



DIGITAL

UnFairchild 670M mkII PLUGIN

USER MANUAL

V1.0



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1. INTRODUCTION

Thank you for diving into Undertone Audio's exciting new adventure in digital audio. We could not be more excited about this first foray with the UnFairchild 670M mkII. The process of creating this plugin was a journey to be sure. It started with innocent optimism, transitioned to exasperated frustration, and ended with a feeling of exuberant satisfaction. MAKING MATHEMATICAL ALGORITHMS SOUND LIKE VACUUM TUBES IS NOT EASY. Analog circuits, like the UnFairchild, behave more like living breathing organisms. Nothing they do is linear or predictable. Mathematical formulas and algorithms are by nature, predictable. It took a huge amount of effort and experimentation to inject the sensation of unpredictable analog circuitry into this plugin. As you adjust controls on this plugin, you will feel all of the different personalities of the UnFairchild emerge and morph from one to another. The personality that shows up for 4 to 5 dB of compression is profoundly different than the personality that comes crashing in with 15 to 20dB compression. We are very excited about the innovations this plugin brings to the crowded landscape of compressor plugins and we can not wait to hear what it brings to your creative world.

-Eric Valentine

System Requirements / Formats

- Mac 64bit / M1 & M2 Native: VST3, AU, AAX
- Windows 64bit: VST3, AAX
- 1 GHz Intel Dual Core Processor or AMD equivalent (PC)
- 4GB of RAM
- Mac OS X 10.7 or higher, 10.14 or higher recommended (up to Sonoma)
- Windows 7 & Above
- Screen res: 1024 x 768 or higher
- 64 bit DAW support only

2. Installation/Setup

For Mac users: The included installer should install the plugin's VST3, AU, and AAX formats automatically, you may need to restart your DAW to see the plugin listed.

For Windows users: The included installer places the plugins in the following places: VST3: C:\Program Files\Common Files\VST3 AAX: C:\Program Files\Common Files\Avid\Audio\Plug-Ins For alternative locations, drag the included plugin files to the folder directly. If after restarting your DAW, you still don't see the plugin listed, check your DAW's plugin folder settings, and be sure that the plugin is in the proper location for your software.

2.1 Product Registration

When using the UnFairchild plugin for the first time, you will see the product registration screen, and if you have not yet purchased a license, here is where you can begin your trial period. Otherwise, enter your license key for the product and click the icon to the right of the text box to finish registration. During trial mode you can still register at any time by clicking the UTA logo in the top left, and opening the registration prompt from there. After your trial ends you will go back to seeing the registration prompt every time you open an instance, and you will have to register the product to continue.

3. Main Controls



1. POWER SWITCH - This switch will turn on and off the processing of the plugin.

2. POWER LIGHT - This light will illuminate when the plugin is processing the signal

3. METERS - The meters can show two things; the gain reduction (GR) or the output level (VU). The output level is calibratable if you click on the UTA logo in the upper left corner of GUI

("GAIN TRIM"; "BAL", and "GR ZERO" are not used in the plugin)

4. BYPASS/VU SWITCH - This 3-position switch allows you to bypass the processing and control the meter functionality.

- **BYP**: When set to the bypassed **BYP** mode, the processing of the plugin will be bypassed
- **VU**: When set to the **VU** mode, the input signal will be processed by the plugin and the **VU** will show the resulting output level.
- **GR**: When set to the **GR** mode, the **VU** meters will show the amount of gain reduction.
- **BAL**: Is not used in the plugin

5. INPUT GAIN CONTROL - These knobs control how much level is being sent to the plugin. Increasing the gain will result in more compression and more harmonic distortion.

6. THRESHOLD - The threshold knob controls the sensitivity of the gain reduction. When turned all the way counter-clockwise, the UnFairchild will not compress at all. As the threshold control is turned clockwise, the amount of compression will increase.

7. CHANNEL MODE - This rotary switch controls how the two channels interact.

- **IND:** When set to "IND" mode, the two channels will behave like two individual mono compressors.
- **LINK:** When set to the LINK mode, the two channels will be linked together to make sure both channels compress the same when compressing a stereo signal.
- **M-S:** When set to the M-S mode, the UnFairchild will compress all of the mono information with channel A, and all of the stereo information with channel B. In this mode, the mono and stereo information will be compressed differently and consequently the stereo image may fluctuate when differences occur.
- **M-S LINK:** When set to M-S LINK mode, the mono and stereo compression are linked together so the stereo image will not fluctuate. You can now use the INPUT GAIN controls to change the balance between the mono and stereo signals. This can be used to widen or narrow the stereo image.

8. TIME CONSTANT - The TIME CONSTANT rotary switch provides the original six (1-6) Fairchild presets, and provides four more settings (VAR1 - VAR4) for added flexibility. With settings 1 - 6, the attack and release times are preset. VAR1 - VAR4 allow you to access the variable attack and release controls, located on the lower panel.

9. SIDE CHAIN INSERT - These toggle switches engage the SIDE CHAIN insert. When in the DOWN position, the UnFairchild will respond to the signal of the track it is instanced on. When the switch is in the UP position, the UnFairchild will respond to the signal routed to the key input of the plugin.

10. ATTACK AND RELEASE CONTROLS - These are the Attack and Release controls for any of the 4 "VAR" modes. The lower numbered settings in the counter clockwise direction are faster and the higher numbered settings in the clockwise direction are the slower settings

11. DC THRESHOLD - This control does 2 things: It adjusts the range of volume that the THRESHOLD control is sensitive to and it changes the ratio or 'knee' of the compression. In the fully counter-clockwise position the UnFairchild will be sensitive to the lowest range of input levels and have the 'softest knee' or 'lowest possible ratio'. As the control is turned clockwise, the ratio increases and the threshold becomes less sensitive and requires a higher "THRESHOLD" setting to maintain the same amount of compression.

12. UTA LOGO - Under the UTA logo you will find some useful information and settings.

- You can see the license information (trial or licensed)
- You find the link to www.undertoneaudio.com
- You can see the version of the plugin
- You can set the calibration level for the output metering of the plugin (typically -18dB)

13. PATCH FORWARD/BACK ARROWS - With these arrows you can advance forward or backwards through the available patches.

14. PRESET NAME DISPLAY - This field will display the currently active preset.

15. LINK L+R - This links the control settings for the Left and Right channels.

16. OVSMP - Here you can select how much oversampling you want to use.

17. OUT - This control adjusts the overall output level

18. THD - This control adjusts the overall amount Harmonic Distortion.

19. MIX - This control adjusts the blend between processed and unprocessed signals for doing "Parallel compression"

20. UNDO/REDO - These arrows allow you to advance forward or backwards through the most recent changes made.

21. A>B - The A to B buttons allow you to compare two different settings.

22. UI SIZE - This field allows you to adjust the size of the user interface.

23. ? - Click on the “?” to access support for the plugin.

4. Troubleshooting

1. Be sure to re-read through the Setup/Installation section of this manual just in case.
2. Check the UnFairchild FAQ to see if your issue is already listed.
3. If not, contact support@undertoneaudio.com with your plugin version, the details of the issue, and the steps to reproduce it.

