

Steiner Crumar EVI synth voice clone for Eurorack

Some hints for successful operation of this device:

The module will draw 35mA on +12V and -12V of your Eurorack system, take up 10hp width and 35mm depth. As always with these things, make sure the power cable is connected the right way when you install it. You will not harm the module if power is connected the wrong way, as it is protected, but it will of course not work if so.

Front panel jacks are CV for pitch CV input (1V/oct), BR for breath or envelope input (0–10V) and OUT for Eurorack level audio output.

If you have a NuEVI CV or Plus model, you can connect the pitch and breath directly to the NuMar, otherwise you will need a Berglund CV module or a MIDI to CV module. Of course this module can be used as a voice module like any other. It's not only for wind controllers. Just use an envelope from an envelope generator (ADSR) for the BR input instead of a breath signal.

Controlling the NuMar is extremely straightforward. Use the TUNE knob to adjust the pitch. On either side of the center position you have an octave of range, so you can use this knob for transpositions and tuning within this two octave range as you like. The BR LEV knob is the breath sensitivity. Just dial it to your liking. Usually about 3/4 setting is good, but it will of course vary with your input level and taste. RES knob is for filter resonance. Turning it up will fade out some of the bottom end and give you more and more of that classic squelchy synth sound. S.E.D. knob is a Nyle Steiner thing – Spectral Energy Distribution. This will change the character of the filter to work more in the VCA domains rather than as pure VCF. Basically this replaces four knobs on a regular VCF/VCA combo to achieve that character balance control. Brilliant!

The switches control the oscillator waveform selection. The leftmost switch is pulse/square selection. When the mid switch is in down position for square wave, the left switch decides if it is a pure square wave (down position) or a more nasal pulse wave (up position). Flipping the mid switch to up position will go from square or pulse to sawtooth wave. This is the brassy one. You will be using this lots for sure. Then there is another bit of Steiner magic in the rightmost switch, the DBL function. Flipping this to up position overrides the other switches and creates a faux double oscillator sound by mixing sawtooth and pulse wave while modulating the pulse width with an LFO where the LFO speed is increasing with note pitch. Brilliant, again!

So, in all really simple to use, but quite powerful despite its limitations. And the tone...

...yeah.