
distort!

Posted by dethdeth - 2006/01/24 18:22

listen, i have tried bugging endmusik to no avail, so i'll bring my question to the masses... anyone know a great versatile distortion pedal or efx unit? I have been stalking the metasonix page, but i'm worried their stuff @ such a high price is a "one trick pony" sound. I maybe completely wrong!? I'm looking to do some SERIOUS noise for gtars. I really like what trent reznor did with noise wise on the song "Beside you in time," off the newer NIN album. Is there a better forum to ask this?

thanks

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Re: distort!

Posted by glaive - 2006/01/24 18:50

Line 6 POD, if you're using a guitar. I have the bass pod, and it kicks serious booty.

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Re: distort!

Posted by milkmansnd - 2006/01/24 19:22

I prefer the adrenalinn to the pod - for me its all about build quality, and line 6 fails in this category every single time. Unless its the rack verion, its simply not tour worthy - and the rack versions rarely are either.

distortion is not a very complicated thing to achieve - there are a lot of great old stomp boxes out there that are very forgiving with the input impedance and level, and can be used with synths and line level input. If you want something gross, check out the pro co Rat, nothing sounds more harsh and nasty than that. Actually, you can build your own for pretty cheap:

<http://www.generalguitargadgets.com/index.php?option=content&task=view&id=63&Itemid=95>

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Re: distort!

Posted by jsrockit - 2006/01/24 19:42

dethdeth wrote:

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thanks

Well, NIN does use the Metasonix stuff. I use the TM-1 and it is wonderful. It is capable of mild distortion and crazy distortion. However, I always feel the TX-1 and TX-2 are one trick ponies as well. endmusik would know better than me regarding those modules.

Some of the EH stuff is ok. Pro Co Rat. The Dave Smith Evolver can be used in ways...with the output hack function.

This: <http://www.analoguehaven.com/zvex/lofiloopjunky/>

Also, check out the sonic alienator by frostwave.

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Re: distort!

Posted by - 2006/01/24 20:06

oberheim gm1000.....nuff said
24 bit digital guitar effects....originally sold for like \$2000 now you can buy them on ebay for 350-450 silly secret effects box...not too many people know about it.

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Re: distort!

Posted by divi - 2006/01/25 10:06

sherman filterbank: evil distortion on the input + 2 screaming filters = guaranteed mayhem. i just got a v1 and i f*cking love it! plug in a guitar and it's the most evil 'pedal' in the world (yes, i speak from experience). of course, works wonderfully on anything else.

on this (unfinished) track i use the sherman as guitar amp/distortion. unamplified guitar straight in the sherman, output recorded straight from the sherman. there's loads of fx added to the recorded guitar so it's hard to tell the sherman sound from this, but it gives an idea:

http://dtr.wanadoom.nl/dtr/dtr-guitar_jam_05.mp3

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Re: distort!

Posted by dethdeth - 2006/01/25 18:52

pretty epic divi! thanks. yeah i spoke w/ mr. wretch and he opened my eyes to new possibilities. the sherman filter bank will be mine!

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Re: distort!

Posted by ThinkTanx - 2006/01/28 22:22

Yeah, divi, definitely reminiscent of NIN ('The Fragile' in particular). The stereo guitars are sick, love the width and distortion. So the distortion is totally from the Sherman?

=====

Re: distort!

Posted by 5inusoid - 2006/01/29 14:21

Ha! How ironic. I actually dragged Endmusik out with me yesterday 'cause I wanted to go on a Fuzz pedal buying jag. I ended up getting a MXR Blue Box reissue (super dirty-phat octave fuzz) and a Z-Vex Fuzz Factory (sheets of dirty vintage-tinged mayhem). I also tried out the Prunes and Custard pedal and some other thing I forget. I know Mike is a proponent of Effector 13 pedals (currently only available on ebay). No offense to the other posters, but Rat and Pod pedals are rather "pedestrian" IMHO. It would be like someone asking what a good Drum Machine was and being recommended the Boss Dr series...

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Re: distort!

Posted by 5inusoid - 2006/01/29 14:39

jsrockit wrote:

This: <http://www.analoguehaven.com/zvex/lofiloopjunky/>

This is a looping pedal, not a distortion.

=====

Re: distort!

Posted by - 2006/01/29 19:48

5inusoid wrote:

jsrockit wrote:

This: <http://www.analoguehaven.com/zvex/lofiloopjunky/>

This is a looping pedal, not a distortion.

Yes, but....

This is the Lo-Fi Loop Junky. It's really low fidelity... the recording of your guitar is filled with hiss, moan, distortion and warped-record strangeness, but everyone will be able to tell the loop from your real guitar. Because the processing of your direct guitar is done with the new bootstrap circuit, with the very highest impedance circuit z.vex has ever developed (even higher than the super hard-on circuit) your direct guitar will have detail incomparable with anything you've ever heard.

The juxtaposition of your direct guitar against the smashed, distorted, shimmering/warbling recording of the loop mechanism will make it clear once and for all who is the guitarist and what is the machinery.

By the way...if we used your logic...the sherman is a filter.

=====

Re: distort!

Posted by 5inusoid - 2006/01/29 20:34

Friend wrote:

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By the way...if we used your logic...the sherman is a filter.

Yes, I see your point. Endmusik really wants one of these.

I don't understand your last line about my logic, though?

I'm not the one who recommended the Sherman.

=====

Re: distort!

Posted by - 2006/01/29 22:08

5inusoid wrote:

Yes, I see your point. Endmusik really wants one of these.

I don't understand your last line about my logic, though?

I'm not the one who recommended the Sherman.

Oh, sorry to imply that you told him to get the Sherman. All I meant was that the sherman is a filter...but is a hell of a distortion device. This looper is also a crazy distortion device as well.

=====

Re: distort!

Posted by 5inusoid - 2006/01/30 03:01

Friend wrote:

5inusoid wrote:

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Ahhhh Grasshoppa! Now I understand.

=====

Re: distort!

Posted by endmusik - 2006/01/30 03:39

the lofi looper is insane - I spent some time with the zvex crew at NAMM and they all seem to love that pedal like crazy. It's not a distortion per se but damn it does some great stuff to looped audio!

as for the sherman - I've NEVER used it as a "filter". Ever. seriously - in the 2+ years I've had it it's been purely a distortion and modulation box, I've never even attempted a filter sweep with it 8-)

shopping for pedals with 5inusoid was a trip - except he got the damned blue box and I wanted it. That's ok, I picked up a Boss SE-50 before he even spotted it :-P It's awesome - most of the programs operate at 32K! This thing is an INSANE digital noise box.....

=====

Re: distort!

Posted by jsrockit - 2006/01/30 04:15

endmusik wrote:

most of the programs operate at 32K! This thing is an INSANE digital noise box.....

elaborate please...sounds interesting. Also, what does the looper sound like...can you describe it?

=====

Re: distort!

Posted by endmusik - 2006/01/30 04:22

well, I mean the internal sample rate of most of the programs is at less than 44.1 - which gives everything this really kind of horrid grit and aliasing madness (which I'm 100% certain most people would, and do, criticize about the unit :D)

it's got some great gritty reverbs, and multi-tap pitchshifting, as well as the classic flange and chorus. Basically, imagine a whole mess of crappy boss stompboxes in one little half-rack unit :-D

as for the lofi-looper, check out the zvex video, they do a much better job explaining it then I ever could!

product page:

<http://zvex.com/junky.html>

video demo:

<http://media.zvex.com/lofi.mov>

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Re: distort!

Posted by jsrockit - 2006/01/30 04:26

5inusoid wrote:

Friend wrote:

5inusoid wrote:

Yes, I see your point. Endmusik really wants one of these.

I don't understand your last line about my logic, though?

I'm not the one who recommended the Sherman.

Oh, sorry to imply that you told him to get the Sherman. All I meant was that the sherman is a filter...but is a hell of a distortion device. This looper is also a crazy distortion device as well.

Ahhhh Grasshoppa! Now I understand.

Well, endmusik is right...it isn't much of a distortion unit...not in a bash your ears to death type of way... but it mucks stuff up...

<http://media.zvex.com/lofi.mov>

The sonic alienator is though...

<http://www.frostwave.com/sonicalienator/frostwave-alien2.mp3>

=====

Re: distort!

Posted by endmusik - 2006/01/30 06:22

sneak peak of something for you all that I just tidied up, but it's got an ass-ton of the gear everyone is talking about here - this track is:

guitars: all processed through the sherman filterbank, Effector 13 Soda Meiser, and an Ensoniq DP/4

Keys/basslines - Monomachine through the Boss SE-50

Drums: temporary placeholder breaks ala Phatmatik

weird floaty keyboards: Crumar Orchestrator through the DP/4

http://thewretch.com/audio/WR_ILoveOnlyYou.mp3

a little ditty called "I Love Only You"

Re: distort!

Posted by divi - 2006/01/30 10:16

ThinkTanx wrote:

Yeah, divi, definitely reminiscent of NIN ('The Fragile' in particular). The stereo guitars are sick, love the width and distortion. So the distortion is totally from the Sherman?

yup, guitar distortion is all sherman, then added delay and filter modulation on the delay in Live. the stereo out of the sherman + the filter modulation on the delay gives the atmospheric feel to the track.

here's an update of the track, with extra guitar in the 2nd part, also through the sherman:

http://dtr.wanadoom.nl/dtr/dtr-guitar_jam_08.mp3

(btw, now i'm listening to my mp3 export and i hear strange volume drop-out's. do you guys have that too? might be due to my crappy pc speakers)

Re: distort!

Posted by divi - 2006/01/30 10:22

endmusik wrote:

http://thewretch.com/audio/WR_ILoveOnlyYou.mp3

a little ditty called "I Love Only You"

wohoo! sick :D

Re: distort!

Posted by 5inusoid - 2006/01/30 14:30

endmusik wrote:

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a little ditty called "I Love Only You"

Ahh! Another one of your happy ditties inspired by 70's AM radio lite-rock. Did you hook up the Mono's joystick to any midi-assignable parameters on the SE-50 (BTW thanks for telling everyon here about it, now the ebay prices will be sure to drive up even more!)

I'm glad we're pulling all the distortion lovers out on this forum!

=====

Re: distort!

Posted by endmusik - 2006/01/30 17:43

5inusoid wrote:

endmusik wrote:

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I'm glad we're pulling all the distortion lovers out on this forum!

No hot joystick action on the SE-50 yet.... this was a late night - post recording session jam... it's on my list though ;)

How's the bluebox treatin ya? where's your fucking demos? eh?

You know - doing a quick search I found out that Trent Reznor uses one too! :-P

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Re: distort!

Posted by dethdeth - 2006/01/30 18:41

what is this blue box?

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Re: distort!

Posted by endmusik - 2006/01/30 18:53

<http://www.jimdunlop.com/products/electronics/mxr/products/m103.html>

=====

Re: distort!

Posted by endmusik - 2006/01/31 00:45

and then of course, there's the Metasonix TM-6 (on my mind right now as I'm doing audio demos for the website with it, so I AM biased)

Guitar: Ibanez artcore, run through the TM-6 using the moog CP251 to send an LFO to control the CV
http://thewretch.com/tm6_demos/TM_6_GuitarDemo.mp3

Drums: Same - some crappy boss rom samples run through, tweaking throughout
http://thewretch.com/tm6_demos/TM_6_DrumDemo.mp3

Sequence: MAM MB33 sequenced by mobius, tweaking throughout
http://thewretch.com/tm6_demos/TM_6_SequenceDemo.mp3

so, um, yeah. I think it's time I moved away from my monitors - I did those a bit too loud..... my ears are acting a little funky right now.....

=====

Re: distort!

Posted by endmusik - 2006/01/31 00:48

hee hee... just cause this is my 100th post I have to do this:

evidence (courtesy of my roommate) that distortion can be had with nothin but freeware sound processors on a powerpc 6100 and a built in microphone, circa 1999(recorded on my computer while I was off working an overnight shift at kinkos):

estrangement - Virgin
<http://endmusik.com/Audio/virgin.mp3>

=====

Re: distort!

Posted by 5inusoid - 2006/01/31 02:05

dethdeth wrote:
what is this blue box?

Its got a great octave below going on with the fuzz.The two knobs are OUTPUT and BLEND. With the Blend all the way right, the sub-octave is smooth and nice. With it all the way right, its basically a flatulent sound without any real notes that your speakers can faithfully reproduce.

=====

Re: distort!

Posted by enapa - 2006/04/14 11:32

mmmm distortion... my favorite!!

I have som boxes:
EHX big muff - usa-reissue really great, good for leads/pads
EHX little big muff, oldie really great on drums
dean markley overlord, 12ax7-dist, good for everything
coron dist10, thin dist good on all!!
alesis bitramn, fun and cool!!

and mixers have good distortion if you have mackie you be happy, i have a soundcraft 400B with good dist and mackie

1202 is superb distortion in both channels and the masterbuss!!

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