

ELECTRONIC MUSICAL INSTRUMENT HISTORY

1897

Teleharmonium

Thaddeus Cahill introduces the first significant electromechanical instrument using additive synthesis.

1928

Theremin

Leon Theremin patents the touchless instrument controlled by hand proximity to antennas.

1964

Moog Synthesizer

Robert Moog debuts the modular voltage-controlled synthesizer at the AES convention.

1980

Roland TR-808

One of the first programmable drum machines, defining the sound of hip-hop and dance music.

1983

MIDI Standard & Yamaha DX7

The birth of the Musical Instrument Digital Interface and the first commercially successful FM digital synth.

1996

VST (Virtual Studio Technology)

Steinberg introduces software-based instruments, shifting production into the digital workstation.