

ROADTESTED

PRODUCT REVIEWS

THE SEYMOUR DUNCAN PARANORMAL DI

BY TOMAS FINN

You have got to love a product that enhances a useful tool such as a DI and caters it to a specified market. Now a DI is in practice, a simple product and converts unbalanced signals into balanced signals *i.e.* like nearly every bass player in a live gig does with their signal path.

What makes this little DI box so special though?

SPECIAL DI

The Seymour Duncan Paranormal DI is a direct box with three bands of EQ and the special feature of a slap contour switch. It has been designed to give the bass player much more control over their sound and their space in the FOH mix. Like all DI's the paranormal also has a balanced line out XLR jack (with ground lift) so you can feed a front-of-house mixing board or a recording console with no loss of signal.

ALL ABOUT EQ

3 bands of EQ could mean anything really couldn't it? Granted it will still be with regard to EQ but with only 3 specific notches in the spectrum they could be irrelevant to the dynamic ranges of your specific instrument. Now wouldn't you just love to hear that Seymour Duncan being forever the innovator and forever the players favourite have customised this 3 band EQ in their pedal to work at its peak when used with the fine instrument that is a bass guitar. A DI is a DI but this paranormal is like your own custom bass enhancing tool. There is also 12dB of boost and cut with each band too, maximising your EQ sculpting capacity. With a pedal like this you get more control and definitely more flexibility.

SENDING OUT A SCS

The SCS or as normal people call it, the Slap Contour Switch, has been designed to add an additional preset EQ curve to your set EQ settings. The Slap contour gives you a small type curve with reduced midrange and boosted bass, which is definitely ideal for, slap style.

What if I'm not a slap player?

Well get creative, the more tonal options you have as a player the better it is for you no doubt, this switch definitely adds another level to your finger style and pick playing so when you get one or go down your local bass shop to try one out explore the space.

NORMAL or PARA?

Seymour Duncan rule the electronics world in pickup innovation and development. There is no questioning their commitment to making the players role as easy as can be, and to me every new product that Seymour Duncan brings out can be expected to live up to this reputation and take one more

step forward on, each time forging new ground.

This is a great specified DI built especially for a bass player who wants more control over their sound and wants to turn heads while doing it.

Nice work Seymour Duncan, I look forward to seeing a few of these floating around.

SPECS

Gain Range: +/- 12dB

Input Impedance: 1M Ω hm

Output Impedance: 2K Ω hm

Maximum Output before Clipping: 2.6Vrms

Noise and Hum: -92dBV

THD @ 1Vrms out @ 1 KHz: 0.002%

Type of Circuitry: FET Input OP-Amps with Discrete Gyrators

