



ROLI launches Seaboard RISE 2, the long-awaited, next generation model of the world's leading MPE controller

Featuring an easier-to-play, re-engineered design and powered by the acclaimed MPE soft-synth Equator2, Seaboard RISE 2 is now available to preorder on roli.com



30 March 2022

LONDON — Today, pioneering music tech brand ROLI launches Seaboard RISE 2 ([see it in action here](#)). The RISE 2 launch marks the first time in two years that the industry-changing Seaboard has been available for sale. A limited run has been released for preorder, exclusively on roli.com, for \$1,399 (£1,099, €1,299).

Invented by Roland Lamb in 2009, the Seaboard is one of the most significant new musical interfaces developed in the past 30 years. The Seaboard's development was pivotal to ROLI's pioneering work to help establish the field of expressive electronic instruments and its enabling standard, MIDI Polyphonic Expression (MPE). It remains the best-selling MPE controller of all time, a favorite of a diverse list of artists that include Hans Zimmer, AR Rahman, Jordan Rudess, Grimes, will.i.am, RZA and 40.

The multi-award-winning Seaboard RISE model, first launched by ROLI in 2015, is beloved by musicians, composers, and producers alike. The cult classic has also enjoyed mainstream success as the instrument behind TV and film soundtracks from La La Land to Stranger Things. However, when Seaboard RISE was originally released the ecosystem surrounding the instrument was still in its infancy. Limited software compatibility and a



playing surface less familiar to experienced keyboardists proved to be a barrier for some musicians.

Now, **Seaboard RISE 2** is another big step forward in realizing the technology's extraordinary power. *"Today is a major milestone in our journey with the Seaboard,"* said Lamb, CEO of Luminary ROLI. *"RISE 2 is easier to play, more durable and a more beautiful, expressive experience than ever before. It is also an experience transformed by over a decade of development in Equator2, the world's leading dedicated MPE synth, plus the creation of a whole ecosystem of compatible software and workflow solutions across the industry. This launch marks the transition of MPE from a fledgling, peripheral project to an increasingly central part of how digital music is made. We're deeply excited for the Seaboard community to continue to grow and thrive."*

The **Keywave2** silicone playing surface is at the forefront of the improvements to Seaboard RISE 2. Perfected through rigorous testing with professional keyboardists and Seaboard players, Keywave2 provides tactile feedback with new precision frets, broadened surfaces, and articulated edges. Similar to a string on a guitar fretboard, this enables tonally precise and natural performances.

"Finally the Seaboard is accessible to all," said Seaboard virtuoso Marco Parisi, who has used RISE as a production tool on records for artists including Ed Sheeran and has taught students around the world how to play. *"The new precision frets on the RISE 2 address the biggest challenge Seaboardists have faced — playing in tune and modulating sounds without your fingers slipping off the keywaves. Any piano or keyboard player will now be able to translate their skills more quickly than ever before."*

RISE 2 was designed in parallel with **Equator2** to achieve unparalleled musical expression. [Equator2](#), lauded by MusicTech as "[a brilliant instrument](#)" (MusicTech), is the undisputed industry powerhouse hybrid soft-synth, built from the ground up for MPE. The \$249 (£199, €219) standalone program comes **bundled with RISE 2**, giving creators access to over 1800 of "[the best-sounding presets on the market](#)" (Attack Magazine) covering a wide range of genres, plus world-leading tools for designing and modulating sound.

The RISE 2 has been redesigned around a platinum blue anodized-aluminum chassis, part of a premium build fine-tuned for maximum durability. The ability to pair with other MIDI instruments and devices via both MIDI port and USB-C is another new addition. RISE 2 retains the Touch Fader hardware controls, integrated battery and MIDI over Bluetooth support of the original RISE. [ROLI Studio](#) (worth \$99, £79, €89), an enhanced ROLI Dashboard, and Ableton Live Lite are also included in the complete bundle.

Seaboard RISE 2 is available exclusively to preorder through roli.com, with limited availability for 2022.



What's new with Seaboard RISE 2:

- A new **Keywave2 playing surface**, rigorously tested with piano and Seaboard players to be more intuitive and effortlessly expressive than ever before. The design features precision frets to help players to feel the exact position of their fingers on each key.
- A more powerful, comprehensive, and versatile suite of bundled software, including the critically-acclaimed **Equator2 synth** (worth \$249), featuring 1400+ world-class presets. Ableton Live Lite and [ROLI Studio](#) are also included.
- A burnished **platinum blue aluminum chassis**, part of a premium build fine-tuned for maximum durability.
- Expanded compatibility with other instruments with **MIDI Port and USB-C**.
- A next generation version of ROLI Dashboard, featuring enhanced 5D visualizers to customize your settings to perfection.

Resources:

- [Images](#)
- Videos
 - Introduction: [Introducing Seaboard RISE 2: Infinitely Expressive Keyboard](#)
 - 5D Touch demo: [Seaboard RISE 2: Set your music free with 5D Touch](#)
 - Instrumental demo: [Seaboard RISE 2: Any instrument is possible](#)



About Luminary ROLI:

Luminary ROLI is revolutionizing music creation and education. Encompassing both the ROLI and LUMI brands, Luminary ROLI makes next-generation hardware and software instruments that bring the joy of making music to everyone.

The Seaboard, ROLI's award-winning keyboard, launched in 2014 to international acclaim. ROLI has been opening new frontiers in musical expression ever since with groundbreaking controllers, soft-synths, and sounds for producers and musicians.

[LUMI](#) launched in 2019 as the most-funded musical education Kickstarter of all time. Combining an illuminated keyboard, interactive app, and rich educational content, this all-in-one platform for learning piano is transforming how beginners engage with music.

Contact: press@roli.com

Danny Siger - Head of PR and Brand Partnerships

danny.siger@roli.com