

F-1 owner instructions copyright 2013 Metasonix, all rights reserved

CAUTION: to reduce the risk of electrical shock, do not remove the bottom cover.

HIGH VOLTAGE INSIDE. No user serviceable parts inside. Refer servicing to qualified service personnel.

WARNING: to reduce the risk of fire or electrical shock, do not expose the F-1 to rain or moisture.

DETAILED SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS: All the safety and operation instructions must be read before the F-1 is operated.

RETAIN INSTRUCTIONS: The safety and operating instructions should be retained for future reference.

HEED WARNINGS: All warnings on the F-1 and in the operating instructions should be adhered to.

FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS: All operating instructions should be followed.

WATER AND MOISTURE: The F-1 should not be used near water (e.g. near a bathtub, washbowl, kitchen sink, laundry tub, in a wet basement, near a swimming pool etc). Care should be taken so that liquids are not spilled onto or near the enclosure.

VENTILATION AND COOLING: The F-1 normally operates warm to the touch. It **MUST** be situated so that its location or position does not interfere with convective cooling. The F-1 **MUST NOT** be used on a bed, sofa rug or similar surface which may prevent proper cooling. It is **NOT** a toy. If the F-1 is mounted in a rack or other built-in installation, space must be left around it to allow convection from the case.

HEAT: The F-1 **MUST** be situated away from heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other devices (including power amps) that produce heat.

POWER SOURCE: The F-1 should be connected to a power supply **ONLY** of the type described in the operating manual or as marked on the F-1. **12 VOLTS DC ONLY.**

POWER CORD PROTECTION: Power supply cords should be routed so that they are not likely to be walked on or pinched by items placed upon or against them.

CLEANING: The F-1 should only be cleaned with a soft cloth moistened with water. Unplug the power supply before attempting to clean.

NON-USE PERIODS: The **POWER** supply of the F-1 should be unplugged from the outlet when left unused for a long period of time.

DAMAGE OR TUBE REPLACEMENT REQUIRING SERVICE:

The F-1 should be serviced by qualified service personnel when:

- The power supply or plug has been damaged;
- The F-1 has been dropped, physically damaged, or subjected to force;
- Liquid has been spilled onto the F-1 or it has been exposed to rain;
- The F-1 does not appear to work normally (small changes in sound effects are normal for aging tubes).

SERVICING: The user should **NOT** attempt to service the F-1. All servicing should be referred to qualified service personnel.

METASONIX LIMITED WARRANTY and standard legal disclaimer

Thank you for purchasing this Metasonix "product". The following terms and conditions apply:

1. Warranty period is for 90 days from date of purchase with proof of purchase submitted. Warranty covers electrical failure of vacuum tubes and gas-filled tubes, except in cases explained in 3 below.

2. Operating instructions must be followed. This device was intended **ONLY** for use by **AUDIO AND MUSIC PROFESSIONALS**. **IT IS NOT INTENDED FOR USE BY ORDINARY CONSUMERS!!**

Product must not have been damaged as a result of defacement, misuse, abuse, neglect, accident, destruction or alteration of the serial number, improper electrical voltages or currents, repair, alteration or maintenance by any person or party other than our own service facility or an authorized service center, use or installation of non-Metasonix replacement parts in the product, or the use of this product outside of the U.S.A. or Canada, or modification of the product in any way, or incorporation of the product into any other products, or damage to the product caused by accident, fire, floods, lightning, or acts of God, or any use violative of instructions furnished by Metasonix.

3. Obligations of Metasonix shall be limited to repair or replacement with same or similar unit, at our option. To obtain repairs under this warranty, present the product and proof of purchase (e.g. bill or invoice) to the authorized Metasonix service center, transportation charges prepaid. When the product for repair, please pack it very carefully, preferably using the original packaging materials. Please also include an explanatory note.

IMPORTANT: To save yourself unnecessary cost and inconvenience, please check carefully that you have fully read and followed the instructions in this instruction manual. This warranty is in lieu of all other expressed warranties, obligations or liabilities. **ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES, OBLIGATIONS, OR LIABILITIES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, SHALL BE LIMITED IN DURATION TO THE DURATION OF THIS WRITTEN LIMITED WARRANTY.** Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts, so the above limitations may not apply to you. **IN NO EVENT SHALL WE BE LIABLE FOR ANY SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES FOR BREACH OF THIS OR ANY OTHER WARRANTY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, WHATSOEVER.** Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of special, incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

METASONIX shall not be held liable for any incidental, consequential, or direct damages or expenses associated with the use or misuse of the F-1. The audio output of the F-1 is capable of damaging some types of solid-state audio equipment; such use is entirely at the risk of the user. **METASONIX** does not guarantee that any of its products are designed for any particular use or purpose. The entire risk of suitability and performance of this product lies with the user. Products manufactured and/or sold by **METASONIX** are not authorized for use as critical components in devices used in life support and other systems whose failure or performance could result in compromised safety or danger to life or property.

Did we mention the **DANGEROUS HIGH VOLTAGES** inside the F-1? **DO NOT OPEN THE F-1 you're not a service technician.**

NOTE: All sales are **FINAL**, especially custom designs. Only a Metasonix authorized dealer is permitted to return products to Metasonix for a refund or exchange.

WHAT IT DOES

You can plug your guitar into the input. Just as soon as you put 12 volts DC on the power jack. (Positive center pin, 2.1mm power jack, needs at least 0.5 amp.) Do **NOT** try to use a battery, unless you happen to have a **BIG FAT 12-volt battery**. It will **NOT** run on a 9v transistor-radio battery. **It will NOT run on a 9v battery.**

You plug the guitar into the input. You attach the output to a guitar-amp input, okay? Or a high-impedance audio input, OKAY?

No it will **NOT** drive a speaker, no it will **NOT** drive headphones, no it will **NOT** drive a 600-ohm input.

Then you apply power. Then you push the bypass switch, so you see the red LEDs light up behind the tubes. That means the F-1 is ready.

Set the **COMPLEX DISTORTION** knob to 3 o'clock, and the **OUTPUT** knob to around 9 o'clock. Start playing. Turn **COMPLEX DISTORTION** slowly clockwise, and listen.

That's what it does. Horrible, bizarre, and indescribable.

The CV input can accept any kind of control voltage. Yes, ANY kind. It doesn't care if it's Euro, or Dotcom, or Buchla, or Ballsack. The CV input controls the gain of the preamp.

Tubes: 6CB6/6CF6s are standard. They are extremely easy to find. Their horrible tendency for distortion and instability makes them "special". You can always replace them with 6AU6s or 6AK5s (they both have to be the **SAME TYPE OF PENTODE**, with a 6.3 volt heater). Other types will sound different from the "standard" tubes. Is it better? You decide.

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