



Javanese Gamelan - Serum 2 · SFZ · WAV

An Impact Soundworks Instrument
for Serum 2 and .sfz compatible plugins
Instrument Version 1.0.0

Product Manual

Introduction

Gamelan is an ancient artform of Indonesia; it is a musical ensemble most often containing percussive, tuned metallophones with meditative, bell-like tones. The gamelan is among the oldest known instrument ensembles that is still played today, known to be at least 1,200 years old. Each instrument within the ensemble has its own unique design, size, and tuning, resulting in a rich and transcendent sound when played together.

The sound of the gamelan was hugely influential on 20th century Western composers like Satie, Cage, Bartók, Messiaen, and Britten, but can also be heard prominently in acclaimed scores like *Akira*, *Battlestar: Galactica*, *The Girl with a Pearl Earring*, and many others.

Our sampled Javanese gamelan (as opposed to Balinese or Sundanese) consists of twelve instruments made from bronze in Indonesia, carefully played and sampled by composer Gonzalo Varela to capture their full clarity and nuance.

Javanese Gamelan - SFZ Version is a slightly slimmed-down version of the Kontakt instrument of the same name; we have included an easy-to-install Serum 2 preset pack with both natural and designed patches for all instruments, as well as .sfz files - compatible with all SFZ players. You also have the option of downloading all of the samples in WAV format as a separate folder.

Whether you're writing for soundtracks, pop music, atmospheric electronica, or New Age, we think you'll find it incredibly inspiring—just as we did.

— *The Team at Impact Soundworks*

Installation

The process of installing **Javanese Gamelan - SFZ Version** will differ slightly depending on what plugin you intend to use it with.

First, install [Pulse Downloader](#).

Open the Pulse Downloader app, and click the 'Add a Product' button. In the dialog box, paste in the Pulse product key you received in your order confirmation email; the format will look like this: xxxxxxxx-xxxx-xxxx-xxxx-xxxxxxxxxxxx (containing only lowercase letters and numbers). Select an installation destination, and Pulse will download **Javanese Gamelan - SFZ Version**.

The Installation Folder Structure

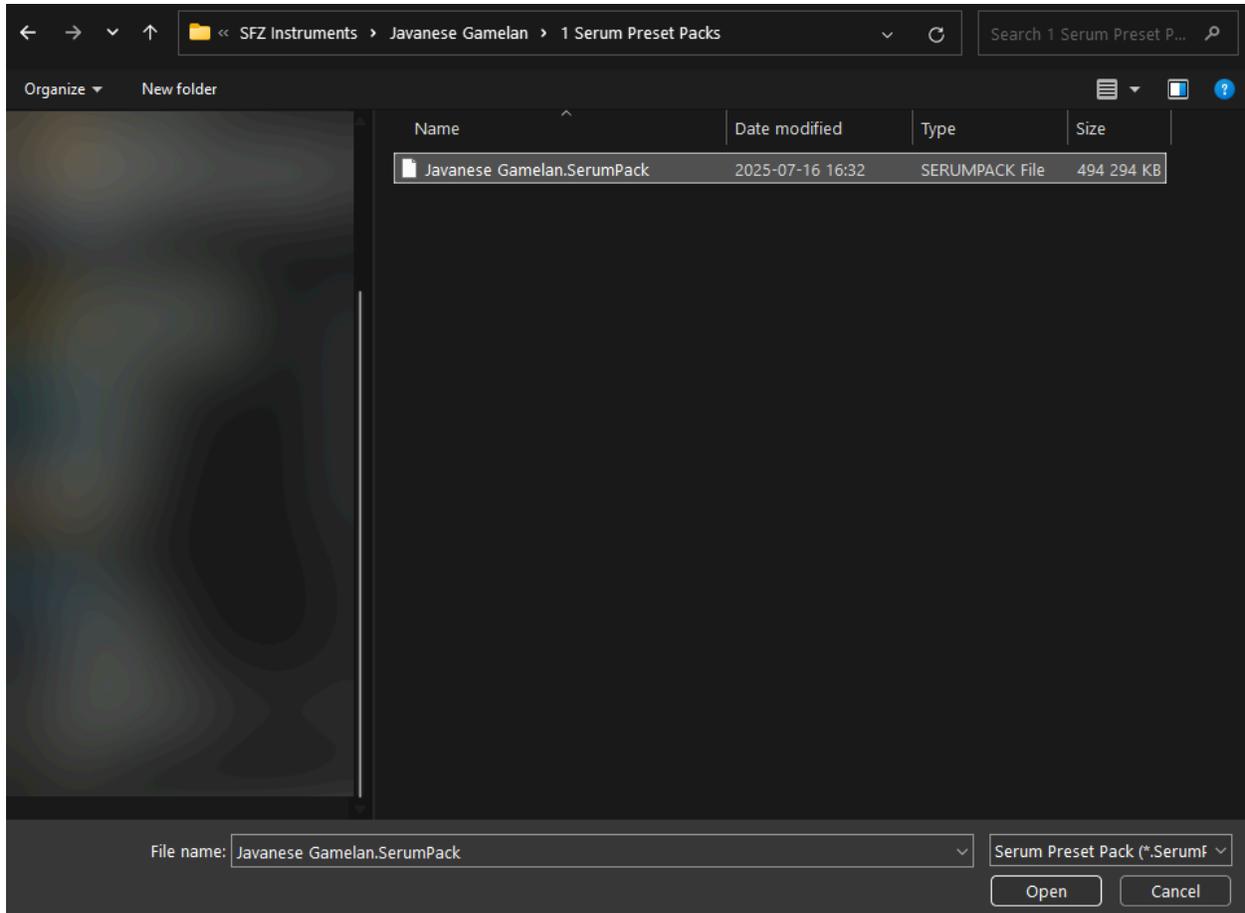
Inside the downloaded folder you will find three sub-folders: *1 Serum 2 Preset Pack*, *2 Sfzs + Samples* (which contains two sub-folders: *1 Sfzs* - which in turn contains two sub-folders: *Dampened* and *Regular* - and *2 Samples*), and *3 Samples (WAV)*.

Serum 2 Preset Packs

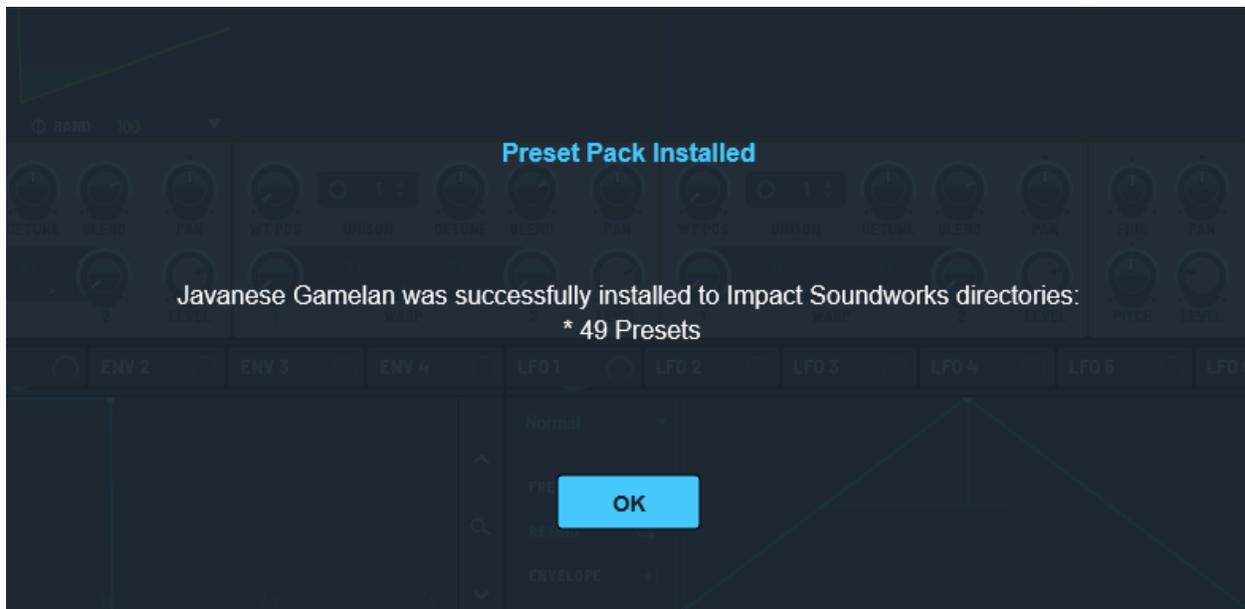
If you own Serum 2, the process of installing **Javanese Gamelan - SFZ Version** is very straightforward. Open up Serum 2, open the *Menu*, and select *Import Preset Pack...* in the dropdown menu:



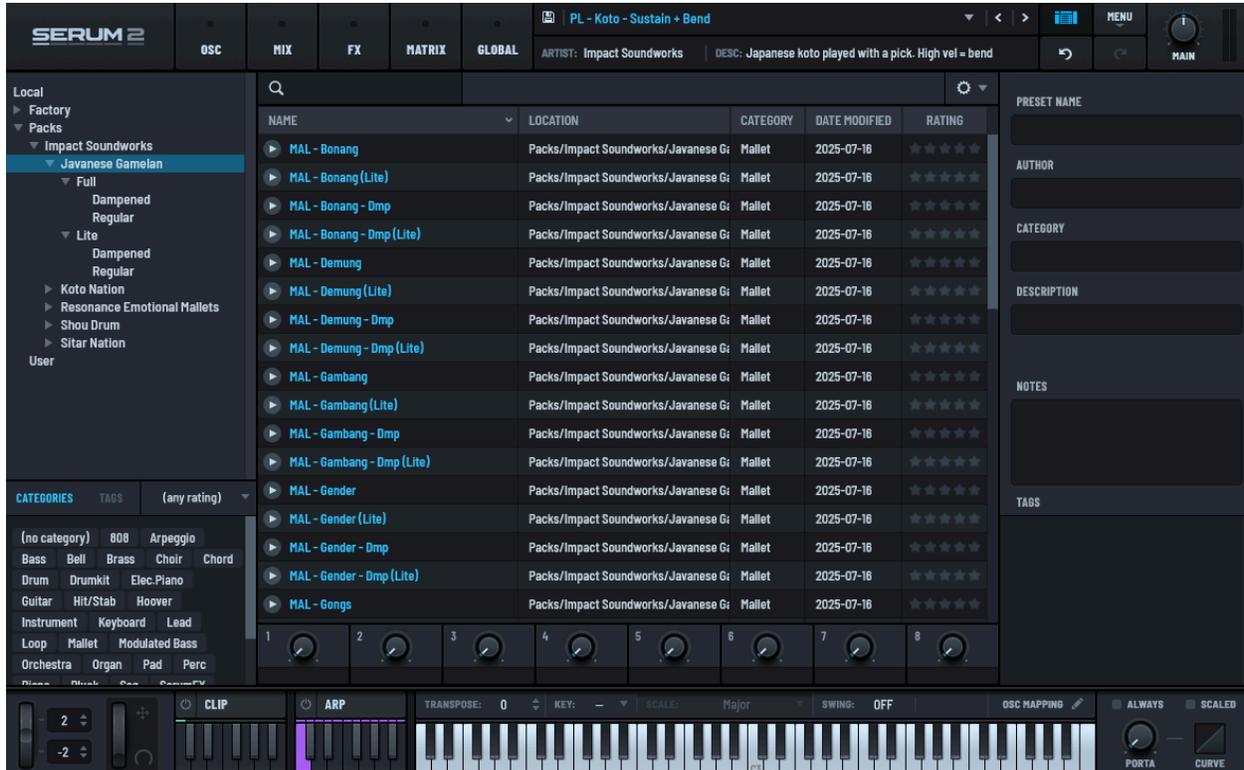
In the dialog box that appears, navigate to the *Javanese Gamelan* folder you downloaded with Pulse, open the *1 Serum 2 Preset Pack* folder, and open the 'Javanese Gamelan.SerumPack' file:



You should see a confirmation message that looks like this (it can take a few seconds before it appears):



Open the Preset Browser and navigate to *Packs > Impact Soundworks > Javanese Gamelan*. This folder contains sub-folders for *Full* and *Lite*, and these in turn contain sub-folders for *Dampened* and *Regular* [see page 7-8]. You can select *Javanese Gamelan* to show the full preset list, or select a sub-folder and category to narrow your filter; click the preset you want to load and you are ready to go!



These presets all use the first oscillator in Serum 2 in Multisample mode and there is a lot of flexibility to change things around as needed (add additional oscillators, per-oscillator filters, effects, and a whole ton more). **NB:** *The additional oscillators in Serum 2 are disabled in these presets by default, but they have been gain-staged to match the samples, so if you turn them on they will blend with the samples immediately!*

The sheer power and scope of Serum 2 is outside the scope of this manual, so please check out the [Serum 2 User Guide](#) for more info!

It's also important to note that, much like the more 'generic' .sfz files, the Serum 2 presets for **Javanese Gamelan - SFZ Version** do not contain all of the controls present in the Kontakt version.

Generic SFZs + Samples

This folder contains what we refer to as 'generic' .sfz files; these can be opened in most .sfz players.

NB: *The internal folder structure of the '2 Sfzs + Samples' folder **must** remain unchanged. If this folder structure is altered, you will run into errors attempting to load the .sfz file.*

Since the most common .sfz player is Sforzando, we will briefly go over how you load these files in that player here.

Sforzando

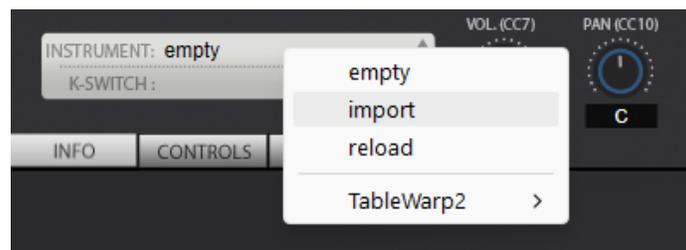
Sforzando is a free SFZ player made by Plogue, available for Windows, Mac, and Linux (in beta).

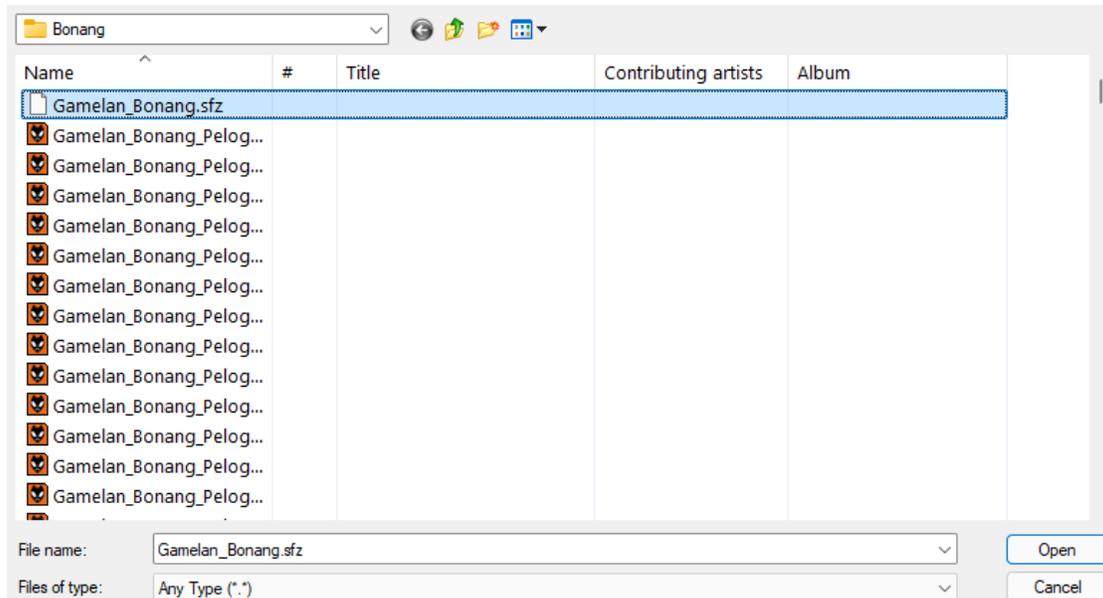
First, head over to <https://www.plogue.com/downloads.html#sforzando> and download the version that's appropriate for your system. The Windows and Mac installers should guide you through the process and install the plugin in a directory of your choosing (keeping in mind that the plugin component(s) should be installed to a directory your DAW scans for new plugins).

When you load the Sforzando plugin, you will see this interface:



Drag-and-drop an .sfz file from the *2 Sfzs + Samples* folder into the plugin window to load it, or click the Instrument section, select 'import', navigate to the *2 Sfzs + Samples* folder, and load the desired .sfz file from the sub-folder you want:





It's important to note here that **Javanese Gamelan - SFZ Version** is (necessarily) a simplified version of [the Kontakt library of the same name](#), so the controls available to you in the Kontakt version are absent here.

Samples (WAV)

This folder contains audio files in .wav format of all samples used to build the twelve instruments of the gamelan ensemble. You can load these in your favorite sampler or drop them into your DAW for processing and additional sound design - the sky's the limit!

NB: *The instruments of a gamelan are traditionally tuned to microtonal Indonesian scales, and the instruments we recorded were no different. That said, the Serum 2 presets and .sfz files have been coded in such a way that they will play back in equal temperament, for your convenience. The individual samples - available both as standalone WAV files (as an optional download) and as .flac files (bundled with the 'generic' SFZ files) - will not be in equal temperament, but rather at their originally recorded, microtonal pitches.*

Full vs. Lite

Full

The *Full* patches contain *eight velocity layers*, allowing for a far greater range of expression at the cost of a higher file size and system load.

For all of these, the instruments of the gamelan ensemble are:

Bonang
Demung
Gambang
Gender
Gongs
Kempul
Kempyang
Kenong
Kethuk
Peking
Saron
Slenthem

Lite

The *Lite* patches contain *only one velocity layer*, meaning that when you play a note at any velocity you are hearing the same sample being played, just at different volumes depending on MIDI velocity.

Dampened Patches

We recorded all instruments in the gamelan ensemble in two configurations, first letting the resonant tails ring out and second, dampening them for a muted sound. The regular patches have the full tail and the Dampened (Dmp) patches are muted. Regular and Dampened patches are available for all instruments in both Full and Lite configurations.

Credits & Acknowledgements

SFZ / Serum 2 Version

SFZ Version: Jared Le Doux

User Manual: Fredrik Häthén

Quality Assurance: Fredrik Häthén, Shane Roberts, Jared Le Doux

Original Kontakt Version

Lead Producer: Gonzalo Varela

Programming: Mario Krusej & Ryth Azhur

Editing: Gonzalo Varela

Instrument Concept & UI Design: Paulo Nunes

Recording & Performance: Gonzalo Varela

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