

JOULE



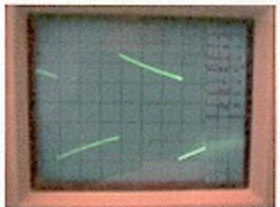
ELECTRA

OTLs

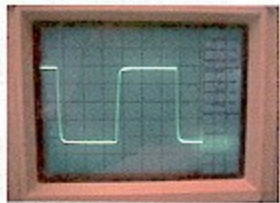
Joule Electra's newest product is the "RIGHT OF PASSAGE," an OTL that delivers 225 watts into 8 ohms. The design is based on the successful VZN series of amplifiers extensively reviewed on Sound Stage Magazine and TAS. It uses 12 of the fabulous Russian Triodes (6C33CB) which have been the work horse of our OTL designs. The picture to the right shows the new amp in all its glory. Note the back lit meter which allows all of the amps operating conditions to be monitored directly using the test buttons and adjustment knobs on the center console. The PASSAGE is available in a variety of coverings for the body of the amp and alternate acrylic top covers are also available. One of the most intriguing covers is the bronze tinted cover which allows some see through into the amps innards. It is also available with the body made of hard maple, a material selected for its excellent acoustic properties.



The 50 cycle square wave response is shown at the right. The virtually straight portion of the wave verifies that the amplifier is flat to 0.5 cycles or essentially DC. The tilt of the wave form indicates some phase shift in the low frequency range, an area where room acoustics contribute substantial phase shifts in any event. The 1000 cycle wave (not shown) is absolutely perfect with flat top and no trace of overshoot or ringing.

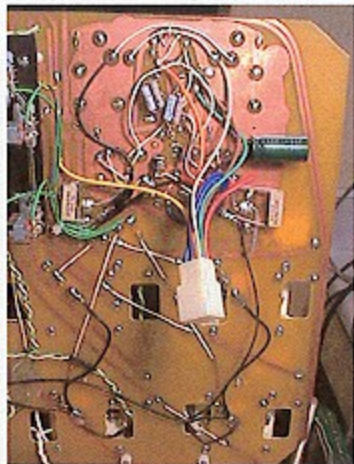


The same is true of the 5000 cycle wave which, with its slightly rounded leading edge, reveals the slight roll off of the frequencies in the 50,000 Hz range and above. This type of square wave performance is virtually impossible to achieve with a tube amplifier that is transformer coupled to the load. Only OTL's have this exemplary transform capability and that is why the overall spectral balance of a good OTL is so realistic and musical. Transistor amps can provide similar square wave results, but the highly damped nature of most transistor designs prevent them from having the necessary bloom and ambience recovery that is required for enjoyable music reproduction.



It is only necessary for you to listen to the Joule/Merlin system and then go to a near by room at the CES that is using a high quality "high end" transistor amp for you to hear the difference. You will immediately notice the loss of bloom and ambience that results from the highly damped solid state amp. Now return to the Joule/Merlin room and listen to "The Small Merlins" powered by the VAMP. The VAMP is Joule Electra's vacuum tube mosfet amplifier that uses a tube front end with mosfets at the output to the speakers. The musicality of tubes is coupled with the tube like quality of mosfets to provide a sonic signature that is as close to a tubed OTL as you can come. No, it is not quite as good as the OTL but it is much closer than most of the tube/transformer amps out there and you will be amazed just how good it is.

Next you need to look at the layout and construction characteristics of the VZN series Joule Electra OTL below and to the right. Notice that all the signal path connections are component direct connected. There is very little wire in the signal path. The major portion of wire at this point is "Purist Audio" silver alloy and its sonic superiority has been confirmed by the high owner acceptance of the Joule Electra LA-100 which has used this wire in the signal path for several years.



The next photo shows what the VZN looks like inside the engine that drives this superior piece. Feast your eyes on the high quality capacitors, transformers with copper shielding, and separate power supply boards that drive these SUPER amps. Proof positive of where the superb sonics of the Joule products come from. Also note the sophisticated diagnostics controls that were visible in the first photo above.

These photos reveal the esoteric design features of the VZN series of amplifiers. Features that make them the best sounding amps in the world.

- Point to point wiring on construction boards, not circuit boards
- High quality holco resistors, vishay resistors, and MIT capacitors
- A chassis fabricated from wood with the cover plate made of highly damped acrylic
- And finally the controls that you need, at your finger tips to dial in the absolute sonics



Listen and let your heart believe. Joule Electra - Where the only thing that matters is the sound!