

## WORKSHOPS

# The Future Of Digital Accordion

Joseph Natoli, with Marco Cinaglia & Uwe Steger

IDEAS was started and we are all here because of our love of digital accordion (DA) and the promise that it instills in us for a hopeful future for these instruments. So this workshop was imagined because of the international article Joe was asked to write for PIF Castelfidardo in September by maestro Renzo Ruggieri. It will take an in depth look at what are the wins in the current marketplace, and where we might find opportunities for improvement and longevity in the future to keep this platform viable for many years to come.

### Prerequisites

- None

### Discussion Points:

#### • CURRENT

- ⇒ Joe will review what is happening in the current landscape of DA's and some of the things on DA's that have been engineered very well, and should be retained on any future instruments.

#### • FUTURE

- ⇒ A very detailed look into some of the technologies that are viable today that have not yet been included in recent well-known DA's from various companies, and therefore should be at the forefront of what DA companies should be looking to adopt and integrate
- ⇒ Looking at where hardware advances in memory capacity, wireless technology, programmability, open platforms usage of tablet controllers, internet speeds, subscription services for sampled sounds and/or software updates and the like will all contribute to viable and less costly platforms.
- ⇒ Pricing that will include low barrier to entry for families so that they can afford lower end instruments but still get all the benefits of what DA platforms offer.
- ⇒ More specifically, these are the subjects that will be reviewed:
  - ◇ Sounds and samples
  - ◇ Layering and sound mapping
  - ◇ Sequencing
  - ◇ Modularization
  - ◇ Configuration Flexibility (CRITICAL)
  - ◇ MIDI controller vs. self-contained unit
  - ◇ Internet updating (via subscription service)
  - ◇ Reasonable pricing



We will also hear from **Marco Cinaglia** (and his new Proxima Digital Accordion company) and **Uwe Steger**, the person who actually inspired me to get involved with digital accordion. Marco and Uwe also contributed to Joe's article for PIF Castelfidardo and have some very interesting concepts to share with you. The entire article is available at