(RECOVERY)
EFFECTS AND DEVICES

Ghost Writer provides a simple way to interact with your synths and MIDI-equipped gear as you play. It's an essential tool for creative musicians who are on the search for innovation.

Ghost Writer is a pedal that transforms the notes you play into MIDI data. This means you can connect to a synth and literally play your synthesizer from your guitar. You can also trigger phrases or samples, add functionality to your MIDI-equipped pedals, and more.

Independent controls allow you to toggle audio and MIDI signals or use both. The monophonic MIDI data is automatically assigned to MIDI Channel 1, and transmitted through a 3.5mm TRS MIDI cable on the back of the pedal. The audio is processed through a high-quality buffer stage to ensure no loss of signal.

Controls

SENSITIVITY
Controls the amount of reaction being sent to the MIDI device.

GLIDE SWITCH
Engaging the Glide switch will allow small amounts of portamento, which can be useful for translating bends.

AUDIO SWITCH
Green indicator passes buffered audio through the 1/4" output on the left side. Red indicates audio is not being passed.

MIDI SWITCH
Green indicator passes MIDI data out of the 3.5mm jack next to the power supply on the back of the pedal. Red indicates MIDI is not being sent.

POWER INFORMATION

Ghost Writer operates on a standard "Boss" style 9vdc power supply (not included). It draws less than 100ma. You'll get the best performance with a quality, regulated power supply.

MIDI INFORMATION

Ghost Writer sends data over MIDI channel 1. It will automatically be set up when you plug it in, and is hot-swappable. The MIDI connection is at the rear, next to the power jack. It uses a 3.5mm, "Type A" connector. You will need a 3.5mm to standard MIDI adapter if you are connecting to a synth or other 5-pin MIDI gear. Most of the "Type A" connectors sold will not specify that it's "Type A", as it's the most common connector. "Type B" will usually be noted as such. You can use a 3.5mm TRS (stereo) cable to connect directly to other 3.5mm MIDI-enabled equipment such as the Zoia, Organelle, OP-Z and others.

POINTERS FOR SUCCESSFUL TRACKING

The Ghost Writer is primarily made for guitar. It is possible to experiment with other instruments, but keep in mind it's expected to hear notes within the standard guitar range. It does not work well with active pickups.

The Ghost Writer is monophonic, so playing multiple notes or chords will not track well. Any amount of movement or sustain will translate into MIDI data. This may be interesting for some applications, but obviously not desirable for practical use.

Many of the tricks used for the accuracy of synth and pitch tracking-based pedals also apply to the Ghost Writer. Muting with the palm of the hand will reduce the movement of unused strings and improve tracking.

Although the Ghost Writer tracks anywhere on the neck, you may find sweet spots on your guitar that track better. Usually, higher on the neck and avoiding open notes can help significantly with tracking. If searching for a particular octave to trigger on your synth with the most accuracy, it is easiest to find a spot that tracks well on your guitar, then scroll to the desired octave on your synth.

KNOWN ISSUES AND HOW TO MANAGE THEM

MIDI interference in audio is a common issue. You may experience slight MIDI chatter in the audio signal when using the Ghost Writer in certain circumstances. Here are some solutions:

Use a high-quality, regulated power supply.

Make sure your main power source (wall power) is properly grounded. If the situation is untenable, using separate power sources should do the trick. This means separate circuits or breakers, not just different outlets.

If the chatter can't be resolved with these steps, the Sensitivity knob can be turned to zero when MIDI data doesn't need to be sent. With sensitivity at zero, no MIDI data is transmitted, and your signal is free of any interference you may experience.

Questions?

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