KAWAI

Concert Artist

CA79 · CA99

Unbelievable Touch

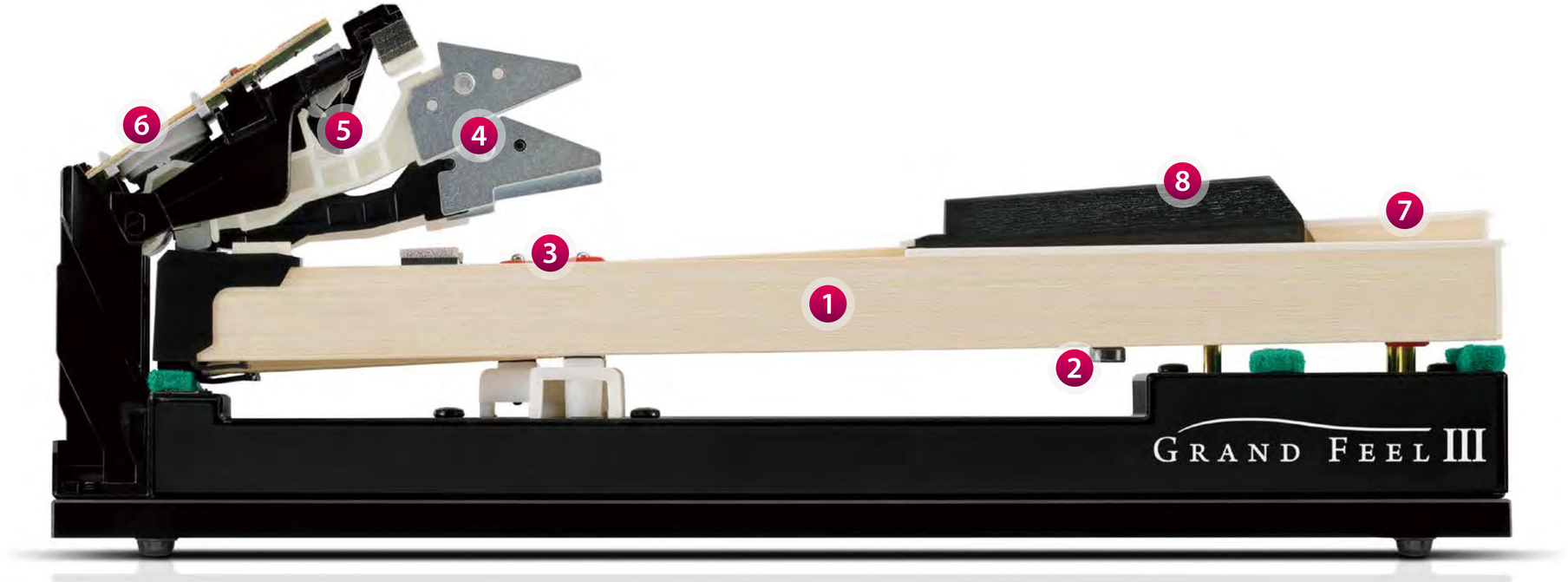
The keyboard action of an acoustic grand piano is comprised of black and white keys, graded hammers, and numerous other components, all working in harmony when each note is pressed. This beautifully designed mechanism allows gifted pianists to express a wealth of feeling and emotion in their music, as they respond to the tactile nuances transmitted through the keyboard.

Translating the piano action's intricate movements to a digital instrument, while retaining these acoustic-like subtleties is an extremely challenging task. The Concert Artist's latest *Grand Feel III* wooden-key keyboard action achieves this goal by drawing upon Kawai's 90+ years of knowledge and experience in crafting the world's finest pianos. This ensures an incredibly realistic touch feeling, and is one of the reasons for the CA79 and CA99's inspiring playability.

Grand Feel III keyboard action

Embracing many of the long-established principles associated with an acoustic piano, the *Grand Feel III* keyboard action utilised by the latest Concert Artist instruments combines realistic materials, motion, and mechanism to recreate the touch of the finest concert grand pianos.

All 88 black and white keys are crafted entirely from long pieces of wood, rather than a plastic shell with wooden sides. This ensures that weight is distributed evenly throughout the length of the keystick, and guarantees an efficient transfer of movement energy when the key is struck.



1 Wooden key 2 Counterweight 3 Balance pins 4 Weighted hammers 5 Let-off mechanism
6 Triple sensor 7 Ivory Touch key surface 8 Ebony Touch key surface

Key Surfaces

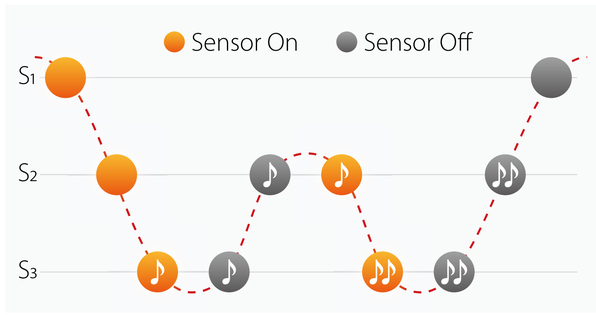
The Concert Artist wooden keys are topped with Kawai's premium *Ivory & Ebony Touch* surface materials, with the smooth, matte finish of the white keys complementing the finely textured wood grain on the blacks.

These characteristics are not only beneficial in aiding finger control, but also contribute to the overall impression of playing a high quality, authentic piano.

Counterweights

In addition to grade-weighted hammers, the *Grand Feel III* action also features metal counterweights, attached beneath each key, and graded across the length of the keyboard.

As with an acoustic piano, these additional weights help to balance the touch of the keyboard during pianissimo passages, while providing a feeling of greater substance and solidity when playing with force.



Triple sensor

Supplementing its authentic touch feeling, the *GFIII* keyboard action also incorporates Kawai's latest 3-sensor key detection system for enhanced playing realism.

This additional third sensor greatly improves responsiveness when striking the same keys repeatedly, allowing rapid trills etc. to sound much smoother and more acoustic piano-like when played.

Stunning Sound

Eponymously named after the company's second president, the Shigeru Kawai range of luxury grand pianos were conceived as the next step in evolving the art of the piano. Each world-class instrument is hand-crafted by Master Piano Artisans (MPAs), using the finest available materials to ensure optimum touch, tone, and artistic expression.

Widely regarded as 'the premier piano of Japan', the flagship SK-EX concert grand graces the stages of concert halls and musical institutions around the globe, receiving universal acclaim for its magnificent tonal clarity and exceptional dynamic range.

In order to recreate the peerless sound of a Shigeru Kawai SK-EX digitally, the latest Concert Artist models incorporate a variety of unique technologies that capture and reproduce characteristics of the original piano with incredible realism and authenticity.

88-key Piano Sampling & Harmonic Imaging XL

The rich, expressive sound of the Shigeru Kawai SK-EX is at the heart of the latest Concert Artist digital pianos, with all 88 keys of this world-class instrument painstakingly recorded, meticulously analysed, and accurately reproduced as high-fidelity digital waveforms.

Recording each key individually in this way – as opposed to stretching the same tone to span multiple notes – preserves the grand piano's unique harmonic character, and guarantees that the sound heard when playing any one of the CA79 or CA99's real wooden keys is a faithful representation of the original acoustic source.

In addition, the SK-EX is also captured at a variety of different volume levels from pianissimo to fortissimo. This allows an accurate acoustic portrait of the instrument to be assembled using Kawai's *Harmonic Imaging XL* technology, resulting in smooth tonal transitions across the keyboard and throughout the entire dynamic range.

SK-EX Rendering

The Concert Artists' latest *SK-EX Rendering* engine also utilises multi-channel sampling to capture the sound from different points of the Shigeru Kawai concert grand piano.

This modern technique not only allows a broader range of tonal characteristics to be recorded and reproduced, but also further improves the connection felt between the keyboard action and piano sound.

88-key Resonance

The naturally expressive Shigeru Kawai sound is further enriched by advanced resonance algorithms which physically model the complex tonal interactions produced by the strings, dampers, and various other parts of an acoustic piano.

These resonances are generated for all 88 keys progressively, allowing the Concert Artist to behave just like an acoustic piano.

Virtual Technician

Skilled piano technicians are responsible for performing the various tuning, voicing, and regulation adjustments that allow an acoustic piano to truly sing.

The powerful *Virtual Technician* feature simulates these careful refinements digitally, allowing performers to shape aspects of the piano's tonal character and playability to suit their unique personal preferences.

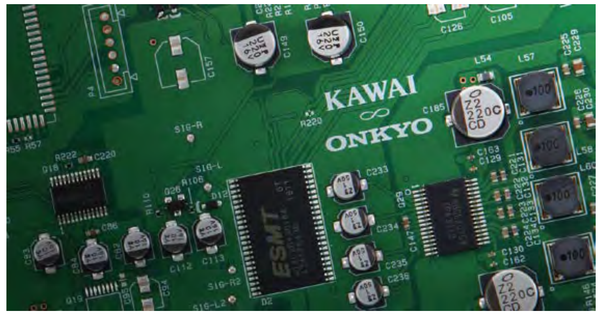
CA99 | *Premium Satin Black*

Premium Sound Delivery

The distinctive sound of an acoustic piano is produced by felt hammers striking metal strings. As these strings vibrate, they transfer energy through the bridge onto the instrument's wooden soundboard, resulting in a rich, powerful sound.

In order to reproduce these characteristics, and transform the digitally generated Shigeru Kawai SK-EX sound into an authentic acoustic piano tone, the latest Concert Artist instruments feature premium quality audio processing and amplifier technologies, and multi-speaker delivery systems developed in collaboration with Onkyo.

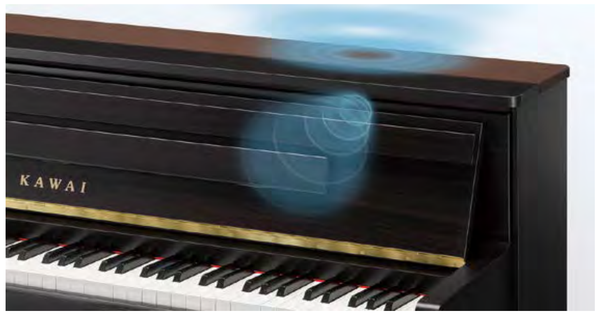
The flagship CA99 model raises the bar even further, with the inclusion of a real wooden soundboard, achieving a new standard in digital piano audio fidelity and realism.



Onkyo Technology

Developed in collaboration with respected Japanese audio manufacturer, Onkyo, the latest Concert Artist models feature high-grade processing and amplification systems.

These premium components combine to deliver best-in-class audio quality, reproducing the Shigeru Kawai SK-EX concert grand piano sounds with exceptional clarity and minimal distortion.



360° Speaker system

The CA79 and CA99 both feature powerful 6-speaker delivery systems that utilise premium driver units, and custom-engineered diffuser panels which help to expand the pianos' tonal projection in all directions.

These additional components create a 360° sound field around the instrument, ensuring a natural piano sound for both the player, and those listening elsewhere in the room.

Real Soundboard

In addition to conventional speakers, the flagship CA99 also incorporates Kawai's latest *TwinDrive* soundboard speaker system.

This unique acoustic projection technology harnesses transducer components to channel sound energy onto a real wooden soundboard, resulting in an even richer, more organic piano tone that faithfully reproduces the ambience of an acoustic piano.

Engaging Features

Complementing the instruments' authentic, fully wooden-key keyboard action, stunning grand piano sounds, and premium audio delivery technologies, the latest Concert Artist models also offer a strong selection of digital features that further enrich the learning and playing experience.

Full Bluetooth® connectivity and USB audio record/playback allows musicians to extend the functionality of their piano, or play along with their favourite artists, while the convenient metronome and integrated lesson functions, featuring classical etudes and Alfred course books, ensure that regular practise is both productive and engaging for aspiring pianists.

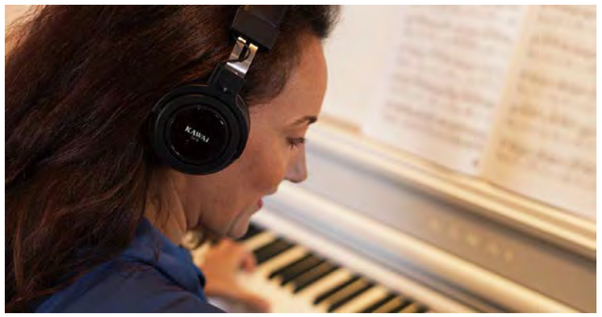
All functions are accessible from the instruments' touchscreen display, or dedicated smartphone app, allowing sounds and settings to be changed with a simple tap or swipe.

Integrated Cheekblock Touchscreen display

Concealing their impressive digital features, the Concert Artists' main control panel is discreetly embedded within the pianos' left cheekblock. This helps to preserve the instruments' attractive piano-like appearance, and allows performers to enjoy the simple pleasure of playing music without the visual distraction of flashing lights and rows of buttons directly above the keyboard.

The large 5" touchscreen display features a modern user interface that is optimised for pianists, while providing easy access to additional sounds and functions that inspire musical creativity.

Adjustments to the *Virtual Technician* and other settings are automatically recalled every time the instrument is powered on, while the display itself can also be set to gently fade out while playing in order to aid concentration.



Headphone Sound

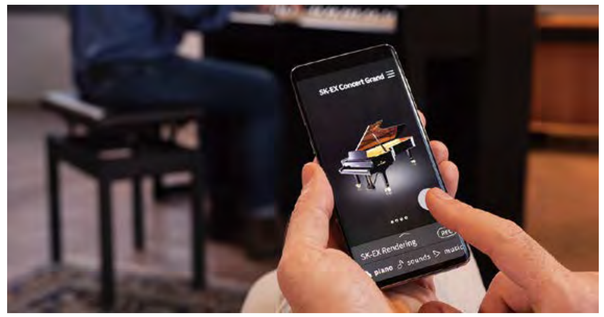
One of the many benefits of owning a digital piano is the ability to connect a pair of headphones, allowing players to enjoy the instrument without disturbing others.

The CA79 and CA99's *Spatial Headphone Sound* (SHS) technology subtly enhances the depth and realism of the pianos' sound when listening through headphones, and helps to reduce auditory fatigue when playing for extended periods of time.

Full Bluetooth

The latest Concert Artist instruments feature built-in Bluetooth MIDI connectivity, allowing the pianos to communicate with smart devices wirelessly, and be enjoyed with a wide variety of music-related apps.

Moreover, Bluetooth Audio capability also enables the sound from songs and videos to be played through the instruments' Onkyo amplifier and speaker systems without any additional cables.



PianoRemote app

The CA79 and CA99's redesigned communication standard allows the user-friendly touchscreen interface to also be accessed via the dedicated *PianoRemote* app for iOS and supported Android devices.

The app connects to the piano wirelessly via the Concert Artists' integrated Bluetooth, providing an effortless way to change sounds, or enjoy the vast array of built-in music content from the comfort of an armchair.

CA79

Premium Concert Artist authenticity

- Grand Feel III wooden-key keyboard action
- Ivory & Ebony Touch key surfaces, 3-sensor, let-off, counterweights
- SK-EX Rendering piano sound engine
- Premium audio processing and amplification
- Powerful, high-fidelity 6-speaker output system
- Integrated Bluetooth® MIDI and Audio
- Modern 5" LCD touchscreen display
- Premium cabinet design with 6-position music rest
- 145 (W) x 47 (D) x 94 (H) cm

CA79 | *Premium Satin White*

CA99 | *Premium Rosewood*

CA99

The Concert Artist flagship

- Grand Feel III wooden-key keyboard action
- Ivory & Ebony Touch key surfaces, 3-sensor, let-off, counterweights
- SK-EX Rendering piano sound engine
- Premium audio processing and amplification
- Powerful 6-speaker output system with TwinDrive soundboard
- Integrated Bluetooth® MIDI and Audio
- Modern 5" LCD touchscreen display
- Premium upright cabinet design with SoftFall fallboard
- 144.5 (W) x 47 (D) x 101 (H) cm

Technical Specifications

		CA79	CA99
Keyboard	Action Type	Grand Feel III	
	Key Surfaces	Ivory Touch + Ebony Touch	
	Other Features	Graded hammers, Graded counterweights, Triple sensor, Let-off simulation	
Sound	Sound Engine	SK-EX Rendering: 88-key multi-channel piano sampling, 88-key resonance modelling Harmonic Imaging XL: 88-key piano sampling, Acoustic Rendering resonance	
	Grand Piano Source	Shigeru Kawai SK-EX, Shigeru Kawai SK-5, Kawai EX	
	No. of Sounds	SK-EX Rendering: 10 rendering characters Harmonic Imaging XL: 66 voices	SK-EX Rendering: 10 rendering characters Harmonic Imaging XL: 90 voices
	Polyphony	max. 256 notes	
	Virtual Technician	10 presets, 21 adjustable parameters	
	Reverb & Effects	Reverb: 6 types, Effects: 24 types, Ambience: 10 types (SK-EX Rendering only)	
Audio System	Output Power	100 W (50 W x 2)	135 W (45 W x 3)
	Speakers	13 cm x 2 (Onkyo woofers) (8 x 12) cm x 2 (Onkyo top speakers, with diffusers) 5 cm x 2 (tweeters)	TwinDrive Soundboard Speaker System 8 cm x 4 (Onkyo top speakers, with diffuser) 2 cm x 2 (Onkyo dome tweeters)
Recorder	Internal Recorder	10 song, 2 track recorder – max. 90,000 notes	
	USB Recorder	Play & Record MP3/WAV, Overdub MP3/WAV	
	Metronome	10 time signatures, 100 drum rhythms	
Internal Songs	Demo Songs	37 songs	39 songs
	Music	205 or 218 songs [2]	
	Lesson Function	12 lesson books [3]	
Features	Keyboard Modes	Dual, Split, 4Hands (Volume/Balance adjustable)	
	Display	5" LCD touchscreen (480 x 800 pixels)	
	Memories	100 User sounds	
	Spatial Headphone Sound	Normal, Forward, Wide, Off	
	Pedals	Damper (with half-pedal support), Soft (with half-pedal support), Sostenuto – Grand Feel Pedal System	
	App Support	PianoRemote (iOS/Android)	
Connectivity	Headphones	1 x ¼", 1 x ⅛" STEREO	
	Audio	LINE IN (⅛" STEREO, with volume adjust knob), LINE OUT (¼" L/MONO, R)	
	MIDI/USB	MIDI (IN/OUT), USB to Host, USB to Device	
	Bluetooth® [1]	Bluetooth MIDI, Bluetooth Audio	
	Power	AC IN (55 W consumption)	
Design	Cabinet Type	Normal type, adjustable music rest (6 positions), sliding key cover	Upright piano type, fixed music rest, SoftFall rotating key cover
	Dimensions (Not including music rest)	145 (W) x 47 (D) x 94 (H) cm 57" (W) x 18" (D) x 37" (H)	144.5 (W) x 47 (D) x 101 (H) cm 57" (W) x 18 ½" (D) x 39 ⅔" (H)
	Weight	76.0 kg / 167 ½ lbs. | 79.0 kg / 174 lbs. (Ebony Polish)	83.0 kg / 183 lbs. | 89.0 kg / 196 lbs. (Ebony Polish)

Specifications are subject to change without notice. | [1] Availability of Bluetooth function dependent on market region. | [2] Depending on market region. | [3] Lesson books sold separately.

KAWAI

THE FUTURE OF THE PIANO

Bluetooth®

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Cabinet finish availability and included bench style may vary depending on market region.

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www.kawai-global.com/ca-series

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