



Tape Op

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[DIRECT BOXES \(/REVIEWS/CATEGORY/DIRECT-BOXES\)](#), [MIC PREAMPS \(/REVIEWS/CATEGORY/MIC-PREAMPS\)](#)

ISSUE #27

# Avalon Design (<http://www.avalondesign.com/>): AD2022 2-channel Mic Preamp

[.ps://tape](#)BROWSE  
ISSUE

JAN/FEB 2002

REVIEWED BY [LARRY CRANE \(/REVIEWS/BY/LARRY-CRANE\)](#)

The AD2022 is two channels of discrete, class A, well-designed solid state mic pres. Big meters, DI inputs, variable impedance, 12 steps of gain, 3 dB of cut or boost at output, phantom power, variable low cut filter up to 180 Hz and a 20 dB pad round out the straight-ahead features present here. At first I was scared of this thing - I would plug a mic into it and hear sounds I'd never heard before, and I'd hear less mid-range grunge than I got from my other mic pres. I was initially worried that it was too hi-fi for the styles of music I record. But then I played with it some more - on snare, kick, vocals, guitar amps - everywhere I put it the mics opened up a little bit, bottom end on kick was more solid, vocals sat in the mix better, and my recordings started to shine. Along with my Geoff Daking 52270s, the AD2022 now one of my favorite mic pres and has taken my recordings up another notch in sonic quality - the only problem is that I now want more channels but at \$3000 (list) per unit it may take me a while! Damn.

([www.avalondesign.com](http://www.avalondesign.com))



***Tape Op* is a bi-monthly magazine devoted to the art of record making.**

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 (/REVIEWS/CATEGORY/MIC-PREAMPS) | NO. 28 (HTTPS://TAPEOP.COM/ISSUES/28/)

## **TD-100 Instrument Preamp And Tube Direct Box (/Reviews/Gear/28/Td-100-Instrument-Preamp-And- Tube-Direct-Box/)**

BY LARRY CRANE (/REVIEWS/BY/LARRY-CRANE)

I'm beginning to realize how different DI boxes can be. Beyond simply transferring a 1/4" mono instrument pickup or device output signal into a usable balanced line-level signal, elements like EQ,...

(/reviews/gear/28/td-100-instrument-preamp-and-tube-direct-box/)

DYNAMICS (/REVIEWS/CATEGORY/DYNAMICS), MIC PREAMPS  
 (/REVIEWS/CATEGORY/MIC-PREAMPS) | NO. 50 (HTTPS://TAPEOP.COM/ISSUES/50/)

## **BLUETUBE DP Preamp (/Reviews/Gear/50/Bluetube-Dp-Preamp/)**

BY KYLE BITTINGER (/REVIEWS/BY/KYLE-BITTINGER), BRYAN CORD (/REVIEWS/BY/BRYAN-CORD), NICK MCCARTHY (/REVIEWS/BY/NICK-MCCARTHY), RAMSEY TANTAWI (/REVIEWS/BY/RAMSEY-TANTAWI)

The two-channel BLUETUBE DP is the successor to the original BLUETUBE mic preamp. Each channel is fully independent and features 48 V phantom power, a 20 dB pad, an 80 Hz high-pass filter, polarity...

(/reviews/gear/50/bluetube-dp-preamp/)

INTERFACES (/REVIEWS/CATEGORY/INTERFACES), MIC PREAMPS  
 (/REVIEWS/CATEGORY/MIC-PREAMPS), RECORDERS  
 (/REVIEWS/CATEGORY/RECORDERS), SIGNAL PROCESSORS  
 (/REVIEWS/CATEGORY/SIGNAL-PROCESSORS) | NO. 33  
 (HTTPS://TAPEOP.COM/ISSUES/33/)

## **Digi 002, Pro Tools LE 5.3.2 (/Reviews/Gear/33/Digi-002/)**

BY JOHN BACCIGALUPPI (/REVIEWS/BY/JOHN-BACCIGALUPPI)

See Issue #30 for my review of the Mbox as most of my comments there on small to mid-sized studios needing Pro Tools compatibility also apply here.

You've probably seen the ads and know that the Digi...

(/reviews/gear/33/digi-002/)

MIC PREAMPS (/REVIEWS/CATEGORY/MIC-PREAMPS) | NO. 33  
 (HTTPS://TAPEOP.COM/ISSUES/33/)

## **MicPre 5.0 Mic Preamp (/Reviews/Gear/33/Micpre-50-Mic-Preamp/)**

BY ERIC TISCHLER (/REVIEWS/BY/ERIC-TISCHLER)

When I caught wind that Speck was working on a single-channel mic preamp, I was excited. I'm a big fan of Speck's reasonably-priced ASC parametric EQ. So I extrapolated and figured a Speck mic pre...

(/reviews/gear/33/micpre-50-mic-preamp/)

INTERFACES (/REVIEWS/CATEGORY/INTERFACES), MIC PREAMPS  
 (/REVIEWS/CATEGORY/MIC-PREAMPS), RECORDERS  
 (/REVIEWS/CATEGORY/RECORDERS) | NO. 30 (HTTPS://TAPEOP.COM/ISSUES/30/)

## **MBox (/Reviews/Gear/30/Mbox/)**

BY JOHN BACCIGALUPPI (/REVIEWS/BY/JOHN-BACCIGALUPPI)

Like a lot of midsize studio owners, I have a dilemma. I'm committed to my two inch analog machine, but for a variety of reasons I need to be able to offer my clients a non-linear digital medium and...

(/reviews/gear/30/mbox/)

DIRECT BOXES (/REVIEWS/CATEGORY/DIRECT-BOXES) | NO. 47  
 (HTTPS://TAPEOP.COM/ISSUES/47/)

## **ULTRA-DI PRO DI4000 4-Ch Active DI (/Reviews/Gear/47/Ultra-Di-Pro-Di4000-4-Ch-Active-Di/)**

BY JOSEPH LEMMER (/REVIEWS/BY/JOSEPH-LEMMER)

This unit is comprised of four identical direct boxes in a 1RU enclosure. On the front, each DI channel has buttons for +20 dB boost, phase (polarity) reverse, 8 kHz high-cut, and ground lift. The...

(/reviews/gear/47/ultra-di-pro-di4000-4-ch-active-di/)

EQS (/REVIEWS/CATEGORY/EQS), MIC PREAMPS (/REVIEWS/CATEGORY/MIC-PREAMPS)  
| NO. 49 (HTTPS://TAPEOP.COM/ISSUES/49/)

## **PEQ1R New Revision ?A? (/Reviews/Gear/49/Peq1r-New-Revision-A/)**

BY GARRETT HAINES (/REVIEWS/BY/GARRETT-HAINES)

I wrote a pretty positive review of the Wunder Audio PEQ1 preamp/EQ in Tape Op #41. At that time, the unit was available as either a replacement module for some vintage consoles or in a custom rack...

(/reviews/gear/49/peq1r-new-revision-a/)

DYNAMICS (/REVIEWS/CATEGORY/DYNAMICS), MIC PREAMPS  
(/REVIEWS/CATEGORY/MIC-PREAMPS) | NO. 25 (HTTPS://TAPEOP.COM/ISSUES/25/)

## **1969 Tube Compressor/Mic Pre (/Reviews/Gear/25/1969-Tube-Compressormic-Pre/)**

BY LARRY CRANE (/REVIEWS/BY/LARRY-CRANE)

Recently Drawmer introduced a new version of its 1960, the venerable and mid-priced (\$2750) stereo mic pre/DI/compressor. This version is called the 1969, and all of its modifications are courtesy of...

(/reviews/gear/25/1969-tube-compressormic-pre/)

AMPLIFIERS (/REVIEWS/CATEGORY/AMPLIFIERS), DIRECT BOXES  
(/REVIEWS/CATEGORY/DIRECT-BOXES), SIGNAL PROCESSORS  
(/REVIEWS/CATEGORY/SIGNAL-PROCESSORS) | NO. 38  
(HTTPS://TAPEOP.COM/ISSUES/38/)

## **JD7 Injector Signal Distribution Amp (/Reviews/Gear/38/Jd7-Injector-Signal-Distribution-Amp/)**

BY PETE WEISS (/REVIEWS/BY/PETE-WEISS)

Ever try to get the best of both worlds by sending a guitar signal through two amps using an A-B-Y box? I used to love this technique in theory, but every time I tried it, I was left severely...

(/reviews/gear/38/jd7-injector-signal-distribution-amp/)

# **BEHIND THE GEAR**

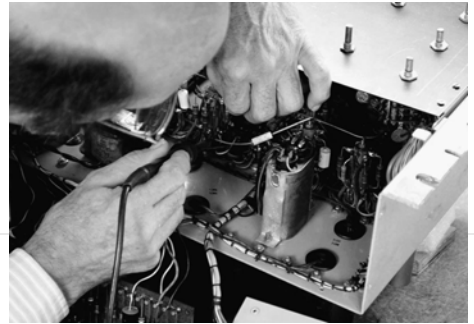
BEHIND THE GEAR (/COLLECTIONS/BEHIND-THE-GEAR/)

## **Restoring The "Holy Grail Of Compressors": Behind The Scenes At The Vintage King Tech Shop (/Interviews/Bonus/Vintage-King-Restoration-Series-**

## Part-1-Outboard/)

BY

Vintage King co-founder Michael Nehra shares some of his love, knowledge, and practical advice for diving into the world of vintage audio gear, and then takes us behind the scenes for a walk through...



(/interviews/bonus/vintage-king-restoration-series-part-1-outboard/)

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(/interviews/btg/90/jim-williams/)

### Jim Williams: Behind The Gear With Audio Upgrades (/Interviews/Btg/90/Jim-Williams/)

BY MIKE JASPER (/ARTICLES/BY/MIKE-JASPER)

Jim Williams has spent much of his 56 years working with some of the biggest names in the music business, including Frank Zappa, John McLaughlin and Stevie Wonder. He's the owner of Audio Upgrades,...

BEHIND THE GEAR (/COLLECTIONS/BEHIND-THE-GEAR/)

### From WWII Planes To Stax Consoles: Behind The Gear With Bill Cheney & The History Of Spectra Sonics (/Interviews/Btg/102/Bill-Cheney/)

BY JOHN BACCIGALUPPI (/ARTICLES/BY/JOHN-BACCIGALUPPI), LARRY CRANE (/ARTICLES/BY/LARRY-CRANE)

Bill Cheney and Jim Romney are the men responsible for keeping the amazing legacy of Spectra Sonics, a legendary, if criminally unheralded, pro-audio company alive.



(/interviews/btg/102/bill-cheney/)

BEHIND THE GEAR (/COLLECTIONS/BEHIND-THE-GEAR/)

### Rich Williams: Behind The Gear With Burl Audio (/Interviews/105/Rich-Williams/)

BY LARRY CRANE (/ARTICLES/BY/LARRY-CRANE)

Burl Audio, under the direction of owner/designer Rich Williams, has developed some of the best new recording equipment over the last eight years. Their mic preamps, summing amps, and control room...



(/interviews/105/rich-williams/)

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