

## Manual for

# FERRO

vintage key preamplifier

CAREFULLY READ THIS MANUAL BEFORE USING THE DEVICE! THE MANUAL IS PART OF THE DEVICE. IT CONTAINS IMPORTANT INFORMATIONS FOR OPERATION AND USAGE.

- Do never expose the device to rain or humidity. This will cause damage to the device.
- Repairs need to be done by qualified technicians only.
- Do not manipulate any jacks
- Do always shut off the device completely before cleaning. Wait till it is completely dry before connecting it to the power supply.



This device conforms EMC 89/336/EEC and LV 73/23/EEC

Assembled in Germany by

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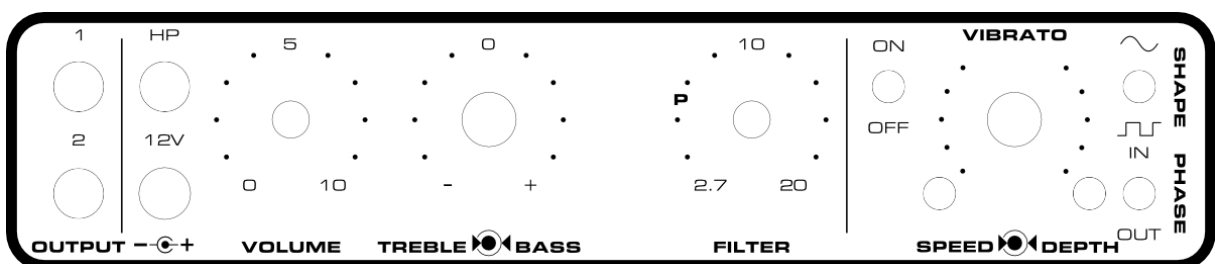
## CONCEPT & USAGE

Here it is: The new preamp for your Fender Rhodes Piano. **FERRO** catches the famous suitcase-sound of the 70s and transforms it into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. In the wink of an eye you can make your Rhodes piano a new-inspiring instrument. Unleash the full potential of your vintage key using **FERRO**.

**FERRO** creates the sought-after sound of the Peterson-preamp and gives you even more features like a 2-band Baxandall equalizer, a variable low pass filter, an optical stereo-tremolo with switchable waveforms and a powerful headphone amplifier

**FERRO** is the perfect solution for bringing your desired Rhodes-sound onto stage without the use of a guitar amp. **Plug, play, heaven!**

## FUNCTIONS FRONT



Since **FERRO** was originally made to be installed in a Rhodes-Piano only, most of the features are accessible on the front.

### **OUTPUT 1 & 2:**

Unbalanced audio outputs at **line-level**.

The unit is made to be connected to line-inputs. Of course you can connect **FERRO** to a guitar amp as well. But due to the high output level you might run into distortion and into a bad signal noise ration. Best performance is reached only using as intended.

### **HP:**

Headphone jack. The headphone amp can drive headphones up to 600 Ohm. We recommend using 100-200 Ohm headphones.

### **12V:**

DC-jack for the power adapter. Polarity: inner plus.

The voltage will be internally filtered to reduce noise and hum.

### **VOLUME:**

Control for volume. **FERRO** will be switched on by turning the volume potentiometer.

### **TREBLE / BASS:**

The outer / bigger knob controls the bass frequencies. The inner / smaller knob controls the high frequencies.

### **FILTER:**

The filter-potentiometer is the most powerful tool of **FERRO**. If you turn it fully clockwise it doesn't affect the sound at all. You will get the crystal clear sound from the early 80s. By turning the knob counter clockwise, the high frequencies will be cut steep. If you set the knob to "P" you will have the setting of the original Peterson preamp from the 70s.

**ATTENTION:** If you connect your Rhodes through the regular output on the namerail and set the EQ neutral, the change in sound using the FILTER-knob will be subtle. We suggest using the RCA-jack (remove the plastic lid, back left).

Try turning the treble potentiometer fully clockwise and adjust the filter-knob accordingly while playing in the mid / upper register.

### **VIBRATO – ON/OFF:**

For nostalgic reasons we decided to call it "vibrato" although it's a tremolo. With this switch you can engage the vibrato.

**NOTE:** We have integrated two LEDs. Each LED represents the volume of one channel. If the vibrato is switched off both channels are running on half volume, so both LEDs light with half power as well. That means although the vibrato is switched off, the LEDs will still be on. The LEDs are useful as power indicator since they always shows something when **FERRO** is powered on.

### **VIBRATO – SPEED / DEPTH:**

The outer / bigger knob changes the depth of the vibrato. The inner / smaller knob changes the speed.

### **VIBRATO – SHAPE:**

With this switch you can change the waveform of the vibrato engine.

When set to "sine" you will get a wide and atmospheric sound which is especially impressive on low speeds. Use this waveform to create a pseudo stereo effect as well.

When set to "square" you will get the classic Rhodes vibrato sound.

### **VIBRATO – PHASE:**

Switch for changing the phase of the vibrato. **IN** means mono, well known from Wurlitzer Pianos or guitar amps. **OUT** means stereo. This is what you probably expect from a Rhodes preamp.

## **FUNCTIONS BACK**

### **INPUT:**

That's the audio input of the preamp. It has an impedance of about 1M $\Omega$ . Besides the Rhodes piano you can of course connect any other instrument as well like a Wurlitzer or a Hohner Pianet. You may need to adjust the audio levels to not run into distortion.

## **TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS:**

Input impedance: ca. 1 M $\Omega$

Output impedance: ca. 100  $\Omega$

Power supply: External power adapter 12V @ 200mA, 5.5x2.1mm, inner plus

Dimensions: (L x W x D): 240 x 125 x 68 mm

Weight: 900g