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Native Instruments makes things “Weird by Design” with the return of fan-favorite soft-synth Absynth 6

The semi-modular powerhouse, overhauled for a new generation of musicians, featuring full MPE polyphonic aftertouch, surround support and an AI-powered browser



Berlin, December 9, 2025 – Native Instruments has unveiled Absynth 6, marking the return of a legendary semi-modular synthesizer built for creating textures and soundscapes that evolve and breathe, adding new, otherworldly dimensions to your sound. Developed in partnership with the original creator of Absynth, Brian Clevinger, Absynth 6 adds a sleek AI-powered browsing experience and modern compatibility. Absynth's signature suite of effects and groundbreaking hybrid engine combine granular, FM, wavetable, and subtractive synthesis for sounds that go beyond patches to create entire soundscapes.

“Our very first product - nearly 30 years ago - was a synth”, says Simon Cross, Chief Product and Technical Officer at Native Instruments. “Returning to Absynth brings us back to the heart of what inspires us. It remains one of the most singular instruments in electronic music, and we always knew its revival could only come with the involvement of Brian Clevinger himself.”

“When I originally created Absynth,” says Brian Clevinger, “I wanted an instrument that invited people to lose themselves in sound. Seeing it evolve into Absynth 6

has been genuinely moving. It still has that strange, alive quality, only now with the range and precision to inspire a new generation of explorers.”

Absynth 6 represents an evolution for one of the best loved soft synths of all time, one that enabled a generation of producers and composers to create never before heard sounds across ambient and dance music, and scores for film, television and videogames.

Reflecting this heritage, Absynth 6 launches with a suite of presets, created by musicians that best embody this restless creativity; **Brian Eno** and **Kaitlyn Aurelia Smith** at launch, with more to be added in future updates.

Key features

- **Unique sounds:** A hybrid semi-modular engine combines subtractive, FM, sample-based, and granular methods.
- **Living modulation:** Sculpt textures that breathe and transform with the hyper-detailed 68-point envelope generator.
- **Inspiring mutations:** The classic Mutator offers intelligent preset generation with depth and randomness controls for instant inspiration.
- **Modern expressiveness:** Full MPE and polyphonic aftertouch support enables nuanced, per-note performances.
- **Surround sound and microtuning:** Absynth 6 features true multichannel surround spatialization and MTS-ESP support for global microtuning and new harmonic systems.
- **Preset Explorer:** The preset library is arranged into an intuitive visual map so musicians can browse sounds by timbral quality, or as a classic browser.
- **Mind-bending effects:** Spatially bend Absynth’s unique suite of creative effects like Aetherizer and Cloud Filter with per-effect surround control.
- **Legacy patches and presets:** Explore vintage patches all the way back to Absynth 1, and load your own presets from Absynth 4 and 5.
- **New artist presets:** From Brian Eno, Kaitlyn Aurelia Smith and Richard Devine.



Absynth Preset Explorer

The new Absynth Preset Explorer reflects Native Instruments' evolving approach to AI: reduce friction, keep artists in control, and encourage exploration over automation. A deep-learning model analyses the timbral traits of every preset, arranging the library into an intuitive visual map so musicians can browse by feel rather than scroll through linear lists. Simple filters let users shape their own aesthetic path, while the system handles the heavy analysis behind the scenes.

"AI should widen the creative field, not collapse it," says Andy Sarroff, Head of Applied AI at Native Instruments. "The Preset Explorer listens closely, then gives that insight back to the musician in a way that sparks discovery. It's a guide, not a substitute for craft."

Weird by Design

The Preset Explorer has also informed the visual campaign for Absynth 6, created in collaboration with digital artists **Weirdcore**, known for his live visuals for Aphex Twin, Radiohead, Charli XCX and Oneohtrix Point Never; and radical post-internet designer **Swarmm**. Taking inspiration from the AI powered matrix of the preset explorer, as well as Absynth's reputation for world building, the **hero video** transports us to a liminal urban geography, intervened by sweeping glyphs and gaussian-splat renders, conjuring a hidden world of creativity beyond the surface of the ordinary.

Weirdcore will continue to bring Absynth 6's Weird by Design philosophy to life with the rolling-release of specially commissioned 'visualizer artworks', based on original Absynth 6 compositions from a host of renowned DJ's and producers. Each original track will be paired with custom visuals, with an original track by multi-hyphenate Australian polymath **HAAi**, with more artists to be added in the weeks to come.

The release of Absynth 6 represents a continuation of a legacy and a passing of the baton, presenting new possibilities of sound creation, and opening the field to a generation of producers, unafraid to explore, and ready to make their mark on the future.

Learn more

Get all the details at www.native-instruments.com

Pricing and availability

MSRP: \$199 - €199 - £ 179

Absynth 2-5 owners can upgrade to Absynth 6 for \$99 / €99

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About Native Instruments

For more than 25 years, Native Instruments has been at the center of musical innovation. The company has created communities, pushed technological

boundaries, and opened new creative horizons for enthusiasts and professionals alike. Today, driven by their mission to make music creation more inclusive and accessible, the company's hardware, software across Native Instruments, iZotope and Plugin Alliance brands, provide fully-integrated solutions for musicians, producers, and DJs of all genres and levels of experience.