



KATHARINE LANE SIMS

MIDI... bliss! I got a drum machine, the Boss DR-660, and started to produce some tunes.

"I bought an Amiga CD32," Steve continues, "with a copy of Video Creator that I used to make videos (mainly a combination of animations) for my own tracks. Then I got a bigger keyboard, a Yamaha PSR2600 (or maybe a 7600), which was a great extra for the set-up, although I soon sold it to buy something else. How dumb! I could have had quite a collection now, but there you go.

"I soon noticed this new keyboard, specifically for dance music: the

Yamaha DJX! It was cheap and had some great sounds so was ideal for my set-up. I still have it today. I also got a DAT recorder for clearer recordings because my twin tape player just was not doing me justice."

Steve's addiction for games soon affected his music-making. "During the 90s, the PlayStation was *the* thing to buy, and after several games I bought Music. I got really into this program, making tunes, and then upgraded to Music 2000, which was miles better. When I got a PlayStation 2 (I'm a pure games addict!) I got MTV Music Generator 2 and found this even more supe-

rior, mainly because of the sound library and the fact I can record digitally through the PS2's optical output."

The set-up now

A few years later, and it was time for Steve to change from the Amiga: "In 2001 I got a PC with a SoundBlaster Live soundcard and a new CDRW drive. I got Making Waves, ReBirth and Reason demos from old FMcover CDs, and still use Making Waves. I've tried Cubase, Logic and Cakewalk, but find Making Waves easier to use.

"In the same year," Steve continues, "I bought a proper CD burner, •••

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You can hear the kind of music Steve produces with his existing set-up on the CD, where we've included his track *Equilibrium*, which he calls "one of my finest moments in music production!"