

Duh Voodoo Man's Zonkin' Yellow Screamer *MARK II*

The ZYS Mk II is a customized effects pedal that combines two independent effects—a Tube Screamer style overdrive and a transistor-driven boost—in a single, compact enclosure.

The boost circuit is available in either of two versions—a classic bipolar silicon “linear” boost with a broad frequency response and strong drive capability, or a MOSFET-based boost with a great clean sound and plenty of top-end sparkle. The boost has its own stomp switch and level control.

But the lion’s share of the pedal is dedicated to a TS808-based overdrive circuit that adds several of the most popular “mods” installed by boutique pedal makers and sought after by guitarists looking for a broader range of overdriven tones.

In addition to the customary level, tone and gain controls found on many overdrive effects, the ZYS Mk II incorporates the following additional features:

- Additional signal clipping modes – In addition to the stock TS808-style silicon diode clipping, the ZYS Mk II also includes a MOSFET-based clipping mode with a warmer, richer character, as well as a diode “lift” setting that passes the amplified signal through without clipping. The different clipping settings are selected by means of a 3-position toggle switch.
- Different bass EQ settings – The classic TS circuit is well-known for its strong mid-range response. The ZYS Mk II has switchable capacitor set-up that lets you add more bass to the overdriven signal in two increments, flattening out that characteristic mid-range “hump”. Again, a 3-position toggle switch allows selection between these “Normal”, “Full” and “Fat” bass EQ settings.
- Effect order switching – Another cool addition to the ZYS Mk II’s capabilities is a 2-way toggle that switches the order of the boost and overdrive. Run it with the overdrive first and punch up the volume for leads by kicking in the boost. Or run the boost in front, so that it pumps up the gain and adds more distortion when kicked in on top of the overdrive.

But not all of this flexible pedal’s features are on the outside. Several changes can be made quickly and easily “under the hood”, giving the pedal even more tonal range:

- The operation of the overdrive circuit can be fine-tuned by means of three trim pots on the PCB—two of these control the circuit’s minimum and maximum gain settings, respectively, while a third determines the overall output volume of the overdrive stage. The stock settings place the

minimum gain and maximum loudness settings at typical TS levels, while the maximum gain is set for twice that of a stock TS808, for more available overdrive.

- While the MOSFET clipping is hard-wired into the circuit, the other clipping mode is set up with compression sockets on the PCB, so that the clipping diodes can be changed. Additional diode combinations, including LED and germanium diode types, are included with the pedal so that the owner can experiment with different distortion tones.
- Additionally, the opamp is socketed as well, and the ZYS Mk II ships with 5 different opamps, including the vintage TS808 JRC4558D, a high-fidelity Burr Brown OPA2134 IC, a dual bi-MOS CA3260 opamp, plus two more. Swap them around and see which sounds best to you.

ZYS Mark II Controls Summary:

Boost

Stomp switch + level (volume) control

Overdrive

Stomp switch + level, tone and gain (amount of distortion) controls

3-way clipping toggle:

- Clip 1 – stock TS silicon diodes pre-installed; other types can be substituted using compression sockets on PCB
- Lift – no signal clipping; noticeably louder
- Clip 2 – MOSFET clipping

3-way bass EQ toggle:

- Normal (center position) – typical TS mid-range response “hump”
- Full (left position) – Added bass content, flatter overall EQ profile
- Fat (right position) – More added bass

2-way effect order toggle (side-mounted):

- Up – Overdrive feeds into boost (boost adds mostly volume when added to overdrive)
- Down – Boost feeds into overdrive (boost adds mostly more distortion when added to overdrive)

ZYS Mark II Feature Summary:

- Independent overdrive and boost circuits in a single, compact pedal design; separate foot switches & LED power indicators
- Level control for Boost circuit; level, tone and gain controls for Overdrive
- Three switchable distortion modes
- Three switchable bass-content modes
- Switch to select effect order (boost/overdrive or overdrive/boost)
- Adjustable trimpots on PCB to change overdrive gain and volume properties
- Switchable components via “socketed” PCB: five different opamps and multiple clipping diode types included



To order the Zonkin' Yellow Screamer or other fine, hand-made guitar effects pedal, contact me by e-mail as shown here:

http://www.duhvoodoومان.com/pedal_inquiry.htm