



TEST GEAR DVD

## MAGNATONE Twilighter Panoramic stereo 2890 €

There's  
magic in  
this amp

LIKE SOME GUITARS, THERE ARE AMPS TOUCHED BY THE GRACE. THE MAGNATONE IS ONE OF THOSE. WITH CLEAR AND CRUNCH SOUNDS THAT MAKE CRAZY THE MOST DEMANDING FAN OF VINTAGE SOUND, THIS AMP GETS ALSO ONE OF THE BEST REVERBS AND ONE OF THE MOST UNBELIEVABLE TREMOLOS/VIBRATOS I EVER MET.

All brown, this combo is true stereo because it uses two 12 watts amps, each driving one of the 10 inch speakers. It also includes a spring reverb and a tremolo that can be turned into a vibrato with a switch located on the control board. It's with this mode that the stereo is the most interesting because the signal goes from one speaker to the other, according to the speed of the effect. About the adjustments, simplicity is favored: **sound, bass, treble/highs for the amp, speed and depth for the effect, a knob for the reverb and go!** We like the size (dimensions and weight) of the beast, ideal to move into clubs or for rehearsal without damaging your back. The finish is remarkable, the components are top notch which is fair for the price.

### You impress me

Few seconds are enough to know what kind of animal it is. The overall sound is really balanced, less hollow than a Fender Blackface, with kicking mids that a Vox would not disavow , but with a thickness in the lows more than in its English competitors. ➔

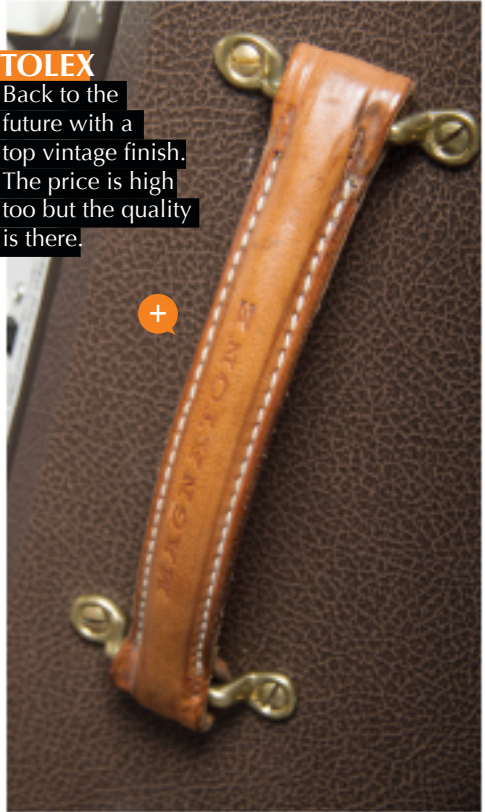
A BRAND, FROM THE  
VINTAGE WORLD.  
NO WEAKNESS,  
EXCEPT THE PRICE...

USE: 5/5  
CLEAR SOUNDS: 5/5  
CRUNCH / SATURATED SOUNDS: 5/5  
QUALITY FOR THE PRICE: 3.5/5

### TECH

TYPE Stereo guitar combo with lamps  
DIMENSIONS 57 (l)x 50 (H) x 25 (P) cm  
WEIGHT 16 kg  
TECHNOLOGY Lamps (3 x 12AX7,  
1x 12AU7, and EL84 Power  
SETTINGS Volume, Bass, Treble, Speed and  
Depth for the tremolo/vibrato, Reverb  
POWER 2 x 12W  
SPEAKERS 2 10" Ceramic  
Magnatone Custom 10  
CONNECTIONS Enter High & Low,  
2" Exits, 8 Ohms, Line out,  
Plug for Footswitch  
INCLUDED Tremolo/Vibrato, Rerverb  
ORIGIN USA  
CONTACT www.woodbrass.com

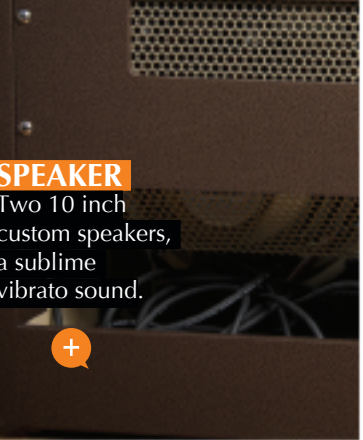
IN THE ANIMAL TWO  
12 WATTS AMPS PROVIDING  
AN AMP ON EACH SIDE.  
A REAL STEREO FOR THE  
TREMOLO/VIBRATO EFFECT!



TOLEX  
Back to the  
future with a  
top vintage finish.  
The price is high  
too but the quality  
is there.



CONTROL  
Simple adjustments, reverb and integrated vibrato/tremolo: wonderful clear and crunch sound. We can't let this amp go.



SPEAKER  
Two 10 inch  
custom speakers,  
a sublime  
vibrato sound.



### THE PHOENIX OF AMPLIFICATION

Manufacturers of instruments and amps since the 30's, Magnatone is not really a newbie on the market. The company was famous in the 50's and the 60's when it provided a lot of country and western artists. A defector from Thomas Organ integrated the famous vibrato in the collection of amps since 1957. It gave them a personality that built the reputation of the brand. After many twists the company collapsed in the early 70's. In 2013, Ted Kornblum, previously from Ampeg, bought the brand and he developed (with the help of Larry Cragg, guitar tech of Neil Young and Billy Gibbons) a collection of amps based on old designs. A new life for Magnatone under the sign of excellence and the big vintage sound.

➔ We recognize a significant compression in the attacks that are specific to the brand (if you watched the video of Phil X demo on internet, you know what I'm talking about). This compression makes the use pleasant, the notes being surprisingly sustained, even when clean. The sound of the amp is consistent even at low volumes. If the overall sound stays clear at a level high enough to perform with a drummer, it quickly takes color in a musical way. We feel the amp working and we like it. Pass the first quarter of the volume knob the sound turns dirty with a perfect tone for the blues, the rock and all their derivatives. The reverb magnifies the overall sound by coating it, but always with harmony even when it's loud. The tremolo follows, but don't expect an extreme effect: it

stays in the vintage vibe. The vibrato mode will bring you from a slight chorus to a unique Leslie effect: imagine the best vibe of the world and you're almost there.

### My precious

It's almost impossible to find a bad adjustment in this amp: clear sound, crunch, dry or melted in the reverb, with a slow or fast tremolo, modulated or not... All is great, we didn't get tired of it. It's the kind of amp that creates the desire to play and inspires song ideas every minute. **It works with every kind of pickup, the variety of guitars adding to the range of available sounds.** If you need more overall sound, this Magnatone will match easily with your favorite pedals, but it's "straight" that it sounds the best. Unfortunately the magic has a price that puts this amp away from most of us. To others I just recommend to try it quickly. Btw, when is my birthday? ➔