Ample China Guqin Main Panel Manual



Ample Sound Technology Co.

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1 Instrument

1.1 Overview of Instrument Panel



1.	Preset Bar
2.	Position Assignment
3.	Note Information
4.	String Assignment Display

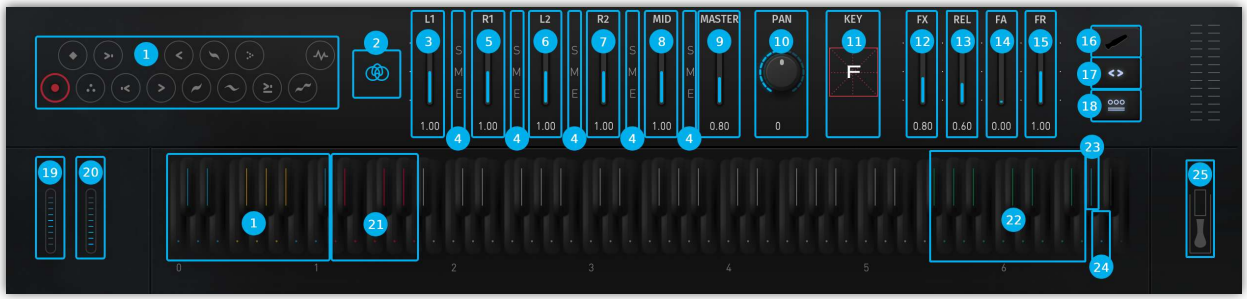
1.2 Preset Bar

There are four buttons: Previous , Next , Play , and Save .

Clicking the preset name text box will open the preset file list window.

2 Main Panel

2.1 Overview of Main Panel



1.	Articulations
2.	Sound Mode
3.	L1 Mic Volume
4.	Mic Solo Mute & Channel EQ
5.	R1 Mic Volume
6.	L2 Mic Volume
7.	R2 Mic Volume
8.	Middle Mic Volume
9.	Master Volume
10.	Pan
11.	Key
12.	FX Sound Gain
13.	Release Sound Gain
14.	Nail-on-String Gain
15.	Finger Release Sound Gain
16.	Playing Mode
17.	Automatic Legato Mode
18.	Open String Priority Mode
19.	Bend
20.	Mod Wheel
21.	Position Mode Keyswitch
22.	FX Sound Group
23.	Open String Priority Keyswitch
24.	Automatic Legato Mode Keyswitch
25.	Hold Pedal Toggle

2.2 Articulations

2.2.1 Articulation Classification

The articulations in **ACGQ** are divided into **four groups**: – **Head Group** (blue keyswitches), **Body Group** (yellow keyswitches), **Legato Group** (red keyswitches), and the **Auxiliary Group** (the three red keyswitches on the far right of the articulation keyswitch area).

- **The head group** is used to create grace notes and ornamental articulations at the beginning of a note or phrase.
- **The body group** can not only generate grace notes at the beginning of phrases, but can also be used for articulation legato transitions, allowing detailed and expressive control of Guqin performance gestures.

  ACGQ’ s Body Group supports **unlimited articulation legatos**.

  For example, you can start with a Sustain note, then press the **Slide Up and Return** keyswitch (G0) to transition the sustain into a Slide Up and Return articulation; then press **Slide Down and Return** (G♯0) to transition further, followed by **Vibrato** (E1), and so on.

  In this way, articulations can be continuously chained to form rich, evolving Guqin expressions.
- **The Legato Group** consists of virtual slide articulations.

  After pressing a Legato Group keyswitch, **playing two legato-connected notes will cause the starting note to slide smoothly into the target note**, simulating authentic Guqin sliding techniques.
- **The Auxiliary Group** consists of three parts: **Open + Slide In**, **Glissando**, and **Phrases**.

2.2.2 How to Play the Keyswitches

Most articulations will automatically return to Sustain after playing one phrase;
You can also stay on one articulation by holding the keyswitch.
Playing the keyswitch when a note is sounding will play legato to the articulation.

2.2.3 Articulations of Head Group

Abbr	Full Name	Keyswitch	Range
Sus	Sustain	C0	C2-F5
NH	Natural Harmonic	C♯0	C2-D5
Tre	Short Tremolo	D0	C2-F5
SIB	Slide In from Below	D♯0	D2-F5
SIA	Slide in from Above	E0	C♯2-F5

2.2.4 Articulations of Body Group

Abbr	Full Name	Keyswitch	Range
LSU	Legato Slide Up	F0	C♯2-D♯5
LSD	Legato Slide Down	F♯0	D♯2-F5
SUR	Slide Up and Return	G0	C♯2-F5
SDR	Slide Down and Return	G♯0	C♯2-F5
Vib	Vibrato	A0	C♯2-F5

2.2.5 Articulations of Legato Group

Abbr	Full Name	Keyswitch	Range
VSC	Virtual Portamento	A♯0	One Octave

2.2.6 Articulations of Special Effects Group

Abbr	Full Name	Keyswitch	Range
SIO	Open + Slide In	B0	C2 – F5
Gli	Glissando	C1	E2 – B4
Lick	Phrase	C♯1	A♯1 – F5

2.2.7 Sustain

Keyswitch is C0, Head Group.

- The Sustain includes Open Strings (cannot perform articulations) and Fretted notes.
- Maximum velocity triggers a Slide In from Below.

2.2.8 Natural Harmonic

Keyswitch is C♯0, Head Group.

- The maximum velocity triggers a Harmonic Slap.

2.2.9 Short Tremolo

Keyswitch is D0, Head Group.

2.2.10 Slide In from Below

Keyswitch is D♯0, Head Group.

- High keyswitch velocity triggers a fast SIB.
- Low keyswitch velocity triggers a slow SIB.

2.2.11 Slide In from Above

Keyswitch is E0, Head Group.

2.2.12 Legato Slide Up

Keyswitch is F0, Body Group.

- Play a note first, then press this keyswitch to transition into a Slide Up.
- Depending on Key Settings, it triggers a Major Second or Minor Third Slide Up.
- Repeated presses produce continuous upward slides (multiple Up-Slides) and allow for large-interval slides.

2.2.13 Legato Slide Down

Keyswitch is F♯0, Body Group.

- Play a note first, then press this keyswitch to transition into a Slide Down.
- Depending on Key Settings, it triggers a Major Second or Minor Third Slide Down.
- Repeated presses produce continuous upward slides (multiple Down-Slides) and allow for large-interval slides.

2.2.14 Slide Up and Return

Keyswitch is G0, Body Group.

- Play a note first, then press this keyswitch to transition into a Slide Up and Return.

2.2.15 Slide Down and Return

Keyswitch is G♯0, Body Group.

- Play a note first, then press this keyswitch to transition into a Slide Down and Return.

2.2.16 Vibrato

Keyswitch is A0, Body Group.

- High keyswitch velocity triggers constant-speed upward vibrato.
- Low keyswitch velocity triggers variable-speed downward vibrato.

2.2.17 Virtual Legato Portamento

Keyswitch is A♯0, Body Group.

- Slide speed is controlled by the velocity of the target note.
- Maximum slide range is one octave up or down.

2.2.18 Open + Slide

Keyswitch is B0, Phrase Group.

- High keyswitch velocity triggers an Open String + Fast Slide-In.
- Low keyswitch velocity triggers an Open String + Slow Slide-In.

2.2.19 Glissando

Keyswitch is C1, Phrase Group.

- Includes: Slow Up (Open), Fast Up (Open), Down (Open), Slow Up (Harmonic), Fast Up (Harmonic), Slow Down (Harmonic), Fast Down (Harmonic).

2.2.20 Lick

Keyswitch is C1, Phrase Group.

- There are 44 improvisation licks.

2.3 Sound Mode

The ACGQ is recorded with 5 microphones(Left 1, Right 1, Left 2, Right 2 and Middle). User can adjust the volume and channel EQ of different microphones to get more sound.

1.  AB1 Mode
2.  AB2 Mode
3.  AB3 Mode
4.  MS1 Mode
5.  MS2 Mode

2.4 Key

- The Open string differ significantly in timbre from the pressed notes. To ensure that there

are open strings available in every key, the Guqin requires tuning adjustments for each key. This option controls the tuning for all 12 keys.

- This option controls legato slides of major seconds and minor thirds.

2.5 Play Mode

- **Instrument Mode:**  Constrained by the authentic articulations of the instrument, such as the inability for two notes on the same string to sound simultaneously.
- **Keyboard Mode:**  There are no restrictions based on authentic instrument articulations.
- **Open String Mode:**  A♯1-D♯3 triggers open strings notes (and open string notes after tuning). E3-F4 triggers harmonic note.

2.6 Automatic Legato Mode

- There are 2 modes: Automatic Slide; Off.
- Note A6 with high velocity set the mode to Automatic Slide, and low velocity set the mode to off.

2.7 Open String Priority Mode

3 modes:

- Off.
- Partial Open String (String 1 & 2 excluded) Priority.
- Open String Priority.
- Note G♯6 with High velocity toggles on Open String Priority mode, low velocity toggles off.

2.8 Legato Smooth

In the authentic performance of the Guqin, the transitions in legatos are immensely varied. A monotonous legato style cannot fully emulate the nuances of a real performance. You can adjust the Legato Smooth in the Settings to suit different expressive needs.

2.9 Vibrato Wheel

ACGQ follows the Vibrato settings in Settings and triggers Guqin vibrato noise according to the configured vibrato speed.

- The default mode is Auto Vibrato.
- To change vibrato depth, speed, and other parameters, please adjust them in "Settings".
- When the Vibrato Depth in "Settings" is ≥ 0.75, vibrato noise will be triggered.

2.10 String Assignment and Position Assignment

2.10.1 String Assignment

Specify a string to be played. D1-G♯1 correspond to 7th string-1st string. High velocity String Force will affect fret position, while low velocity will not.

2.10.2 Position Assignment

Switch to a fret position manually. A yellow line will be displayed after pressing A1, notifying the notes that represent positions from 0 and up, then press the position note (C1-C♯3) to switch to a particular position.



2.11 FX Sound Group

Note	FX Sound
F♯5	Hit Top
G5	Hit Rim
G♯5	Slide Up FX
A5	Gliss NH FX 1
A♯5	Gliss NH FX 2
B5	Gliss OS FX
C6	River
C♯6	NH FX
D6	HP FX
D♯6	Slide FX 1
E6	Slide FX 2
F6	Scratch
F♯6	Strum FX
G6	Press

2.12 Hold Pedal Toggle

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