

December 2011

Wishing You A Bright and Merry Holiday!



Dynabass Classic 1K Now in Full Production

Dear Santa,


I've been very, very good this year..... but I'd be even better with a VASE Amp!

Can't decide what you'd like to find under your tree?

Give this a thought: We are pleased to announce that the VASE Dynabass Classic 1K is now readily available. A bit of a hard to come by item for a while, we are in full production now and they will soon be in stock with a complete range of speaker cabinets.

Drop by Tym Guitars 5E Winn Street, Fortitude Valley QLD (<http://www.tymguitars.com.au>) for a look and play. The fantastic amplifier has been getting rave reviews from groups using them. Cost is \$1595 for the amplifier (\$1695 with custom road case).

Dynabass Classic 1K shown with 6 x 10 cabinet at left and with 4 x 10 cabinet at right

VASE opened the Arias last month. Well at least they opened behind Drapht, the WA hip hop artist whose album went number one this year. He had 7 nominations. Band member Mat "Cheeky" Cheetham was behind the VASE gig. His assessment of VASE: "I am a total fan of Vase. I TRULY like your gear. It is very very good." More about Cheeky below.

Mat "Cheeky" Cheetham was first made aware of VASE through Peter Pittendreich of GBH backline. After using a VASE 6 x 10 on tour with Drapht, he was impressed enough to take pics, put them on line and returned it with a note saying how great he thought it was. He did some investigating, went on line and read the history and was further sold. He next tried the VASE bass. It accompanied him on a gig to Northern QLD. His response:

"Man, the thing was totally killer! The **** stayed in the van...You have built some fantastic gear! Warm,deep, smooth and more than loud enough! A mute button on the front! Yeah!! I only like transistor amps, and In Hip hop you need a tight, fast attack, controlled bass and the Vase kicks arse for it. I can't imagine how loud it is with an 8X10 Vase cab! The Vase head is perfect for hip hop...in fact any style..dudes just need to try it!"

Mat has played bass for about 20 years and currently plays with 4 acts. Here's his run down on the groups:

Drapht: Drapht is an Australian hip hop MC. We have a four piece backing him with live drums, decks, samplers and vocals. He is an old mate from home here in Perth (We live in WA) His album went number one this year, we have done a bunch of shows and festivals across Australia.

We also have some other shows like Homebake, some stadium shows coming up at Rod Laver Arena and Burswood Dome with a visiting US hip hop artist and we are doing the ***** this year (we are as yet unannounced so don't tell anyone! hehe)

Downsyde: Is another Australian Hip Hop band I play with. Have done 4 albums with them, and played all over Australia and also done some shows in India. I've been in the band since 2002. The band is recording an album now and laying low for 6 months:-)

Sunshine Brothers : This is a dub reggae band I play in. Have recorded and played all over the place (just did an album in Madrid) and I'll actually be playing with them for three nights at the Woodford folk festival around new years, then heading to Rockhampton for the Oxford St party with Drapht and then to Vic for the Pyramid rock festival. It's not a super big band at all, and its a sorta old school 70's dub sound, like say King Tubby. The band is about to release a new album.

Rooster Police: This is a solo thing I do, I'm doing a small tour this weekend with a guy called 360 (Hip Hop MC) over here in WA.

Obviously a very busy musician, we're glad to have his input.




The colourful Paul Holland (pictured left) is Managing Director and Principal Consultant for Creativity Well and a member of the VASE team. He has spent the past 20 years involved in the area of interactive media development and is doing his best to encourage us to stay connected via all the means available to us today. He must have been a very good boy this year. See below what Santa has for him!

If you haven't yet visited our Facebook page, do it this week. Tell your friends about it as well. We're starting to get some really interesting posts and uploads from the two types of people out there - VASE users and VASE lovers. I've yet to find a person with any negativity to the brand.

Personal photos of you, friends or favourite bands playing through VASE gear are gold to us. Doesn't matter how old they are - as a matter of fact the 'time machine' photos are often the best. Please don't be shy in sharing these pics and stories on Facebook.

We're still interested in pics or vids of your favourite guitars and basses. We've had a few classics so far. How about some more? What would you love to plug into a VASE if you could? Getting any goodies for Christmas that you can share? This is what Santy is putting under my tree. I think there's a good chance it will have a close encounter with a Trendsetter 60 before too long.



The VASE YouTube Channel is up: <http://www.youtube.com/user/vaseamp>

All the songs from the legendary Purple Hearts 2006 reunion show at the Waterloo Hotel are now up on the channel. We've also got the clip of Drapht performing at the recent Arias with a VASE rig on stage. Visit the channel and subscribe - it's free. During the next few weeks the remaining songs from the 2006 concert - the set by the Chrome Daddies - will be added. Your own vids could go there as well. Contact us and we'll arrange for that.

Keep using our social media channels to talk to us directly. By using our social platforms you can tell us what you want. Meet up with your fellow VASE tribe members.

The VASE Facebook page is: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/VASE/340145740765> Follow us on Twitter at: <http://twitter.com/#!/vaseamps>

The VASE YouTube Channel is at <http://www.youtube.com/user/vaseamp> Let us know your thoughts direct on FB and Twitter or at info@vase.com.au

Cheers, Paul



FEEDBACK "You guys are bloody legends!"

Hi Carol and team,
I understand you guys are focussing on your 'new generation' of Vase amps and cabs and you don't provide a support and parts service for those of us with vintage Vase amps... However, I have noticed in your newsletter that you have previously helped out other vintage Vase amp owners with badges, an amp sleeve (geez I'm jealous of that guy!!), and various other parts. I think that this is a great strategy to promote the brand (regardless of the era), create goodwill and ensure that the visibility of Vase gear at gigs keeps increasing. My guitarist played through a vase cabinet (provided backline) at gig we did the other night at the Tempo in Fortitude valley - nice!

I am a bass player who has nearly finished restoration of a Vase Bassman 100 from the late 50's/ early 60's. It looks exactly the same (give or take some severe bashing and dirt) as the one in the attached image. I had to get the amp sleeve rebuilt (someone had previously chopped the bottom off the sleeve and replaced it with a rough hewn piece of pine!) and get the 'Frankenstein' wiring restored to original configuration. Thankfully Paul Pallister had an original wiring schematic for the amp.

The amp sounds awesome and almost looks original. I will definitely be using it as my main gig amp so it should see about 3 - 6 gigs a month in SE Queensland with my cover band 'Punchline' and also various cafe gigs around the Gold Coast.

Now for the begging... (picture me on my knees, hands clasped with eyes wide) can you please sell me a set of metal handles that go on the top of the amp and amp feet? Preferably the same dimensions as the ones used on the late 50's/ early 60's Bassman amps but I am not fussy if you don't have them in the same dimensions anymore. I am happy to send through some photos of the restoration and amp serial number if that is of interest.

Thanks for considering. Sincerely, Toby Bourke

Hi Toby,

I don't know where the part of your information came from about parts and stuff, what we can't do is service or restore old VASE amplifiers, we just don't have the time. We certainly can supply parts, always have done, and any advice that we have we are happy to pass on. Toby, send me your postal address and I'll stick a pair of handles and some feet in a bag for you and mail it tomorrow. No charge.

Best regards, Harry

Harold,

Wow! Thanks so much. You guys are bloody legends! My postal address is as follows:

Sincerely, Toby

Dear Tobias,

Deal's off. My birth certificate says Harry, my Passport says Harry, my driver's license says Harry. I'm Harry, not Harold.

You can make it up to me by naming your first born "Harry", (even if it's a girl...)

Harry

Sorry Harry, please accept my humble apologies - don't know where Harold came from - I certainly don't like being called Tobias so I understand.

I am not sure that Harry features in our 'potential names' list for either a boy or girl. However if you have a spare amp sleeve for a Bassman 100 circa 1959 I'm sure we could register it as a middle name)

GOOD ON YA TOBY

Hi Toby,

Saw Harry's reply and wanted to amend it. While it IS true there will be no monetary charge for the assistance, please consider that you owe VASE:

- pictures of the restored Bassman (before and after would be great)
- pictures and videos of you and "Punchline" at one of your gigs (remember not to obscure the VASE badges as you're playing!)

We'll accept this in lieu of picture of you on your knees begging, although you can send a snap of that, along too if you wish.

All the best, Carol

No probs. I got a baby some photos of the amp together and send 'em in. Will have to wait a couple of months for gig photos/ video as I got a gaby due any day and am taking a little gig break at the moment. Yes I am even knocking back the New Years Eve payers!

Cheers, toby

That would be great. Congratulations on the new baby. Good for you taking some time off! Parenthood is definitely a two person gig! (at the very least!) Carol



That's it for 2011, Hope you have an enjoyable holiday season. I know a lot of you are probably busy working this time of year, helping the rest of us make merry! Whatever your activities over the next month, I hope they live up to your expectations. We're looking forward to a busy year next year helping fulfill the dreams of all those who dream (or have dreamed in the past) of owning a genuine VASE. We're here to make your wishes come true! If you need to get in touch or know someone who might like to be added to our mailing list, contact us at info@vase.com.au
Ho, ho, ho!,
Carol