

# **SONG SETUPS AND WHAT CAN OR CANNOT BE SAVED WITHIN THE LOWREY SU SERIES ORGANS – BASED ON THE FUNCTIONING OF A SU500-ROYALE.**

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The short answer to the always-prevalent question "can a changed song registration be saved to a BANK" is: YES!!!

But to make sure you as a Lowrey SU series organ owner understands how "complex" that simple "YES" answer is, the full explanation of how that works follows:

Starting with the ROYALE model, the SU500, Lowrey created SONG Setups – SONG Setups are essentially a list of hundreds of songs all with 11 preset orchestrations with registrations - these are essentially rhythms with preprogrammed registrations deemed appropriate for the song in the SONG SETUP LIST. Each SU series organ after the Royale either added to the number of songs on the song list - Grand Royale, Palladium, Stardust - or downsized the list and "button options" such as in the smaller Sensation and the Rhapsody models. A SONG SETUP once selected turns on the RHYTHM PRESET button and fills the GENERAL PRESET buttons 1 through 10 with 11 upper keyboard and rhythm presets (the "11th" preset is no lights "ON" on any of the GENERAL PRESET buttons 1 through 10). Playing chords in the left hand controls the orchestration from the time of initiating the automatic introduction to setting the chord to be played in the automatic ending. (I won't get into using the ALTER STYLE or DRUMS ONLY or the ORCH PLUS or GENIUS buttons all associated with functioning of the RHYTHM PLUS ORCHESTRATION buttons).

As you play a song using the SONG SETUP whether using the GENERAL PRESET buttons "Rhythm Preset plus 1 through 10" or not, you have the option of selecting or changing the sounds you hear by turning on tabs (both upper and lower keyboard) or by selecting other SOLO or ORCHESTRAL SOUNDS which are configured to the buttons in the ORCHESTRAL (RED) or SOLO (BLUE) buttons on the dashboard. Once you change the sounds to something other than the SONG SETUP PRESETS and find that you want to save your "new registration" you must save your registration to one of the BANK PRESETS. There are 5 BANKS (A through E) and 10 General Preset buttons (1 through 10). In addition to selecting different ORCHESTRAL or SOLO buttons on the dashboard, you can directly "EDIT" the Rhythm Plus Orchestration itself! And that process is NOT well documented in the Owner's Manual however.

The BANK PRESETS are Banks A through E and for each BANK you can assign full registration to any one or more of the 10 GENERAL PRESET buttons (buttons numbered 1 to 10). Once you save a full registration (which can include the rhythm style or not) to a BANK AND GENERAL PRESET BUTTON - for example A-1, the organ keeps that registration in BANK A-1 until you reset the organ or until you save a different full registration to "A-1." When you save one or more memory banks to a floppy disk, ALL 10 General Presets are saved whether or not you've populated a registration in all 10

General Preset buttons. Whatever is there is assigned to that Bank and General Preset button.

The combination of 5 memory banks with 10 presets per bank allows you to create 50 of your own full registrations. At any point in time you can save your own set of presets (BANKS A through E) to a floppy disk and give that "set" of presets a NAME. Doing that allows you to start a new set of named presets in BANKS A through E. For example you can create 50 different registrations of BIG BAND sounds if you so wish; or, you can create 50 different registrations of THEATRE ORGAN sounds if you wish. If you want to reload a "set of presets" back into memory Banks A through E you can re-load presets for ALL BANKS at once or one BANK at a time.

YOU CANNOT CHANGE THE NAMES OF THE INTERNAL SONG SETUPS THEMSELVES nor can you change what registrations were programmed to them except to save any of your changes to a memory BANK and a GENERAL PRESET button number of your own choosing! To repeat: The SONG SET UP is fixed within the organ, but you can as explained above start with a SONG SETUP modify it and then save your work to a memory BANK and General Preset button.

For those who don't know or never thought about it, the SONG SET UPS for a given song as well as the rhythms and orchestrations for those SONG SET-UPS can and do change from SU organ to SU organ. As Lowrey evolves the "next model" of organ their musical staff (likely think: Bil Curry) has indeed changed the rhythm "content" as well as some of the General Preset orchestration and solo voices of songs in the SONG SETUP list. They do this to take advantage of both new rhythms as well as new sounds which are added to the "bigger and bigger" models which follow. So, a given SONG SET UP on the Royale is very likely different on a later model SU series organ. If you didn't already know this little fact - SURPRISE!!!!

A floppy disk will hold dozens of preset groups, which you create, and you can name them as you wish. Note, that when you save your BANK presets that include all 10 whether you have saved one (A-1) or two (A-1, A-2) or all 10. It's always a wise idea to save your BANK A through E presets to a floppy that way you'll never lose them; and making a floppy backup isn't a bad thing either!

Practical Example: Let's say you want to create 5 sets of registrations for the song: GOLDFINGER. And let's say memory Bank B is where you want to store them in General Preset buttons number 1 through 5. You would then create and save a B-1; B-2; B-3; B-4 and B-5 registration. The DEFAULT name which the organ assigns to each registration would either be based on the RHYTHM PLUS ORCHESTRATION style which you used and/or started with or if you started from scratch, the organ would assign the name "CUSTOMIZED" to each of B-1 through B-5 registrations. You can then go in and edit the B-1 through B-5 names and change them to, let's say: GOLDFGR1; GOLDFGR2; etc. Don't forget to annotate your sheet music with the BANK and GENERAL PRESET button numbers! Now, to go a step further, you could then use

BANK B and GENERAL PRESET buttons B-6 through B-10 for another song with 5 presets or for FIVE SONGS, each with ONE preset. The options are endless. NOTE THAT YOU DO NOT NAME THE MEMORY BANK ITSELF! You name the BANK-with-General-Preset-button. Now the problem is what do you call the file which you save on the floppy?!!! There's the rub! You could conceivably have 50 songs with one preset each saved in Banks A through E! So, it's important for you to create a way to get back to the presets you want to find. Another approach, is to create a floppy file for each song.....even though you might only use one bank and only one preset.

I use a variant - I have my favorite custom (with my names) presets in Banks A through D - I then use only BANK E to save my own song specific presets and I save ALL BANKS to a floppy file and give it the name of the specific song with presets in BANK E. That way I save and reload all my own FAVs to BANKS A through D each time I save my custom song specific presets in BANK E to a "song specific" file on a floppy.

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