

# B·J NEWS

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## POLYPHONIC PARADISE

Now you can own a polyphonic synthesizer. Roland have created a polyphonic four-voice instrument which sells at a price only made possible by the massive volume of Roland's world-wide production.

Until now instruments such as the new Jupiter 4 have sold for many thousands of pounds and they have been beyond the reach of most working musicians. Even well-paid professional musicians have balked at the idea of spending so much on one instrument.

Now Roland have cut the price in half. They have built an entirely new synthesizer which is, in fact, *computer controlled*, and it is this feature that harnesses the difficult art of synthesis into something that is very useable on stage.

Until now keyboard players have been offered two synth options: 1. A pre-set synthesizer with a limited range of sounds that is easy to use on stage. 2. A "patched" synth that makes an infinite variety of sounds but which is virtually impossible to set up between numbers on stage.

Now Roland provide a built in computer which

solves this long-standing puzzle. The player can set up his own sounds and enter them into a built-in memory before he goes on stage. Then he can recall them at a touch of a switch just as he would use a pre-set. The method of using this system is to push the "write" button on the synth once the sound you want has been obtained. This enters that particular "patch" into the memory and up to eight different sounds can be entered in the memory at the same time. If you get bored with the sound you've entered into the memory you can push "write" again and erase one memory with a new sound. Simple isn't it? In addition there are 10 pre-set voices giving a total number of 18 voices. Add to this an arpeggio switch in four different modes which will play independently of what your hand is doing. In addition the arpeggio rate can be controlled directly by their new Computer Rhythm box CR68. Also there are two mono and two poly assign modes, pitch bend control and ensemble effect.

Roland have been solving problems for musicians for the past six years. In doing so they're helping you to be more creative.



THE JUPITER-4

ONLY £1,499

# SH... YOU KNOW WHO

Two new major synthesizers have been launched in Britain by Brodr-Jorgensen (UK) Ltd. They are the Roland SH-1 and the Roland SH-7.

Both synths are performance designed allowing the right hand to play whilst the left operates the control panel.

The SH-1 is an amazing new synthesizer at the remarkable selling price of £529. A departure from their normal styling, Roland are using here an injection moulded body which is a complete dream for the service engineer. Jack sockets normally hidden around the back are freely available from above. Add to this the provision of a suboscillator and you have a power and depth normally associated with big synthesizers.

This synth doubles as either a complete synth or an expander module and in addition to audio outputs it also features audio inputs included both for control voltage and gate. This means that the synth will process another instrument, such as a guitar, through its filters and voltage controlled amplifier. You can also play the SH-1 by remote from another synth having a voltage control output. You can also interface any other monophonic or polyphonic keyboard instrument with the SH-1 and that instrument will not only be processed by the SH-1 but will trigger the SH-1's envelope generators.

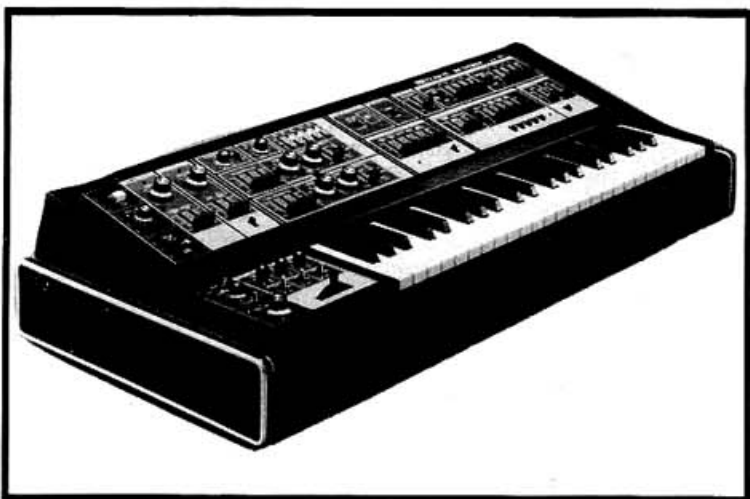
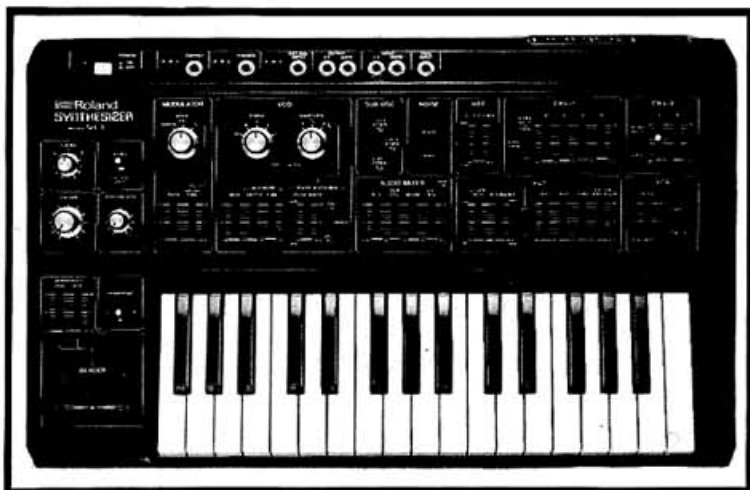
Because of a built-in transpose control the SH-1 has an effective five octave range and a built-in pitch-bender that automatically returns to zero.

The other new synth is the SH-7 and this is the "Big Brother" to the SH-1. As well as the same 24dB "super filter" big sound that is so impressive on the SH-1, the SH-7 has two voltage-controlled oscillators plus a sub-oscillator. Not only is the SH-7's keyboard duo-phonic, but it still sustains both notes after you release the keys.

The patching and interface characteristics of the SH-7 are the same as the SH-1's and the built-in pitch-bender controls the VCA as well as the VCO. Plus you can direct the LFO through

the pitch-bender to control the VCO, VCA and VCF, either separately or together.

These two synthesizers will rapidly change the fact of both "live" and recorded synth music.



# AND NOW: A CANNED DRUMMER THAT'S HUMAN!

What's been wrong with automatic drum boxes up until now? They have sounded like automatic drum boxes. They have played monotonously and every one very quickly gets bored even with little breaks programmed to happen every few bars. Now ROLAND have come up with the answer.

The answer is called ACCENT. What it actually means is that the automatic rhythm box introduces varying intensity into the rhythm just as any human drummer would. This amount of intensity

(or Accent) is controllable and on a live gig you can increase "accent" to coincide with the way a real live drummer would be playing as he downed more and more pints!

At last the automatic drummer takes on human form in the new Roland Rhythm box called the CR68 (the CR stands for Computer Rhythm) and that's bad news for drummers and good news for the rest of us. It will of course also directly trigger the Jupiter 4 arpeggio rhythm.