VPME Euclidean Circles v2 £235 and Six Switches £42

If you are interested in creating sequences that don't stick to the normal 16-note grid so often found, then Euclidean Circles might just be your new best friend. With six channels to play with, there is plenty to be getting on with and the form factor means it doesn't eat too much of your valuable hp either.

The blue faceplate is just 10hp wide (12 with the optional extension) but manages to feel roomy. In part this is due to the interface design, which uses three buttons surrounded by LEDs to create patterns, with a fourth 'F' button for other functions.

The success of this design is in the wonderful colour coding system, which lets you see exactly what is happening at any given time. For example, if you want to change the sequence length then you click the knob until it turns blue.

Surrounding each knob is a set of 16 LEDs, lit blue for active and orange for inactive. Use the knob to select a mode and turn it to set the desired amount. It is really that simple. You have six of these channels to play with, or you can chain for up to 38-step sequences.

You can rotate the sequence relative to the others, by pressing the main knob, or press it again to go into step edit mode.

This version (V2) benefits from the addition of the 'F' button which can be used to tap a tempo, or combine with other buttons to do things like chain sequences.
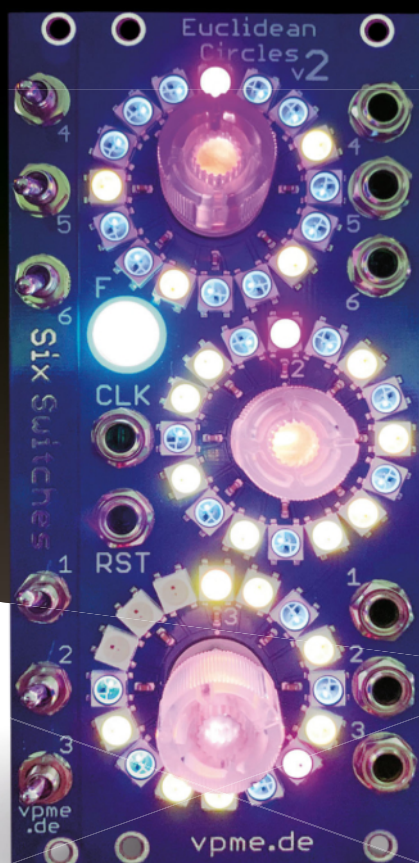
So far so good then? Yes but it doesn't end there. The Joy here is using euclidean algorithms to create sequences, so the module's visual feedback is perfect for understanding

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what is happening. In essence, the algorithm tries to divide the step count by the active step number as equally as possible. For example, if you had an eight-step sequence with two active steps they would fall every fourth step, as signified by the coloured LED ring. Easy to get your head round but also something that can be done with any sequencer. Try using odd numbers, then rotating some of the start steps and you get some really interesting results. This could be hard to track by memory alone, but the coloured lights make it a breeze. One point to note is that the LEDs are pretty bright and can overpower nearby modules in darker environments. In every other situation they feel just right.

There are patch points for each channel, as well as external clock and reset, so you'll find that your clocking needs are well met.

VPME can ship the module with its 'Six Switches' expander, which as 2hp is a no brainer. It's a very simple expander with, as the name suggests, just six toggle switches. Each of these corresponds to a sequence, allowing you to mute/unmute at will. This makes for a fantastic live setup and the toggles feel solid to boot. FM

VERDICT 8.0