

Tougher Than the Rest

Louis Electric
Amplifiers Tremoverb

BY PAUL RIARIO

NEW JERSEY IS known for producing many great things, including the blue-collar music of Bruce Springsteen, the rock anthems of Bon Jovi, the romanticized and brutal depiction of mobsters in *The Sopranos...* and Frank Sinatra. You can add Louis Rosano to that list. Rosano is a remarkably confident amplifier designer who hand picks components from which he assembles some of the finest hand-wired amplifiers for many very famous clients, including John Fogerty, Keith Richards, and the late Danny Gatton. And he does it all from his small workshop in the working-class town of Bergenfield.

Inspired by the sounds of vintage Fender and Marshall amplifiers, Rosano dreams up impassioned revisions of these circuits, offering the best combinations of those classic tones in a singular amp, the Louis Electric Tremoverb. The Tremoverb is one of Rosano's beautiful hybrids. It's based on a Blackface circuit and has exceptionally spacious clean tones, but it also delivers dynamically rich crunch tones that are closer to Bluesbreaker territory.

The Tremoverb is a 35-watt, Class AB1, fixed-bias combo housed in a retro-designed, trapezoidal dovetailed pine cabinet. It features a single 12-inch Celestion G-12H-75 Creamback speaker in its centered porthole, which

provides incredible headroom and crunchy warmth. The power section employs two 6L6 tubes (EL34 tubes are optional), while the preamp section drives one 12AT7 and three 12AX7 tubes, and a 5AR4 handles rectifier duties. With the 6L6 configuration, there's an additional 4k/8k load option for producing more clean headroom (4k) or dropping the wattage (8k) to achieve midrange breakup quickly. The top panel has two inputs and controls for volume, treble, middle, and bass, along with a reverb control for the Accutronics tank and speed and intensity controls for its tremolo circuit. Other premium features include a lightweight aluminum chassis with eyelet terminal board construction, custom hand-built transformers, moisture-free circuit board, Belton tube sockets, and Switchcraft and Carling input jacks and switches.

Which input you plug into directly influences the amp's nature. Input 1 unleashes tough, full-sounding overdrive when the amp

is cranked up, with the Creamback speaker perfectly complementing the amp's Marshall-like growl and firm midrange bark. Input 2 delivers round and compressed clean tones that sparkle. This input makes the amp an entirely different beast, sounding more focused and lively, like a vintage combo with 10-inch speakers. Despite its small size, the Tremoverb sounds big and complex, filling up any room with plenty of volume and bottom end.

With the reverb control dialed up to the midway mark, the reverb sits directly behind notes, adding dimension rather than washing them out. The amp's tremolo effect, much like the reverb, is delicate, providing a pleasant pulse for chords without choppy extremes. The Tremoverb is a tough but sweet character, offering dual personalities for convincing Blackface and Bluesbreaker tones.

LIST PRICE \$2,695
louiselectricamps.com

