Midi Aquaintance 1.1

This program requires the file VBRUN300.DLL, which is available from most BBS's.

The documentation contained in this file only provides for the installation and basic usage of Midi Aquaintance. The Windows Help file provides much more detailed information.

Midi Aquaintance is a shareware program. The user is granted a limited license of 30 days for evaluation of this program. If the user decides to use the program beyond 30 days, the program must be registered and a registration fee of $9.95 (plus postage and sales tax, if applicable) must be paid to the author. For complete details on the license of this program, see the *License Agreement* section of the Help file. For more information on registering, see the *Registering Midi Aquaintance* section of the Help file.

INSTALLING MIDI AQUAINTANCE

1. Ensure that the following files are included in your copy of the ZIP file:

aquaint.exe	-the executable file
aquaint.hlp	-Windows Help file
aquaint.wri	-the documentation file
readme.txt	-introduction file
file_id.diz	-BBS description file

Also required, but not included in order to minimize the download time, is the vbrun300.dll file. If you don't already have this file, it can be downloaded from most bulletin boards. Place this file in your Windows\System directory. Once you have vbrun300.dll, you can run all other programs written with Visual Basic 3.0: you only need one copy of it, as long as it is in the \System directory. If any of these files, other than the documentation files, are missing, Midi Aquaintance will NOT run.

NOTE: Many programs were (or are) written with Visual Basic 1.0 and require the vbrun100.dll runtime module or, with Visual Basic 2.0 and require the vbrun200.dll runtime module. These programs will **not** work with vbrun300.dll and programs written with Visual Basic 3.0 will **not** work with vbrun100.dll. or vbrun200.dll. You must have the runtime module which corresponds to the version of Visual Basic the program was written with. This is by Microsoft's design. Documentation for a program written under Visual Basic **should** clearly state which version of the runtime module is required.

2. Copy all 5 of the above mentioned files to any directory you choose. It is suggested that you install Midi Aquaintance in a directory which also contains midi files, but this is not required.

3. If you're not already running Windows, do so now. Open the Program Manager group you want Midi Aquaintance located in. Select File | New from the Program Manager menu bar to open the New Program Object dialog box and then click OK to open the Program Item Properties box. In the Description box, type "Midi Aquaintance". In the command line box, type the path where you copied AQUAINT.EXE followed by "aquaint.exe", or click Browse to point and click your way to the correct location, then click OK. The Working Directory box can be left blank as it will be filled in correctly by Windows.

4. Double click on the Midi Aquaintance icon to start the program.

NOTE The first time you start Midi Aquaintance, it will create a file called AQUAINT.DAT. This file **must always reside in the same directory as the main executable program (aquaint.exe)**. Should you move Midi Aquaintance to a different directory, be sure to move AQUAINT.DAT to the

new directory also. This file contains the associations between file names and song titles. If you delete this file, you will have to enter all the song titles again.

GETTING STARTED

To start the program, you can either double click on it it File Manager or double click the icon created in Program Manager. Your Windows system MUST have both the MCI Sequencer driver and the Midi Mapper installed to run the program. If you're not sure if these two drivers are installed, go ahead and run the program anyway. Midi Aquaintance will inform you if one, or both, of these drivers are missing. These drivers can be installed through the Control Panel. Double click on the Drivers icon. This will present a list of all currently installed drivers. Click the Add button. This will present another list of drivers that can be installed. Select MCI Sequencer or MidiMapper and click the OK button. You will then either be prompted to insert one of your Windows distribution disks or informed that the required driver is already on your hard drive. If you have to install both drivers, simply repeat this procedure but select the other driver.

On the left side of the window are three boxes: a drive box on top, then a directory box, and Directory List box under that. Use these boxes to switch to a hard disk directory containing midi files. The Directory List Box will only display files that have an .MID extension. After you have associated titles with the file names of the midi files, the Directory List box will display the song titles of the files in the current hard disk directory. If an association has not been made with a particular midi file, then the file name will appear in the Directory List box. The center section of the window contains buttons for controlling playback and queuing songs. On the right side is the Play List. This box contains the list of songs that are to be played.

ASSOCIATING SONG TITLES

You associate a song title with a file name by highlighting the file in the Directory List and holding the SHIFT key down while double clicking on the file. A dialog box will appear in which you can enter a title up to 45 characters long. The file name in the Directory List will be replaced with the title you just typed and the song will be added to the Play List. You only need to do this once for each midi file.

QUEUING SONGS

Before a song can be played, it must first be queued, that is, placed in the Play List. There are several ways to do this. Highlight any song in the Directory List box and click the **Queue** button. Multiple songs can be selected by pressing and holding the CTRL key or by pressing and holding the mouse button while dragging it. Press the **Queue** button and the selected songs will be placed in the Play List.

You can quickly queue all songs in the current directory by pressing the **Queue All** button. If the song has a title associated with it, the title will appear in the Play List, otherwise, the file name appears.

You are not limited to only queuing songs from a single directory Songs can be queued from as many directories as you wish.

You can remove any song in the Play List by double clicking on it in the Play List.

CONTROLLING PLAYBACK

After you have all the desired files queued, just press the **Play** button. The first song in the list will begin and playback will continue through the last song in the list. You can start playback from any song in the list by selecting that song then pressing **Play**. While a song is playing, you cannot queue additional songs or run the Midi Mapper. The **Play** button will also be grayed out while a song is playing. The **Pause** and **Stop** buttons should be self-explanatory. The **Next**

button functions slightly differently depending on what song is highlighted in the Play List. If the highlighted song is the song that is CURRENTLY playing, pressing **Next** will skip to the next song in the list. However, you can also highlight ANY other song in the list and pressing **Next** will skip to the highlighted song. You can jump forwards or backwards though the Play List in this manner. Playback will then continue sequentially through the Play List from that song.

SAVING YOUR PLAY LIST
You can save the songs currently in the Play List by selecting **Save** or **Save As** from the **File** menu. This saves you the hassle of always queuing the same songs all the time. You can then load your album by selecting **Open** from the **File** menu. The songs in the album will automatically be queued for you.

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