

# BOREALIS

Animistic Performance Reverb

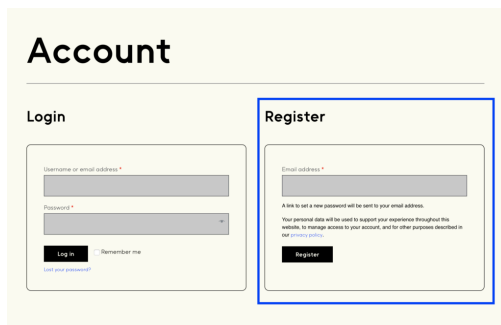
User Manual

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# 1. Download and Installation

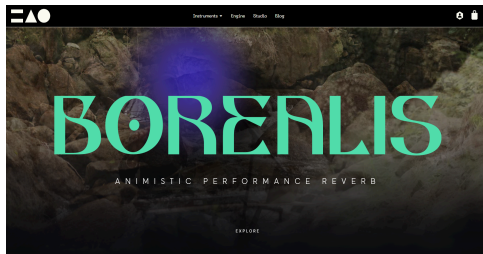
Create a MNTRA Account:



The screenshot shows the 'Account' page with two main sections: 'Login' and 'Register'. The 'Login' section has fields for 'Username or email address' and 'Password', with a 'Log in' button and a 'Remember me' checkbox. The 'Register' section has an 'Email address' field, a 'Register' button, and a note: 'A link to set a new password will be sent to your email address. Your personal data will be used to support your experience throughout this website, to manage access to your account, and for other purposes described in our privacy policy.'

Go to [Account](#) to create a new MNTRA account if you don't already have one. Make sure to verify your email to activate and be able to log in to BOREALIS

Download BOREALIS:



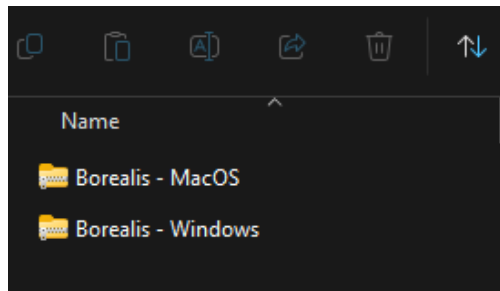
Purchase BOREALIS from our website.

<https://www.mntra.io/product/borealis/>

And you will receive a download link by email.

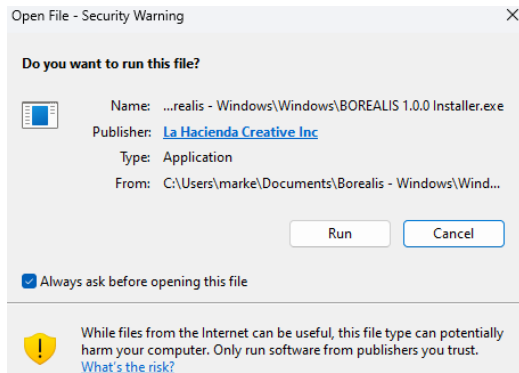
\* If you purchased through Beatport or Muse, you will need to register through their systems. You will also need to use the installers they provide.

Run the installer:



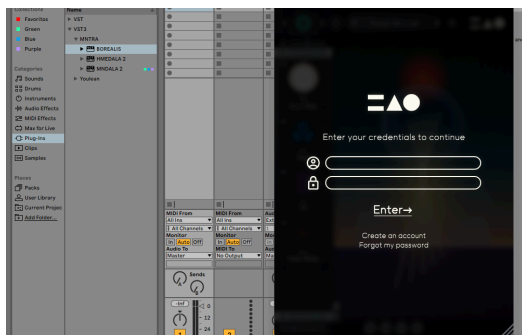
Run the BOREALIS installer for your operating system.

## BOREALIS Installation:



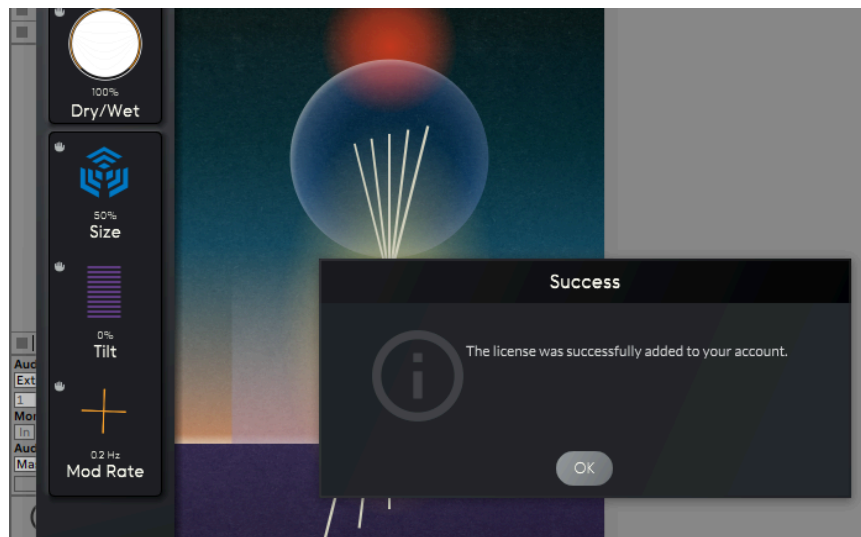
Continue through the installation process, we recommend leaving everything in its default location.

## Open BOREALIS in your DAW of choice:



Upon first opening the Plugin you will be prompted to login to your MNTRA Account, or to [create a new one](#).

## BOREALIS is now ready to go:



## 2. Perform View

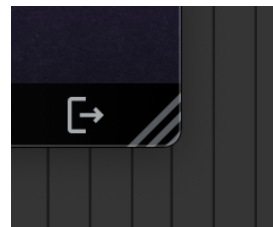
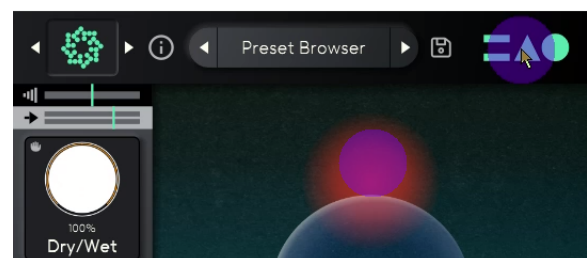
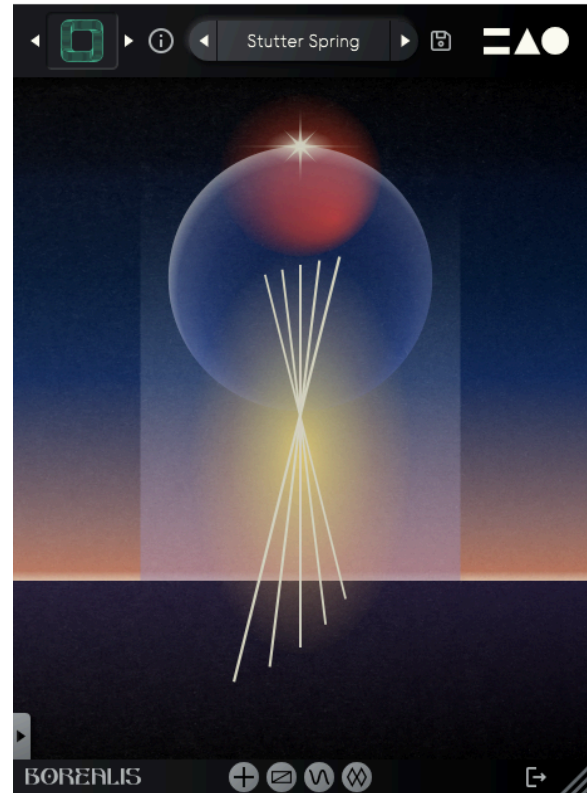
The Perform View is the visual representation of the X, Y, and Z axes. Each axis can be controlled using the mouse, allowing for intuitive, non-linear control of multiple parameters within the plugin simultaneously. These axes function as performance macros, providing dynamic manipulation of sound.

When you move your mouse within the Perform View, the cursor will change to indicate which axis is being controlled. Clicking on the axis will display its current configuration and the parameters it affects.

This setup allows for a seamless and interactive performance experience, enabling real-time adjustments and creative exploration.

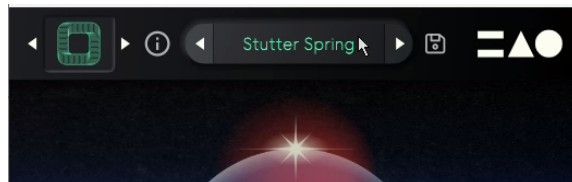
You can click on the MNTRA logo (top right of the interface) to return to the Perform View at any time.

The interface resize areas are located in the top right and bottom right corners. Move your cursor to these areas and when the black diagonal lines appear, you can resize the window.

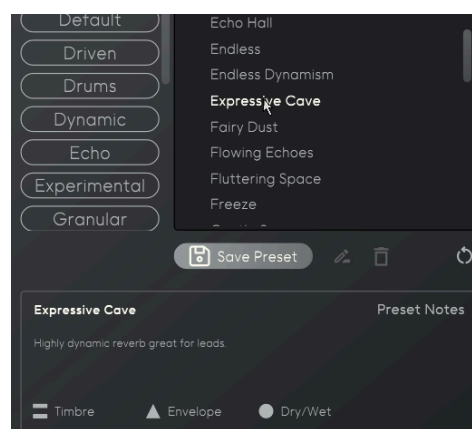


### 3. Preset Browser

The Preset Browser can be opened and closed by clicking on the preset name, or presets can be cycled using the arrows. From here you can access and recall all of the available Atelier and User presets within BOREALIS.

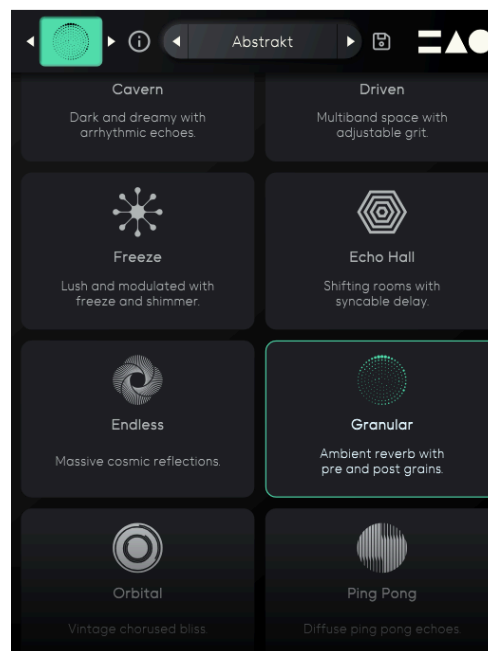


Hovering over a preset name will provide more information about it, such as a short description and labels for the axis macros.



Every preset in Borealis has an associated algorithm that defines its unique sound characteristics.

You can change the algorithm at any time by clicking the algorithm logo in the top left corner. The available algorithms range from convolution reverbs sampled from epic spaces, shimmering algorithmic reverbs, and vintage delays. Each algorithm offers distinct sonic textures and character, allowing you to tailor its sound to your specific needs.

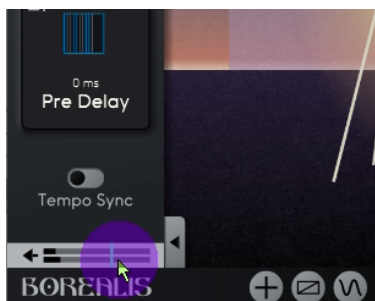
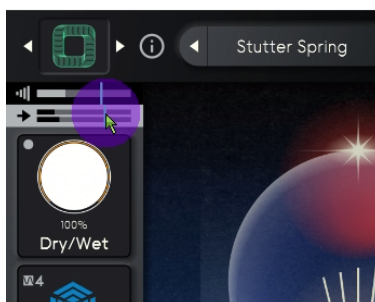


## 4. Control Panel



You can open and close the control panel of Borealis by clicking the arrow on the side. This panel provides access to each algorithm's parameters and their assignments.

Here, you can control the **input** and **output** gains of the effect, as well as the envelope follower input. This setup allows for detailed customization and precise control over the sound shaping process.

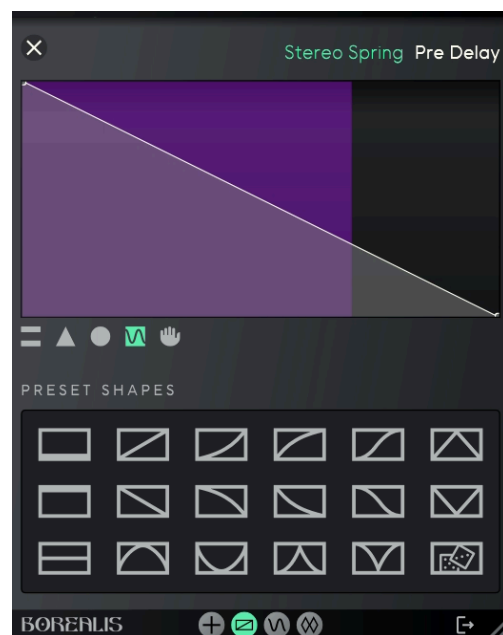
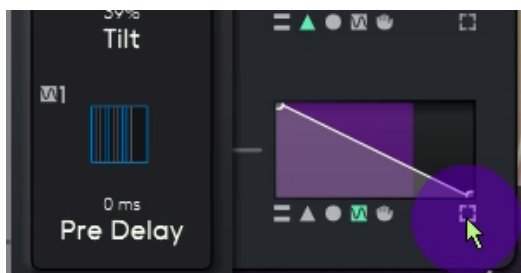


## Control Mapping Window

You can open the control mapping window in Borealis by right-clicking on the controls, clicking the assigned icon, or using the tab on the bottom (table). This window allows you to choose how the parameters are mapped—either to manual control (hand), axis control (shapes), or modulator control (sine wave). The tables in this window control the range and response of the mapping, inspired by nonlinear real-time parameter controls of game audio engines (RTPC's).



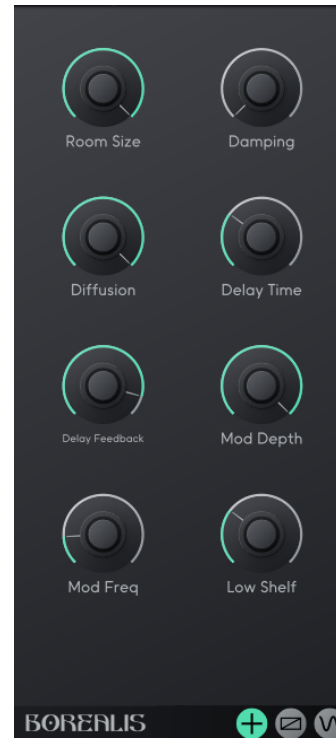
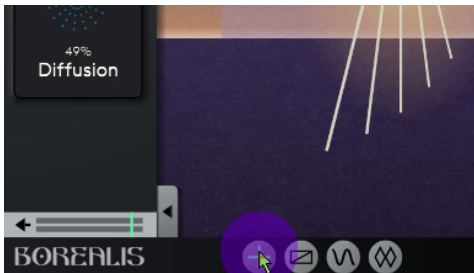
By clicking the expand icon (four corners), you can enlarge the tables for fine-tuning or to access the preset table shapes, including a randomizer. This feature allows for more precise control and customization of the parameters, ensuring that you can achieve the exact response you desire.





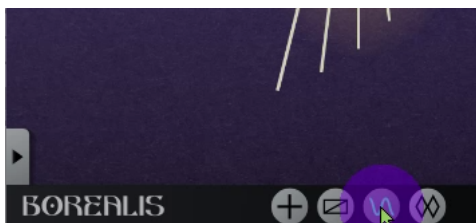
## Additional Parameters

Many effects algorithms in Borealis also have additional parameters that can be accessed by pressing the plus icon tab at the bottom. These parameters cannot be modulated, but they can be used to fine-tune the sound. This allows for greater precision and control, enabling you to customize the effects to better suit your needs.



## 5. Modulation Page

Borealis features three complex modulators and an envelope follower. These tools provide advanced modulation capabilities, allowing for dynamic and expressive sound design. Each modulator can be intricately configured to interact with various parameters, as well as other modulators..

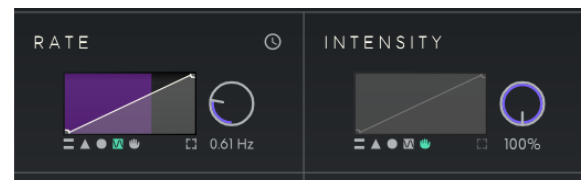


## Modulators

Borealis features three RTPC-powered complex modulators. Each of the three modulators offers various wave types, including Sine, Triangle, Square, and Random. Additionally, you can create custom shapes using a table and use the step modulator for sequenced modulations.



The rate and intensity of these modulators can be modulated with axes or even other modulators, allowing for complex, dynamic movements in your sound design. To sync the rate to your host temp, click the 'clock' icon.



At the bottom of the modulator interface, you can see a list of what each modulator is assigned to (Paths) and a visual representation of its status (Meter), providing clear feedback and control over your modulations.

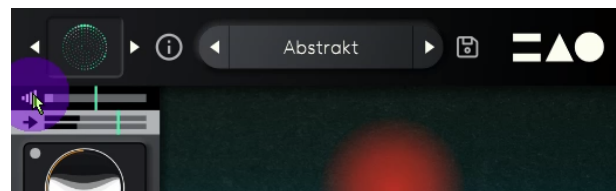
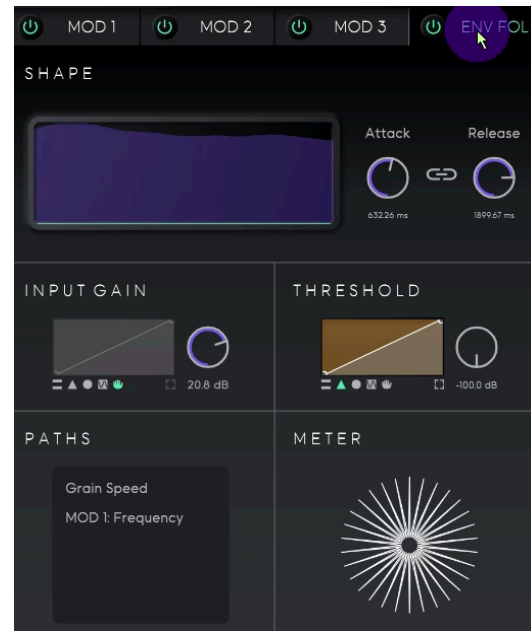


## Envelope Follower

The envelope follower in Borealis takes your input signal and derives a control signal that you can use to modulate parameters within the engine. It features controls for **Attack** and **Release**, allowing you to fine-tune the response to your input signal. Both **Input Gain** and **Threshold** can be dynamically modulated by other modulators and controls, providing flexibility in how the envelope follower reacts.

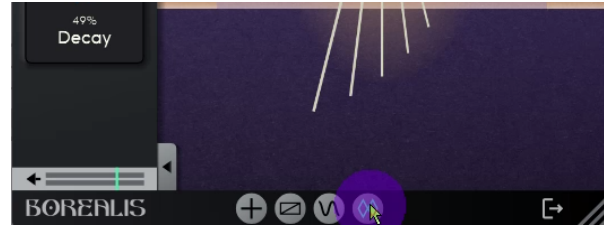
The Threshold setting lets you specify the signal volume at which the envelope follower activates, enabling highly responsive and dynamic performances.

Additionally, you can adjust the envelope follower input gain and open the envelope follower page using the designated slider and icon on the front page for easy access.



## 6. Mastering Section

Borealis includes a comprehensive master effects section, featuring a parametric equalizer and a mastering grade compressor/limiter. This section affects both the dry and wet signals of Borealis, allowing you to shape and glue your overall sound with precision. If you wish to modify only the wet signal, you can use Borealis on a return track.



### The Equalizer

The Equalizer in Borealis can be turned on with a toggle switch and edited by clicking and dragging the control points. A two-finger drag or using the middle mouse wheel on a control point can quickly adjust the bandwidth. Fine-tuning can be done using the bottom controls. Additionally, right-clicking on the bands or the background provides access to more options for detailed customization.



## The Modern limiter

The Modern Limiter in Borealis is a mastering-grade IIR look-ahead limiter designed for ultra-transparent sound. Due to the look-ahead nature of the algorithm, it introduces a slight delay based on the attack time, so for use in live performances we recommend the Vintage Limiter.



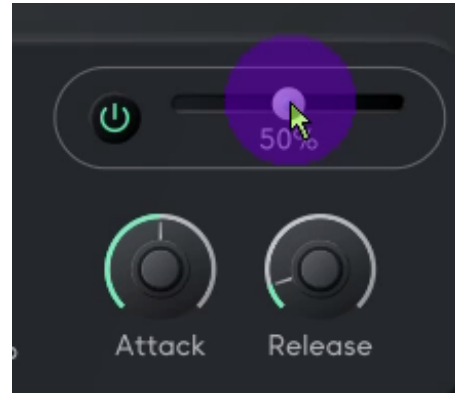
## The Vintage limiter

The Vintage Limiter in Borealis is modeled after the classic 1176 Peak Limiter. This vintage-style limiter provides a smooth, analog character to your output. It is ideal for achieving a classic sound while maintaining precise control over peak levels. This limiter is ideal to use with live performance material.



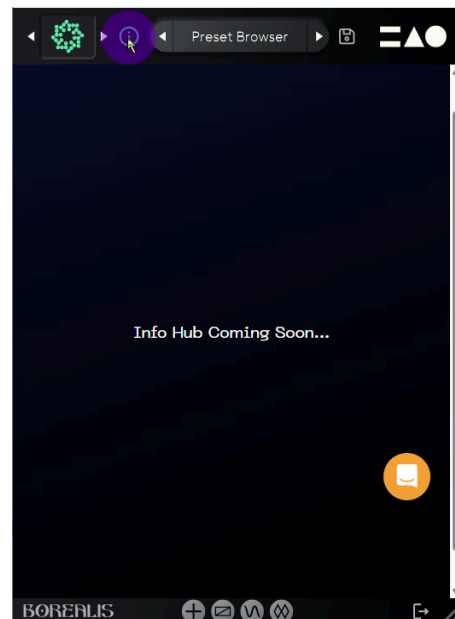
## The Mid/Side control

The Mid/Side Control in Borealis splits your signal into the common (mid) and different (side) information between the channels. This feature allows you to balance how much mid versus side information is sent into the limiter. Setting the control to 50% provides a neutral response, offering precise control over the stereo image and ensuring a well-balanced sound, but with the ability to tweak the imaging to taste.



## 7. Info Hub

This is the place where you will find the most up to date tutorials, demo videos, resources, tips and news about BOREALIS and MNTRA.



## Glossary

**Preset:** Management of Preset settings and algorithms.

**Perform View:** Dynamic visual control of the X, Y, and Z axes with the animated interface.

**Control Mapping:** Assignment of parameters to manual controls, axes, or modulators.

**Modulators:** Complex LFO modulators and Envelope Follower for dynamic modulation.

**Mastering Section:** Equalization, limiters, and mid/side control.

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

### **Can I control Borealis with a MIDI controller?**

Yes, Borealis allows the assignment of MIDI controllers to manipulate parameters in real-time.

### **What should I do if the effect doesn't sound as expected?**

Check the parameter settings and ensure that the input gain and envelope follower levels are set correctly for your input.

## Support Contact

If you need further assistance or have any additional questions, please contact our support team: [support@mntra.io](mailto:support@mntra.io)