

THENATAN
PRO PLUGIN
UNDERWATER 2



UNDERWATER 2

Drake-style filter, slope, redux and drive

USER MANUAL

Version 2.0 - AU / VST2 / VST3 - macOS & Windows - Apple Silicon native

<https://www.thenatan.store/shop/>

WELCOME

The 2020 classic, rebuilt from the ground up

Underwater started in 2020 as a simple idea: take a vocal, push it under the surface and let it drown. Version 2 keeps that sound and rebuilds everything around it. The whole interface is vector now, the filter runs up to 96 dB per octave, and the face on screen reacts to whatever you feed it.

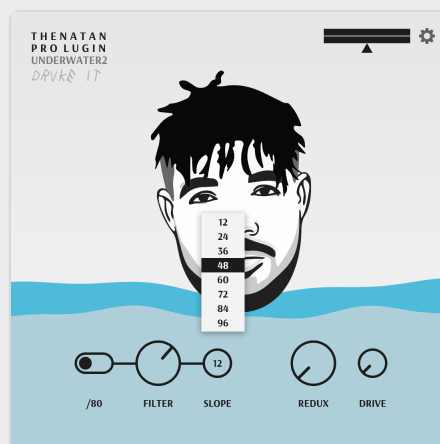
Drive the tears, sink the river, crush the drops. What you see is what you hear.

In this manual

- 3 Installation on Windows
- 4 Installation on macOS
- 5 Activation
- 6 The interface
- 7 Controls in detail
- 8 The animation, and what it tells you
- 9 Specifications and support

WHAT IS NEW IN VERSION 2

- A fully vector interface, redrawn from scratch and resizable to any size.
- Eight filter stages: slopes from 12 all the way to 96 dB per octave.
- A redux stage for bit and sample reduction.
- Drive with 36 dB of range.
- A face that reacts to your input - eyes, tears and all.
- Native Apple Silicon, and a proper bypass.



Eight slopes, one click away

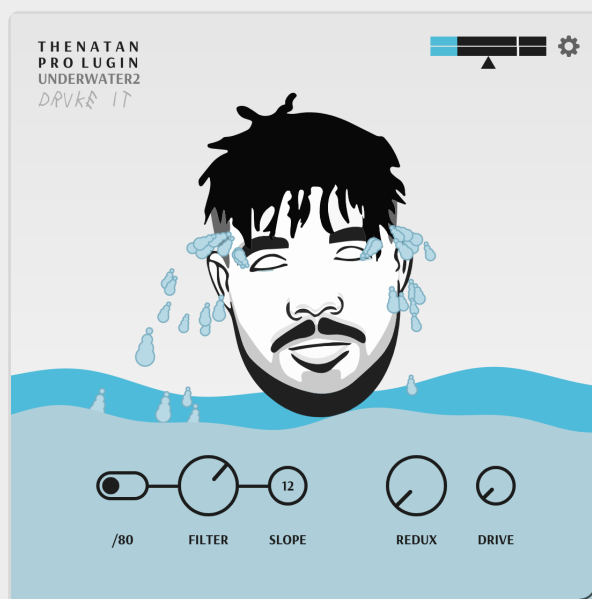
INSTALLATION ON WINDOWS

Simple, and guided by the installer

- Open the installer file for your plugin (Underwater 2.0.0.exe).
- Windows may ask if you want to run the file - click Yes or Run.
- Follow the installer instructions on the screen.
- Choose the folder where you want the plugin installed.
- Select the components you want to install and click Next.
- Wait for the files to copy, then click Finish.
- Open your DAW and look in the Effects section - Underwater 2 is an FX plugin.
- Rescan your plugins in the DAW if it does not appear straight away.

Good to know

The plugin shows up in your DAW simply as Underwater.



Underwater 2 at default settings

INSTALLATION ON MACOS

Including what to do if Gatekeeper gets in the way

- Right-click (or Ctrl+click) the installer file (Underwater 2.0.0.pkg) and select Open.
- If you see a warning, click Open to continue.
- Follow the installer steps on screen.
- Choose the plugin formats to install (AU, VST2, VST3) and click Continue.
- Wait for the files to copy and click Finish.
- Log out and back in to complete the installation.
- Open your DAW and look in the Effects section.
- Rescan your plugins to make sure the new plugin appears.

Important for Mac users

A logout is necessary after the installation.

If macOS blocks the installer, open System Preferences > Privacy & Security, find the blocked application and click Allow Anyway.



Drive at work: the explosion behind the head

ACTIVATION

One code, pasted once

- Click the gear icon in the top right corner.
- Your code is available in your Thenatan account, under Downloads.
- Copy it and paste it into the box on the activation page.
- Click SUBMIT.
- Restart your DAW.



Your code looks like this

UWII*****

Until it is activated the plugin runs in Demo Mode, which fades the sound in and out.

No licence yet? Click BUY NOW on the activation page, or visit

<https://www.thenatan.store/shop/>

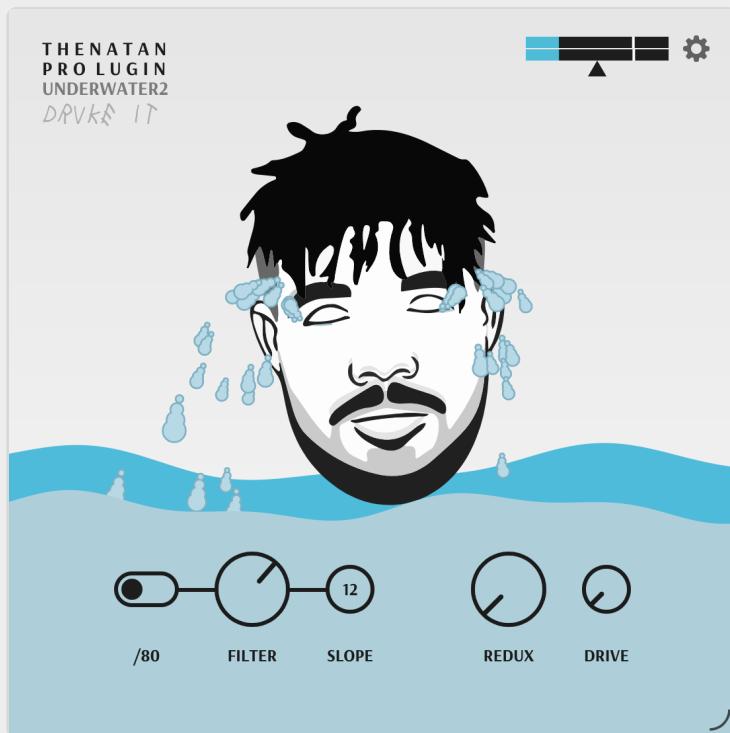
IF THE CODE IS REFUSED

- Paste the code rather than typing it - it is long, and one wrong character is enough.
- Check there is no space before or after it.
- Make sure it is the code for Underwater 2: it always begins UWII.
- Still stuck? Click the @ icon on the settings page to reach support.

To move the licence to another computer, open the activation page and remove it first.

THE INTERFACE

Everything on one panel



Top left

The wordmark, and the Drvke It signature.

Top right

Output meter, then the gear for settings and activation.

Centre

The face. It reacts to your input and to every knob.

Bottom row

/80, FILTER, SLOPE, REDUX and DRIVE.

Bottom right

Drag the corner to resize.

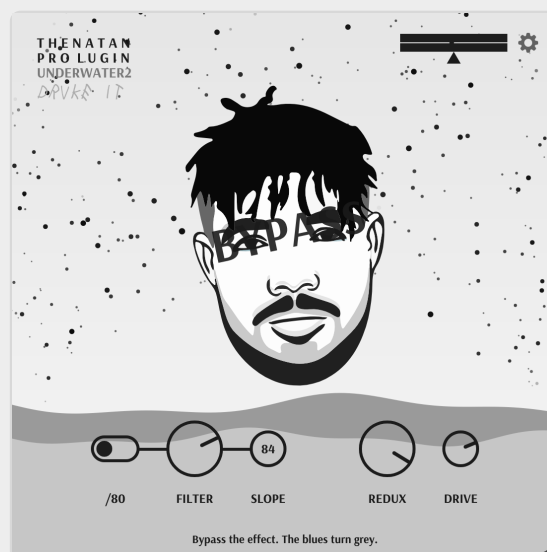
Ctrl+click returns to 100%.

Reading the values

Every knob shows its name. Hover over it, or drag it, and the name is replaced by the value. The strip along the bottom of the plugin explains whatever your mouse is currently over.

Bypass

Move the mouse over the face and the word **BYPASS** appears across it. Click to bypass the effect. Everything blue on the panel turns grey, so you can see the state at a glance.



Bypassed: the blues turn grey

CONTROLS IN DETAIL

Five controls, and no menus to dig through

/80

A pre-filter ahead of the main filter, cutting the very bottom of the signal. Leave it on to keep the low end tidy when the filter is wide open; switch it off for the full weight.

FILTER

The cutoff. Turn it up and the river rises to swallow the head; turn it down and the water drops away. The river is the filter: what you see the head sink into is what you hear.

SLOPE

How steeply the filter cuts, in dB per octave. 12 is gentle and musical, 96 is a wall. The steeper the slope, the harder the tears fly.

REDUX

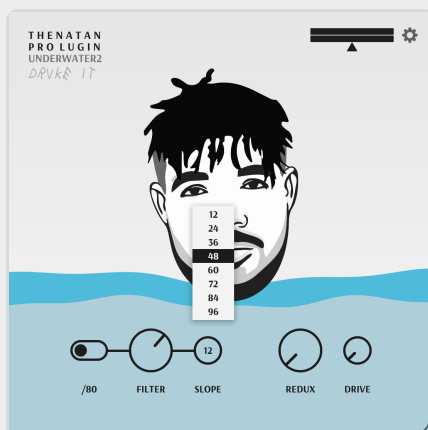
Bit and sample reduction. As you turn it up the tear drops break into chunky pixels, and the sound goes the same way: rougher, grittier, more digital.

DRIVE

Gain into the distortion stage, from 0 to 36 dB. The dots explode outward from behind the head as it rises. Small amounts thicken, large amounts destroy.

OUTPUT

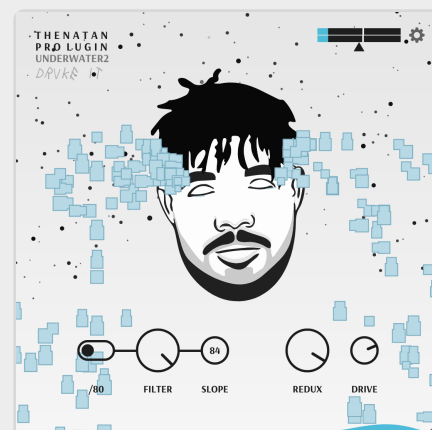
The small triangle under the meter. Sets the final level after everything else. Hover over it to read the value in dB.



The slope menu: 12 to 96 dB/oct

Hover to read

Each knob shows its name until you hover over it or drag it - then it shows the value instead.



Redux: the drops turn to pixels

THE ANIMATION

The picture is a meter, not decoration

Nothing on the panel moves at random. Every part of the picture is driven either by a control or by the signal passing through the plugin.

The river

Follows FILTER. It rises to the top of the panel as the cutoff comes down, and sinks out of sight as it opens up.

The eyes

Open when there is no signal, closed while audio is playing. With nothing coming in they blink, the way a person waiting does.

The tears

Follow the input level, left channel from the left eye and right from the right. Louder means more, and a transient fires an extra burst - so they dance with the beat.

The dots

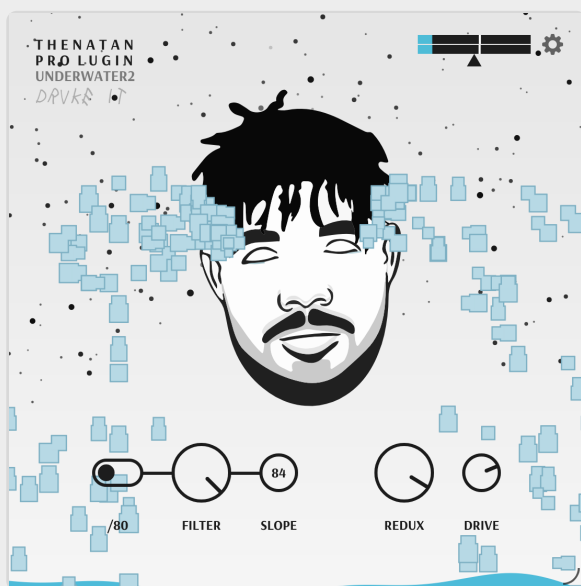
Follow DRIVE. A slow drift at low settings, a full explosion past the edges of the panel at the top of the range.

The pixels

Follow REDUX. The round drops become squares that move on a coarser and coarser grid.

The grey

Means bypassed. Every blue on the panel fades out.



Redux and drive together

Watching, not guessing

The picture is the fastest way to check what the plugin is doing. Water high on the panel means a high cutoff. Dots everywhere means heavy drive. Square tears mean the redux is well past halfway.

The animation stops while the settings page is open, so it never steals CPU from your session.

SPECIFICATIONS

FORMATS	AU, VST2, VST3
SYSTEMS	macOS and Windows
APPLE SILICON	Native on M1 and later
CHANNELS	Mono and stereo compatible
SHOWS UP AS	Underwater
VERSION	2.0

SUPPORT

Something not working, or a code that will not take? Open the settings page and click the @ icon to reach our support team. The globe, Instagram and Twitter icons are there too.

More plugins, and your account downloads:

<https://www.thenatan.store/shop/>

THREE PLACES TO START

Underwater vocal

Filter around halfway, slope 48, a little drive. The classic sound the plugin is named after.

Drowned loop

Filter high, slope 96, redux past halfway. Everything above the water disappears.

Just dirt

Filter all the way down, drive up. No filtering, all colour.