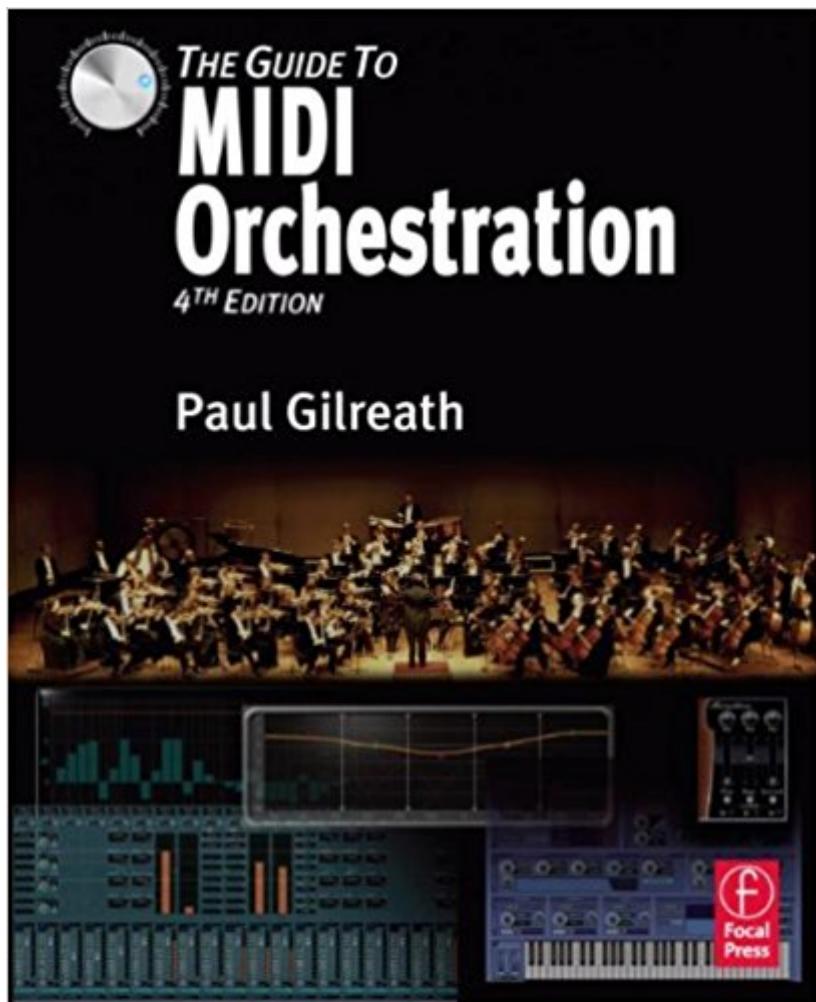


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# The Guide To MIDI Orchestration 4e



## Synopsis

Since its initial release in 1997, Paul Gilreath's *The Guide to MIDI Orchestration* has been the premiere text on creating realistic emulations of a symphony orchestra using samplers and computer recording techniques. Now in its fourth edition, *The Guide to MIDI Orchestration* explains how to merge this ever-expanding technology with the artistry of orchestration to produce the most lifelike recordings possible. The book is written for composers, arrangers, and MIDI musicians of all levels, and will be helpful to game composers, film and television composers, traditional orchestral composers, teachers, instructors, and the serious hobbyist. Highlights of the book include:

Introduction to and overview of the orchestra  
In-depth discussions of each orchestral section  
Detailed information on each instrument's timbre, range and uses  
Discussions of orchestration techniques  
Demonstrations on how to build an orchestration from the ground up  
Presentations on techniques for achieving balance and musical interest  
Setup and recommendations for software and equipment  
Details on setting up a multi-computer network for use as slave computers  
Overview of software sampler and Digital Audio Workstation software  
Presentation of note entry methods DAW and sampler template implementation  
Detailed steps for achieving realistic reverberation and instrument placement  
Start to finish steps to achieve a final mix  
Insightful interviews with top mastering engineers

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## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

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Paul Gilreath is an award-winning composer who creates original music in a variety of styles for video games, film, television, trailers, and broadcast advertising. Gilreath has written theme, underscore and broadcast advertising music for a wide range of clients that include NBC, CBS, Cartoon Network, ESPN, American Airlines and many others. His music has been used multiple times for the Olympic Games broadcasts on NBC and several PGA tournaments on NBC. He scored the feature film *No Retreat No Surrender* starring Jean Claude Van Damme, *Knights of the City* starring Curtis Mayfield, and *Making Contact* directed by Roland Emmerich (*Independence Day*).

I already had 15 years using MIDI for orchestration and thought this book would have some useful tips, but it seems like I already knew most of what is in here from other sources and my own experience. This book would be useful for someone just starting out. Other than that, it's just sort of OK. A lot of the material is starting to become outdated, but it's still useful for people who know

nothing at all about this craft. Unfortunately the web site for this book and author are not kept up to date, so the examples in the book can not be accessed. I have found a lot more useful information at the VI-Control forum on the internet.

This book serves as a very helpful reference book for anyone interested in scoring orchestra using MIDI. There are very helpful explanations of the different orchestral sections, and how the individual instruments within them are used. This information would be easily understood by anyone with basic music knowledge, and also help with orchestral scoring in general. Next, the book explores how to achieve realistic results using MIDI. Although technology is progressing very fast, this book is still very relevant. In fact, like most studio equipment, getting good results with less resources makes you better at using professional tools. Having the knowledge in this book will only make you better at understanding the powerful plugins available today, such as the ones being created by EastWest.

The book is not cheap, and this gave me pause for some time. I have been buying a lot of books on orchestration and composition lately, some better than others. I finally took the plunge with this one, and it is by far the best I have seen as yet. I am not finished my first read-through just yet, but I am already learning stuff about layering instrument voices and suchlike that I have not found written as clearly anywhere else. Go for it - you won't be disappointed!

Excellent information. Slightly outdated but the foundational information is still very valid. Easy to read and well organized to find what I need. I highly recommend for those who are truly interested in making their midi orchestrations sound like real orchestrations

I'm just starting to read it but so far it is great information and the format makes it very pleasing to read.

Great learning book. Very practical and direct to the point. More power to the author.

Awesome! so far!

wonderful

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