

# SUPERPUMA

Small-Time Circuitry

## ТРОТСКИЙ DRIVE DELUXE

### Owner's Manual

First of all, thank you for your purchase of the Superpuma Trotsky Drive Deluxe. I think you will find it a useful tool in your tone arsenal. A very versatile overdrive, the Trotsky may be the swiss army knife that helps you find that tone you've been searching for. I build every one myself by hand at this point, so each one gets some love before it is sent out to you. Lets take a look at the controls:



**Volume** – Nothing special or new here, you will probably keep this one all the way up, unless you have the clipping switch in LED mode.

**Drive** – This is where you decide how much dirt the Trotsky will give you. For a boost that adds a little sparkle, turn this one all the way down. For some rhythm crunch, start at about halfway, then flavor to taste. Crackle OK.

**Clipping Toggle** – in the UP position you will get a nice crunch from 2 NOS 1n60 Germanium diodes, in the down position, you will get a big volume boost from two LED's. When you are wanting to drive your amp's overdrive a little

further, you might want to use this setting. Good as a lead boost.

**Tone Switch** – the Trotsky was designed to be versatile with different types of amps. Since the standard quality of the Trotsky is to add high end articulation, some amps that are already heavy on the high end might benefit from having the tone switch in the down position, which rolls off some high end. Darker amps may sound better with the switch in the up position.

### **Other things of note:**

The surface of the Trotsky is acid etched by hand. The process is fairly primitive so every one will have its own personality, pits, and imperfections. Each one will also form its own unique patina over time, no worries this is perfectly normal. This is due to the inconsistencies in the Aluminum oxide at the surface of the box.

Use only standard, Boss-style 9v power supplies with the Trotsky Drive. The center pin should be ground. The Trotsky may be damaged if exposed to reverse polarity, or too high of voltage.

I hope you enjoy your Trotsky Drive Deluxe and if you have ANY questions, comments, encouragements, complaints, please feel free to drop me a line at [puma@superpuma.net](mailto:puma@superpuma.net). **Enjoy! - Nate**

### **A short history of the Trotsky Drive.**

In 2006, Dano Haught of Beavis Audio Research (<http://www.bevisaudio.com>) procured a box of NOS Soviet kt312 transistors and set to work finding a suitable project to use them in. The result was a rendition of the Electra Distortion circuit found in the old Electra guitars. He then looked at the Trotsky Drive and saw that it was good. He produced a few for sale, but shortly realized that he was far too involved in the pursuits of mad science and social deviance to continue producing them. I built a Trotsky Drive for myself in 2007, and I had just been introduced to a ferric chloride etching method that worked very well on stompbox enclosures, so I did an etched Trotsky Drive. After showing it to my buddy Dano, he encouraged me to take over the Trotsky and went so far as to send me the remainder of his KT312 transistors. This is just the way Dano is, and I owe him much gratitude for his kindness. Its been a while in the making, but now the Trotsky Drive Deluxe is here. I hope you enjoy yours.

-Nate