

May 2014

Build It and They Will Come!

There is Tonesetter Fever at VASE Headquarters. We have had folks dropping in for a look and a play. Nothing but raves for this and not just here on site but on the road as well. Tim Gaze is roadtesting the Tonesetter at various gigs and he's gotten back to us with glowing praise. Looks like we are on to a real winner with this!

The new VASE Tonesetter 18 is going to offer you some choice. There are three components and you can opt for the configuration that best suits your situation. Available will be the Combo, and a head and cabinet that can be purchased together or individually.



The Tonesetter Head and 2x12 Cabinet



The Tonesetter 18 Combo

“A really supportive and transparent sounding amp with plenty of sizzle and grunt - love it.”

Tim Gaze

“Hey all you Vasers - took the new 18 watt Tonesetter out last night for a rockin' blues gig with Mama's New Bag Andrea Szabo and Geordie Leach - great night with everyone at Burleigh Underground Drummers - man - this new Tonesetter is a monstrous little amp with so much tone and response - I couldn't get enough - everything from chords, riffs and solos sounded exactly right - a really supportive and transparent sounding amp with plenty of sizzle and grunt - love it. I recorded with it last week at Whiteroom Studios with GGC* and Neil Coombs and it was great there, but live it went another level higher again - very pleased with this baby! Vase, you have created a fabulous combo here - congrats!”

Tim Gaze

* Editor's note: GGC is the exciting trio 'Gaze, Gilbert and Carson' made up of Tim Gaze, Chris Gilbert on Bass and John Carson on drums. They are creating and recording and will soon have a blockbuster of an album to release. It is going to be something special!

Tim Gaze



Andrea, Harry and Ty chill out in the VASE lounge.



Guitar Nerd's Tony Giacca



Elektrik Lemonade's Jake Dickinson



Andrea Vocaturo and Tyrone Noonan

Tonesetter 18

VIP

VASE INSIDERS PROFILE

Simon Korotun

Simon Says: NuFF SeD

Simon Korotun is a Queensland musician currently living in Tara, QLD. He performs with the band NuFF SeD, a four piece country/rock outfit based in Tara and gigging around the Darling Downs region. The group formed in early 2013 in response to a lack of local live bands in the area, and has been busy ever since. As he mentions in his correspondence below, Simon was a fixture in the 70's music scene in Brisbane. He shares with us his introduction to VASE and will be coming in for a visit at the end of the month to VASE Headquarters.



Simon Korotun

Hi there,

Congratulations for resurrecting an iconic Australian amplification company. It is inspiring to see people still dedicated to the tradition of producing quality musical equipment.

I am writing in regard to my Trendsetter 100. Having grown up in Brisbane in the 70's and gotten involved in the music scene in the 80's and 90's I was aware of the VASE legend and was thus pleasantly surprised to find this TS 100 and 6 x 12" cabinet (loaded with only 4 of the original tones) covered in dust and spider webs in a blokes shed in Hervey Bay about twenty years ago. Of course I immediately secured purchase of the amp, I believe the exchange was one set of stratocaster pickups and \$100 for the amp and cab, and although the amp was not working at the time I considered it a good deal.

The head was soon shipped down to Paul Pallister (The Amp Doctor) for some minor surgery and a clean bill of health, and came back sounding great. It quickly became my regular gigging rig and has proven over the years to be a rugged and reliable workhorse that never fails to deliver that warm tone and driving crunch that I love to hear. These amps were certainly made tough, I can clearly recall the rig being tipped over backwards mid-set by some drunken twit at a gig, I just picked it up, replaced the broken speaker lead then went on with show.

The amp had some modifications done by god only knows who, prior to me owning it, the original "cannon:" type power socket had been replaced with a standard IEC socket, and a speed control pot mounted on the back chassis had been added to the vibrato circuit.

I would really appreciate any more info you could provide regarding this amp. The serial number stamped on the back chassis is 100/07, does this indicate the date of manufacture? or is it the 7th TS 100 that was produced? I would fascinate to discover its origin.

Finally to the crux of my enquiry, unfortunately at a practice session a week or so ago the TS 100 suffered a major meltdown, resplendent with plumes of dark smoke and all. Initial inspection reveals electrolyte leakage from one of the PSU caps and extensive heat damage to some of the wiring especially adjacent to the rectifier. My question therefore is "can we rebuild it"

I would dearly love to have this vintage piece of musical history restored to its former glory and return to its rightful place in my ongoing adventures.

I look forward to your reply

Cheers,

Simon Korotun

Tara, QLD.

Simon is coming in with his TS 100 at the end of the month and we'll give you a follow-up next issue!



Onstage with Phil Emmanuel at Apple Tree Creek circa 2008



Simon's band (at the time) Flame at a Hell's Angels poker run, 2008.



Smile, You're on Vase TV!



Lights, Cameras, almost ready for action, don't touch that dial!



VASE: We Get Around!

subscriber: Christoph Nass
subject: Trendsetter 60 Schematics
message: Hi Greg!

An Australian-based Studio owner here in Berlin came to me and brought his VASE Trendsetter 60 to be serviced. SNr. 6013. From the small caps it looks like built in 1969 (and maybe recapped in 1982). I would gladly welcome any schematics to do justice to this guy.

Kind regards,
Chris.

Hey Christoph,

Sorry for the delay in response I have been liaising with our tech Noel to get this organised for you...

Attached is the schematics of a 1960's Trendsetter 60... As these amps were made to order it is unlikely you will find two amps the same so this is the one we based our reissue on...

If you have any more technical questions feel free to email us and we will chase it through for you...

Cheers
Greg

VASE in Social Media

Creativity Well Managing Director and Principal Consultant, Paul Holland, has had significant experience in the private and public sectors as an executive manager, company director, educator, business coach, media producer, and interaction designer. He is a musician, VASE Board Member, past and present VASE owner and keeps us up to date on Social Media.

Another great month of nostalgic and new posts. That's the sort of mix we were looking for. We know there are generations of VASE users out there who all have stories to tell. The guys who played in bands in 60s and 70s when VASE was in full swing first time round have been sharing some terrific stories and pics. The pics we posted last month attracted lot of attention and probably brought home to the newer generations of players how vibrant the Brisbane scene was 40 odd years ago.

In May we had some more great pics of Brisbane band Hands Down who had quite a profile in the late 60s. Many of the guys are still playing and making great music, although their most well-known member, Jamie Dunn (drums), went on to become Agro on TV and have a long radio career.



Also showcased were a couple of fantastic early VASE products. Firstly a very rare Overdrubbing Tape Recorder first mentioned in our MARCH Newsletter. Owned by Rick Robbins of Warwick this was made by Tony Troughton in the early 60s and is a beautiful object.

The other is Tony's personal lapsteel that he made for himself and used in his Hawaiian band. What an amazing craftsman. The Troughton family still own his 1953 arch-top, a ukulele that features a very similar fretboard, and his hand built multi-track reel to reel.

However the continuing star is our new Tonesetter 18. Many of the pics and videos on the page show our friends trying the little guy out. An early popular configuration is the Tonesetter 18 head and a 212 cab. We all think the amp is going to be fantastically popular because of its power, tone and flexibility.

We love to see pics and vids of VASE in action – past or present. Keep your contributions coming in. I always put in a reminder that we can scan old slides and negatives if you have them. They will be returned along with digital copies for your archives. Have a rummage around and send what you can find. Polaroids were big in the 70s. There must be thousands of those instant snaps around as well. And for you millions of smartphone and phablet users – keep your devices charged and ready to shoot when you're out and about.

Don't forget our Twitter feed. Please follow that if you get a chance. Social Media is all about collaboration and conversation – and we want plenty of people sharing and talking.

We're also able to scan any old slides or negatives as well and return the originals to you. Just contact me at hollandp@bigpond.net.au or send them to:

Paul Holland, PO Box 2612, Chermiside Centre, Q 4032

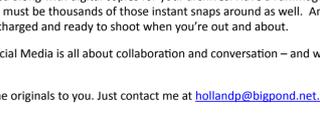
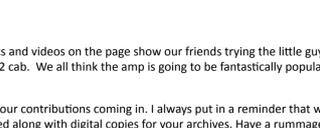
I'll copy the pics and return to you. I'll also email you digital copies.

The VASE Facebook page is: <https://www.facebook.com/VASEAMPS>

Follow us on Twitter at: <http://twitter.com/#1/vaseamps>

Let us know your thoughts direct on FB and Twitter or at info@vase.com.au

Hands Down in English press



That's all for this month. As we were going to "press" we received some photos from Mason Rack who has landed in Berlin along with his VASE gear and is sending photos of the tour. I'll fill you in next month!

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