Kernzer is so huge a vintage synth geek that it's positively surreal. Below is the keyboard room at SR's Florida mothership – turn the page for modular and rack synths. At keyboardmag.com/gear, you'll find more pictures, plus a video tour where Dave and *Keyboard's* Robbie Gennet play every single one of these beasts! *Stephen Fortner*

ARP's Pro DGX (top) was part of P-Funk's signature sound. Below it are a Vox Continental organ and the original "sampler," a Mellotron.



The Octave Cat, a two-voice solo synth that competed with the Minimoog and ARP Odyssey.



MuSonic's-modified Minimoog above ARP String Ensemble (think "Dream Weaver") above Wurlitzer 200A electric piano.



A Prophet-5 is the meat, and Oberheim Two Voice and Matrix-12 synths are the bread, in this highly fattening analog sandwich.



Roland's VP-330 Vocoder Plus is hunted to extinction on eBay. It sits atop an RMI Electra-Piano.



The Haaken Continuum controller (top) senses X and Y positions and finger pressure. It shares the top of a Yamaha CP70B electric grand with a Korg OASYS workstation.



Moog Rogue and Minimoog snuggle up on top of old faithful, a Rhodes Stage Mk. II. Check out our review of the new Rhodes on page 48.



Electric grand pianos use real strings and hammers, but pickups instead of a soundboard. Here's Kawai's, topped with another Prophet-5.



Baldwin's Electric Harpsichord is one of the hardest classic keyboards to find at all, let alone in good working condition like this one.



Korg was once Univox. Here's their original MiniKorg atop a Hohner Clavinet D6.



Yamaha EX5 (bottom) controls a rackful of synths. Left to right: the coveted Roland MKS-80 Super Jupiter with MPG-80 Programmer, Roland V-Synth XT and XV-5080, Nord Rack 2, and Kawai K5000R additive synth.



Left to right: Roland MC-202 sequencer with built-in analog synth, EMS Synthi (made famous in Pink Floyd's "On the Run"), Roland model 104 analog sequencer. They sit on a Lowrey Berkshire organ, used for the Who's intro to "Baba O'Riley."



Roland System-100 atop rack of six (!) Oberheim SEMs, programmer (top right), and two output modules (bottom right).



Modular madness! Top to bottom: ARP Little Brother, Roland System-100M, ElectroComp EML-200, Oberheim paddle/keypad box, Serge filter, EQ, and analog delay above two Oberheim SEMs.



A rare Maestro Rover rotary speaker.



The SSL console from the Carson-era *Tonight Show*. Note the NBC peacock logo and silent phone ringer light.

All photos by Robbie Gennet