

proaudio

12th Edition | December 2024

SOUND PRESS

Are you mixing with the right company?

**CANTREL rocks
Last Christmas!**

dBTechnologies
CUTTING-EDGE TECH.

DDJ-GRV6
FIND YOUR GROOVE

KING OF WHIP
THE WHIP

SCHOOL OF ROCK
PARKTOWN NORTH

Reflecting on a Remarkable Year with PROAUDIO

CANTREL

dc
dirkie coetzee
music

JUSTINE

TOM NOVY



Gibson



Les Paul
CUSTOM

WELCOME

to the December 2024 Edition of
proaudio Sound Press Magazine!

This issue is packed with dynamic features that celebrate innovation, creativity, and the power of sound. From the groundbreaking event in Sandton showcasing the advanced technology of dB Technologies to the inspiring cover story featuring Neil and Jesse of Cantrel, who remind us of the magic that happens when music bridges generations.

We also shine a spotlight on the expansion of the iconic School of Rock in Johannesburg, the high-energy spectacle of King of the Whip at Montecasino, and the timeless elegance of the Gibson Les Paul 50s—a guitar that continues to redefine excellence.

For those seeking cutting-edge tools, our product highlights this month include the M32R Live mixing console, the versatile DDJ-GRV6, and the stunning Nord Piano 5 88. Whether you're a professional musician, DJ, sound engineer, or just passionate about great gear, there's something here for everyone.

As we wind down the year, we want to take a moment to thank you—our readers, partners, and supporters—for being an integral part of our journey. Your passion for music and technology drives us to bring you the very best.

Here's to another remarkable year of sound, innovation, and connection!

HAPPY READING!

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sound PRESS

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This magazine is designed to inform, supply, and provide information relating to the industry that we find ourselves in. Some of the material that we have used is resourced from websites around the world to help bring perspective and insight to your business' and your lives. Products highlighted and reviewed may or may not be available, if you have any questions relating to the information herein, please contact us.

December 2024 | **sound**press

CONTENTS

proaudio
sound press | December 2024

EPIC INSIGHTS..

06 **A Day of Innovation and Expertise**

Proaudio in Sandton hosted an unforgettable event, showcasing the cutting-edge technology and superior sound quality of dB Technologies.

12 **CANTREL – Cover Feature**

Neil and Jesse open up about their music, their relationship, and their message of hope, positivity, and connection through their art.

18 **School of ROCK**

A global leader in performance-based music education, has expanded its footprint with the opening of its 389th location in Parktown North, Johannesburg.

22 **KING of the WHIP**

Montecasino in Johannesburg became the epicenter of action sports as the much-anticipated King of the Whip 2024 event took flight.

72 **Reflecting on a Remarkable Year Together**

This time of year reminds us of the power of connection and gratitude, and we want to take a moment to thank you for being an integral part of our journey throughout 2024.

CANTREL

is winning hearts
both locally and globally.



**SCHOOL
of ROCK**
PARKTOWN NORTH



32 **MIDAS M32R-Live**

Powerhouse For Live And Studio Applications.



PROAUDIO GEAR..

26 **DDJ-GRV6**

Freely manipulate drum parts and create new remixes.

30 **ATH-M20xBT**

The Perfect Listening Companion

32 **M32R LIVE**

The Ultimate Mixing Console for Professionals Who Demand Precision

36 **Change Your Restaurant's Atmosphere**

In The Restaurant Business, Ambiance Is Everything.

42 **NORD Piano 5 88**

Designed to meet the demands of professional performers and studio musicians, this powerful instrument is a gamechanger in the realm of digital pianos.

46 **ATM-230PK**

Take Control of Your Drum Sound.

50 **ID:CORE V4 Stereo 10**

Direct-to-phone TRRS audio for high quality livestreaming or recording videos, making content creation with the ID:CORE V4 simple and intuitive.

52 **GIBSON Les Paul 50s**

Rediscovering the Golden Era



26

DDJ-GRV6

FIND YOUR GROOVE

SA Artists

54



Dirkie Coetzee

60



Justine Winterboer

66



Tom Novy



dB Technologies

Showcase at Proaudio Sandton

A Day of Innovation and Expertise

On Wednesday, November 20, 2024,

Proaudio in Sandton hosted an unforgettable event, showcasing the cutting-edge technology and superior sound quality of dB Technologies.

This highly anticipated gathering, which featured daytime and evening sessions, drew a diverse crowd of industry professionals, sound engineers, and audio enthusiasts. The event was elevated by the presence of Andrea Salvioli, who traveled from Italy to demonstrate the showcased systems and share his expert knowledge.



The dB Technologies event at Proaudio Sandton showcased the brand's commitment to pushing the boundaries of professional audio technology.

From the compact **ES Series** to the powerful **VIO L1610**, each product demonstrated why dB Technologies is a leader in the industry. Special thanks to **Andrea Salvioli** for his invaluable contributions and to Proaudio for organizing an event that left everyone inspired and impressed.



This remarkable showcase reinforced dB Technologies' reputation as a go-to brand for high-quality sound solutions, whether for portable setups or large-scale touring.

Guests departed with a deeper understanding of the brand's capabilities and excitement for future innovations.



Innovative Products on Display

The event was divided into two key categories **Portable Systems** and **Touring Systems**, each demonstrating dB Technologies' dedication to excellence.

PORTABLE SYSTEMS

These systems, designed for versatility and ease of use, are perfect for smaller venues, corporate events, and portable setups:

1. **ES 503** – A compact yet powerful 3-piece system delivering impressive clarity and performance.
2. **ES 1002** – A high-performance column system offering rich, detailed sound for portable applications.
3. **OPERA 12 & SUB 615** – A perfect pairing for enhanced low-end and full-range audio fidelity.
4. **OPERA 15 & SUB 618** – Combining portability with deep bass and broad coverage.
5. **OPERA REEVO 212 & SUB 918** – A premium combination for professional-grade performance, boasting innovative design and precise sound delivery.
6. **M2M & SUB S1518N** – A flexible system offering exceptional sound quality and powerful bass response.

TOURING SYSTEMS

For large-scale events and professional tours, these systems demonstrated their ability to deliver extraordinary sound even in the most demanding environments:

1. **T8 Line Array & SUB S30** – Compact and lightweight, providing crystal-clear audio for medium-sized venues.
2. **T12 Line Array & SUB S30** – A robust system designed for larger events, delivering powerful sound with excellent coverage.
3. **VIO L1610 Line Array & SUB VIO S21** – The star of the showcase, this state-of-the-art line array system offered breathtaking sound projection, ideal for concerts and outdoor events.



Andrea Salvioli

Expert Demonstrations

Andrea Salvioli's presence added immense value to the event. His detailed demonstrations brought the capabilities of each system to life, offering attendees a chance to understand the technical nuances and practical applications of the products. Andrea's ability to explain complex concepts in an engaging and accessible manner left a lasting impression on the audience.







A Memorable Experience

Guests were treated to an immersive audio experience, with live demonstrations that highlighted the versatility and precision of dB Technologies' systems. The combination of hands-on opportunities, expert insights, and high-quality audio created an atmosphere that was both educational and enjoyable. Attendees expressed their appreciation for the informative sessions and the hospitality provided by Proaudio.

This event provided local professionals with access to global innovation, empowering them with the tools and knowledge to enhance their craft. By fostering growth in the entertainment and corporate sectors, it has strengthened South Africa's position as a hub for high-quality sound solutions. Proaudio and dB Technologies continue to drive the industry forward, setting a new standard for audio excellence in the region.





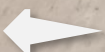
CANTREL



CANTREL rocks Last Christmas!



In this exclusive interview, Proaudio Sound Press Magazine sits down with the dynamic father-son duo behind Cantrel—Neil and Jesse Breytenbach. Neil and Jesse open up about their music, their relationship, and their message of hope, positivity, and connection through their art.



Interview with Cantrel

By Proaudio Sound Press Magazine

Combining the seasoned experience of Neil, best known for his **legendary role in Prime Circle**, with the fresh energy and creativity of his son Jesse, Cantrel offers a unique blend of musical styles that bridges generations.

From their lockdown beginnings to international performances, the Breytenbachs share their inspiring journey of crafting music that resonates deeply with fans worldwide.

They discuss the creative process, the challenges and triumphs of working as a family, and their vision for Cantrel's future.

With a versatile sound that effortlessly shifts between energetic rock anthems and stripped-down acoustic ballads,

Cantrel is winning hearts both locally and globally.

As a father-son duo, how did the idea for Cantrel come about, and what has the journey been like so far?

Jesse: It started during lockdown when I was at home doing online schooling. My dad and I began jamming together in our home studio, and it sounded really good. We started writing songs and jamming more often, and after I left school, we began playing live gigs together. The response has been phenomenal.

Neil, you've had a long career with Prime Circle. How does working with your son differ from your experiences with a band, and what unique dynamic does Jesse bring to the table?

Neil: Musically, working with Cantrel and Prime Circle is actually a very easy fit. Writing with my son Jesse for Cantrel feels like a very natural and authentic process, just like it does with Prime Circle. Nothing is forced—it all just happens naturally. Both bands have their own unique sound, which is amazing. Jesse is a grunge kid at heart, so we've grown up listening to the same music. However, he definitely brings a fresh approach to our musical style that's mind-blowing at times. It's a huge honor for me to be in a band and release music with my son.



Jesse, what is it like collaborating with your father, especially as a young artist? How has his influence shaped your musical style and growth?

Jesse: It's such a privilege and an awesome experience writing and playing music with my dad. It's pretty cool that we have similar tastes in music, so when we write, it has a nice flow. Being around Prime Circle and my dad my whole life, I've always been surrounded by music. I'm constantly learning new things, both musically and in real life, which I love.



You've mentioned blending various styles like rock, rap, and acoustic music. How would you describe Cantrel's sound, and what message do you hope listeners take away from your music?

Neil: Cantrel's style is definitely a blend of energetic, feel-good rock music with a splash of adult contemporary acoustic music and stripped-down, beautiful unplugged songs. We like to be chameleons—versatile enough to entertain any audience. Companies booking us can choose between an energetic rock show, an acoustic set, or a blend of both. We want people to leave our shows feeling good and happy, with our songs stuck in their heads.



With your debut album *Drive* and the EP *Something in the Orange*, what themes or stories were you most excited to explore in your music?

Neil: Our album *Drive* is layered with positivity. It tells the story of breaking out of negative circumstances and looking toward a better future—breaking the chains that bind you and driving yourself toward a better tomorrow.

Something in the Orange is our rendition of a country song, re-imagined in an adult contemporary style.

You've had the chance to perform both locally and internationally. How have audiences responded to your music, and do you notice any differences in the energy or reception?

Jesse: It's been amazing to see that wherever we go, people love the songs and the performance. It's great to see how alive rock music is internationally and how people embrace the heavier songs, not just the chilled acoustic stuff.

The responses, both locally and internationally, have been phenomenal, and we're so happy that our music is touching so many hearts around the world.

We don't face too many challenges because we have such a good relationship.

I love that I get to perform an art I'm so passionate about with my dad.

Family is at the heart of Cantrel. How has this relationship impacted your creative process, and what have been some of your most memorable moments together?

Jesse: I love that I get to perform an art I'm so passionate about with my dad. Being in the band together has brought us closer. After being in boarding school and my dad touring overseas, we didn't see much of each other, so I'm excited to get that time back through touring and being on the road. My mom is so proud of what we've created, and we can't wait to see what else we can produce.

What challenges have you faced as a father-son duo in the music industry, and how have you overcome them?

Jesse: We don't face too many challenges because we have such a good relationship. The biggest issue is probably when we go back and forth about how we want a song to sound. But even then, within five minutes, we make a decision, stick with it, and there's no more debating.



Looking ahead, what are your goals for Cantrel in the coming year? Are there any exciting projects, collaborations, or tours you can share with us?

Neil: Cantrel is touring Germany in February 2025 with Prime Circle, and we've just released our brand-new single, *Walls*. It will be on radio and TV soon, so please support it when you hear it. Contact the stations and give it some love! *Walls* is dedicated to people suffering from mental health issues, and we hope it inspires people to "save yourself from yourself."

For the rockers,
we're working on
a really cool rock
album that will be
released in 2025.

For aspiring musicians and bands, what words of wisdom would you offer based on your experiences as both an established artist and a new duo?

Neil: Practice every day. Market your brand. Music is a business, so reach out to lawyers and accountants for help. Write as many songs as you can—they'll get better over time. Learn from other artists you admire, follow their positive actions, and stay focused on your goal.



SCHOOL OF ROCK®

PARKTOWN NORTH



School of Rock, a global leader in performance-based music education, has expanded its footprint with the opening of its 389th location in Parktown North, Johannesburg. This new branch aims to transform aspiring musicians of all ages into seasoned performers through its innovative teaching methods.



A Revolutionary Approach to Music Education

At the heart of School of Rock's success is its patented teaching methodology, which emphasizes learning in a supportive and engaging environment. Unlike traditional music schools, School of Rock integrates individual instruction with group band practices, fostering a sense of community and collaboration among students. This approach has been refined over two decades, benefiting hundreds of thousands of students worldwide.

Programs for All Ages and Skill Levels

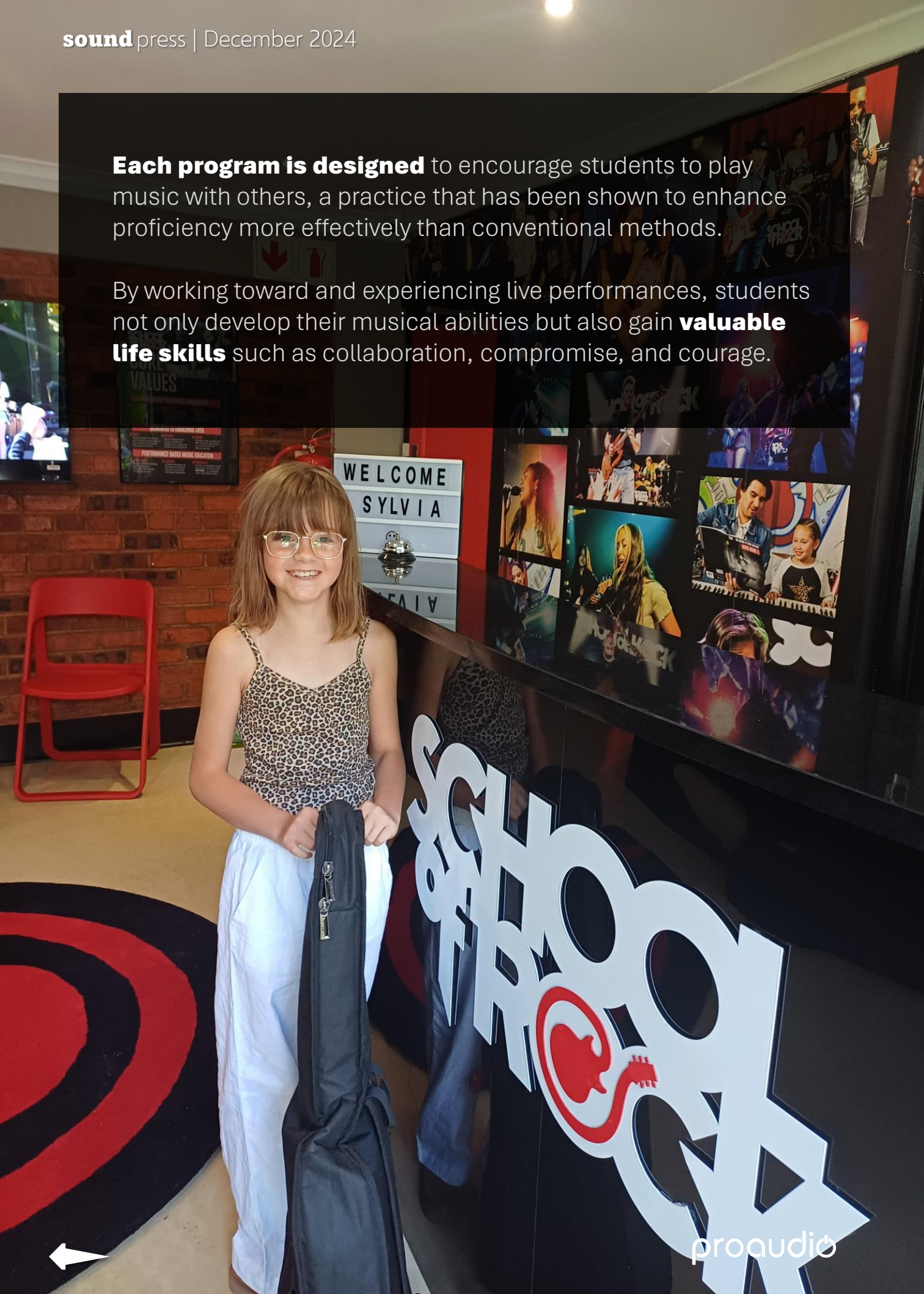
School of Rock Parktown North offers a diverse range of programs tailored to various age groups and skill levels:

- **Little Wing (Ages 4-5):** Introduces preschoolers to music fundamentals through interactive games and activities.
- **Rookies (Ages 6-7):** Allows young children to explore different instruments and basic musical concepts.
- **Rock 101 (Ages 8-13):** Combines private lessons with group rehearsals, preparing students for live performances.
- **Performance Program (Ages 8-18):** Focuses on honing skills through regular performances at local venues.
- **Adult Program (Ages 18+):** Caters to adults seeking to learn an instrument or improve their musical proficiency.



Each program is designed to encourage students to play music with others, a practice that has been shown to enhance proficiency more effectively than conventional methods.

By working toward and experiencing live performances, students not only develop their musical abilities but also gain **valuable life skills** such as collaboration, compromise, and courage.



Experience the Difference

To showcase its unique approach, School of Rock Parktown North invites prospective students to participate in a free trial lesson. Whether you're interested in guitar, bass, keyboards, drums, or vocals, this trial offers a firsthand experience of the school's dynamic learning environment.

Located at 53 7th Avenue, Parktown North, Johannesburg, the school is easily accessible to residents in the area. For more information or to schedule your free trial, visit their official website or contact them directly.

Join School of Rock Parktown North and embark on a musical journey that goes beyond traditional education, turning students into confident musicians ready to take the stage.





ON NOVEMBER 20, 2024,

Montecasino in Johannesburg became the epicenter of action sports as the much-anticipated ***King of the Whip 2024*** event took flight.

Showcasing the world's top freestyle motocross (FMX) talent, the event was a breathtaking display of gravity-defying stunts and electrifying beats, thanks in no small part to DJ Maia, who performed using **two Pioneer DJ CDJ-3000s and a DJM-A9 mixer.**





Pioneer DJ: The Beat and the Thrills

As the engines roared and riders launched into the air, DJ Maia set the perfect tone with his expertly crafted set.

Using the **CDJ-3000s** for precision and creativity and the **DJM-A9 mixer** for its unparalleled sound quality, Maia's performance ensured every trick was accompanied by a powerful and immersive soundtrack. The crowd felt every beat, drop, and build-up as Pioneer DJ gear demonstrated why it remains the ultimate choice for professionals.



The Stars and Their Victories

The event featured an elite lineup of FMX riders competing in categories like Best Whip and FMX Best Trick. The results were nothing short of spectacular:

- **Best Whip Champion:**
Julien Vanstippen (Belgium) secured his third consecutive *King of the Whip* title with his stylish and technical whips that wowed both the judges and the crowd.
- **FMX Best Trick (Right Side Up):**
Pat Bowden (Australia) claimed victory with a flawless display of precision and creativity.
- **FMX Best Trick (Upside Down):**
Genki 'Wanky' Watanabe (Japan) took the crown with his daring and innovative upside-down maneuvers.
- **Crowd Favorite:**
Dallan Goldman (South Africa), the local hero, won hearts with his fearless style and breathtaking tricks.





Thank You to the Organizers

A massive thank you goes out to the organizers, LW Mag, and their partners—Ford, Monster Energy, Yamaha, Garmin, Motul, GoPro, Estrella Cerveza, and PlayTSOGO—for orchestrating this incredible event.

Their dedication to creating a world-class FMX experience was evident in every detail, from the seamless execution of the competition to the vibrant entertainment that kept the energy alive throughout the day.

A Perfect Blend of Sound and Action

The *King of the Whip 2024* wasn't just about daring stunts; it was a celebration of creativity, skill, and passion. With Pioneer DJ's CDJ-3000s and DJM-A9 mixer delivering an impeccable soundscape, the event became an unforgettable spectacle.

Here's to the riders, the music, and the organizers who made it all possible—until next year, when the air will once again come alive with the sound of engines, cheers, and beats.

WE HAD A BLAST

DDJ-GRV6



4-CHANNEL DJ CONTROLLER

Freely manipulate drum parts and create new remixes

A game-changing controller that's set to revolutionize your DJing experience. This four-channel marvel seamlessly blends innovative features with a club-standard layout, making it a must-have for both aspiring and seasoned DJs.

At the heart of the DDJ-GRV6 is the Groove Circuit, a groundbreaking tool that allows you to remix drum parts of any track in real-time.

With just a tap, you can replace existing drums with preloaded loops or even sample drums from your current track, injecting fresh energy into your sets.

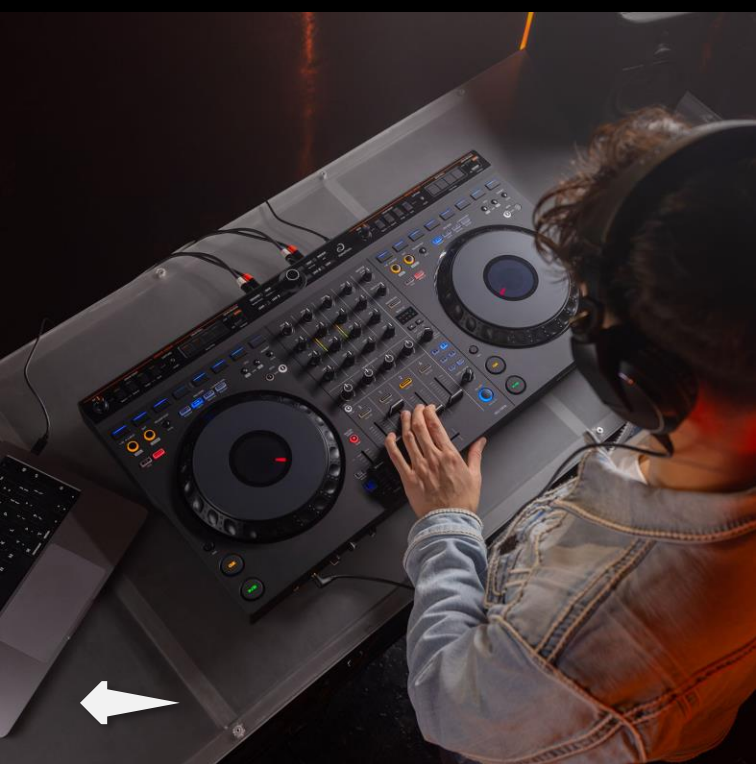
This feature empowers DJs to craft unique remixes on the fly, elevating live performances to new heights.





The **Pioneer DJ DDJ-GRV6** is a versatile 4-channel performance DJ controller that seamlessly integrates with both rekordbox and Serato DJ Pro, offering DJs a familiar yet innovative platform to elevate their performances.

Its design draws inspiration from club-standard equipment, featuring large jog wheels ideal for scratching and eight performance pads positioned above the jogs, mirroring the layout of the flagship CDJ-3000 multi-player.



One of the standout features of the DDJ-GRV6 is the **Groove Circuit**, which allows DJs to remix drum parts of any track in real-time.

By pressing dedicated buttons, users can swap existing drum elements with preloaded loops or capture drum parts from the current track for later use, enabling spontaneous and dynamic remixing during live sets.



The **Groove Circuit** is the crown jewel of the **Pioneer DJ DDJ-GRV6**, setting it apart as a truly revolutionary tool for DJs. With this function, you can freely manipulate drum parts in real-time to create fresh remixes on the fly. By simply pressing the dedicated buttons, you can replace the drum elements of any track—even as it plays—with preloaded drum loops or entirely new patterns.

This capability allows DJs to shift seamlessly between genres, adding a dynamic edge to their sets. The Groove Circuit also makes it easy to apply effects to drum parts, enabling you to craft dramatic fills, build-ups, and breakdowns. Whether you're layering unique rhythms or transforming the mood of a song, the Groove Circuit empowers you to perform live remixes with unmatched creativity and innovation, ensuring every performance is as unique as the DJ behind the decks.





The DDJ-GRV6 also introduces a **Smart Rotary Selector**, enabling intuitive navigation through media, playlists, and track lists.

This multi-directional control enhances the user experience, making it easier to manage extensive music libraries during performances.

In terms of build, the controller boasts a matte black finish and ergonomic design, ensuring that despite its advanced features, DJs can easily find their way around the interface. The minimalistic display and indicators offer intuitive access to the necessary functions, streamlining the performance process.

Connectivity options are robust, with balanced outputs suitable for professional sound systems. The DDJ-GRV6 is compatible with rekordbox for Mac/Windows and rekordbox for iOS/Android, allowing DJs to perform using their preferred devices. However, it's important to note that the controller does not support Bluetooth connections, and only channels 1 and 2 are available for playback in rekordbox for iOS/Android.





ATH-M20xBT

Wireless Over-Ear Headphones



The Perfect Listening Companion

Audio-Technica ATH-M20xBT Wireless Over-Ear Headphones

The ATH-M20xBT Wireless Over-Ear Headphones by Audio-Technica are a must-have for anyone who values quality sound and convenience. With crystal-clear audio inspired by the iconic M-Series, these headphones deliver immersive, professional-grade sound whether you're listening to music, gaming, or watching videos.

The Value of Wireless Over-Ear Headphones

Owning headphones like the **ATH-M20xBT** isn't just about convenience—it's about upgrading your listening experience:

- **Versatility:** Use them for everything from casual listening to gaming and even online meetings.
- **Portability:** Lightweight and wireless, they're perfect for life on the go.
- **Durability:** Built to last, Audio-Technica's reputation for quality ensures your headphones will stay reliable for years to come.
- **Enhanced Focus:** Block out distractions and immerse yourself in your favorite sounds, whether you're at home, on a commute, or in the office.

Why Choose the ATH-M20xBT?

- **Wireless Freedom:** Enjoy tangle-free Bluetooth 5.0 connectivity for easy pairing with your devices.
- **Long Battery Life:** A staggering **60 hours of playback** means fewer interruptions.
- **Comfortable Design:** Soft ear cushions and a lightweight build ensure hours of comfort.
- **Multipoint Pairing:** Seamlessly switch between devices like your phone and laptop.
- **Built-In Controls:** Manage your music, calls, and volume directly from the headphones.

Ready to Upgrade Your Audio Experience?

The Audio-Technica ATH-M20xBT Wireless Over-Ear Headphones offer amazing value, combining professional-grade sound, wireless convenience, and all-day comfort at a price point that's accessible.

Whether you're upgrading your current setup or buying your first pair of wireless headphones, the ATH-M20xBTs are a choice you won't regret.



MIDAS

M32R LIVE



THE ULTIMATE MIXING CONSOLE

for Professionals Who Demand Precision

The **Midas M32R Live Console** stands as a powerhouse for live and studio applications, offering unparalleled flexibility, professional-grade audio quality, and cutting-edge digital functionality.

Designed to meet the demands of modern sound engineers, this console brings the sophistication of Midas' legendary audio heritage into a compact, durable design that fits seamlessly into live performance venues, recording studios, and mobile production setups. Its combination of advanced features and intuitive operation makes it an essential tool for professionals who demand precision and reliability.

At the heart of the M32R Live are its **16 award-winning Midas PRO microphone preamplifiers**, renowned for their pristine audio quality and clarity. These preamps capture every nuance of your sound source, ensuring that vocals and instruments are faithfully reproduced with stunning accuracy. Paired with **40 input channels**, this console allows for extensive connectivity, making it ideal for handling complex performances and studio sessions alike.

One of the standout features is the **25 mix buses**, which are time-aligned and phase-coherent, offering exceptional routing flexibility and audio consistency. These buses empower engineers to create precise monitor mixes, complex effects routing, or multi-zoned outputs without compromise. Whether you're mixing for a live band, a conference, or a studio production, the M32R Live ensures every detail of your mix is managed effortlessly.

For live recording enthusiasts, the console boasts **32 bi-directional channels of live recording and playback** through dual SD/SDHC cards, enabling up to three hours of 32-channel PCM recording per session. This functionality is invaluable for capturing live performances in uncompressed WAV files, offering high-quality recordings directly from the console.

Additionally, the **32 x 32 channel USB 2.0 audio interface** integrates seamlessly with digital audio workstations (DAWs), providing a streamlined workflow for studio production and post-processing.





The M32R Live excels in its build quality and user-friendly design. Constructed from a **high-performance aluminium and high-impact steel structure**, it's robust enough to endure the rigors of live touring while maintaining a sleek and professional appearance. The **daylight-viewable 5" full-color TFT display** ensures clear visibility of settings and parameters in any lighting condition, while **17 motorized Midas PRO faders** deliver smooth, precise control over your mix.

Equipped with **8 digital signal processing effects engines**, the console provides a wide range of studio-quality effects to enhance your mix, all processed using **40-bit floating-point DSP** for optimal clarity and headroom.

Engineers will also appreciate the inclusion of **8 DCA and 6 mute groups**, which simplify the management of complex mixes by grouping and controlling multiple channels with ease.

For connectivity and expandability, the M32R Live features **AES50 networking**, enabling up to 96 inputs and 96 outputs via super-low latency connections.

This capability is invaluable for integrating with Midas stage boxes or other AES50-compatible devices, making it suitable for large-scale productions. The optional wireless remote control via Midas apps for iPhone and iPad adds another layer of convenience, allowing engineers to adjust settings from anywhere in the venue.

Whether you're in the studio or running live sound, the **Midas M32R Live** delivers exceptional functionality, sound quality, and reliability.

Its compact design, paired with rack mount brackets, makes it versatile for a range of applications, while its **auto-ranging universal switch-mode power supply** ensures consistent performance worldwide.

For sound engineers who need a console that can handle demanding environments with precision and ease, the M32R Live is an unbeatable choice.

It's not just a mixing console; it's the heart of your sound system.

PRODUCT FEATURES

- Live performance and studio recording digital console with up to 40 simultaneous input channels
- 16 award-winning Midas PRO microphone preamplifiers
- 25 time-aligned and phase-coherent mix buses
- AES50 networking allows up to 96 inputs and 96 outputs
- 32 bi-directional channels of live recording/playback on dual SD/SDHC (cards not included)
- Up to 3 hours of 32 channel PCM recording in one session - stored as uncompressed WAV files
- High-performance aluminium and high-impact steel structure
- Rack mount brackets included for ultimate flexibility
- 40 bit floating point digital signal processing
- 8 DCA and 6 mute groups
- 8 digital signal processing effects engines
- 17 Midas PRO motor faders
- Daylight viewable 5" full colour TFT display screen
- 32 x 32 channel USB 2.0 audio interface
- DAW remote control emulations of Mackie Control and HUI protocols
- Optional wireless remote control with Midas Apps for iPhone and iPad
- Auto-ranging universal switch-mode power supply



Transform Your Restaurant's Atmosphere with Premium Audio Solutions

 **SOUND TOWN**

LAB.GRUPPEN

 **Powersoft**

TANNOY



IN THE RESTAURANT BUSINESS, AMBIANCE IS EVERYTHING.

While great food and exceptional service are key, sound plays a vital role in shaping the overall dining experience.

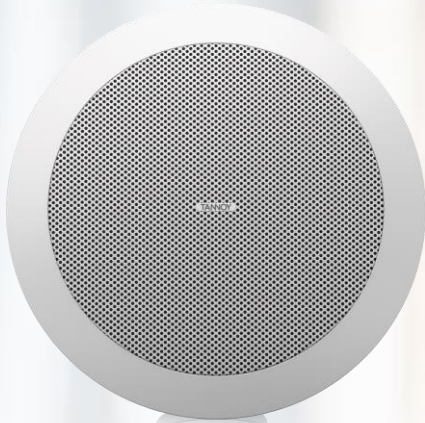
A well-designed audio system can create a welcoming atmosphere, enhance customer satisfaction, and set your restaurant apart. With trusted brands like Tannoy, Soundtown, Sonance, Lab.gruppen, and Powersoft, you can achieve a sound system that not only sounds great but also reflects the quality of your establishment.

Why Sound Matters in Restaurants

Sound does more than fill the silence; it enhances the experience. A carefully curated sound system can:

- **Set the Mood:** Establish the perfect vibe for your restaurant, whether it's intimate, casual, or lively.
- **Enhance Privacy:** Background music can mask ambient noise, improving the sense of comfort and intimacy for diners.
- **Ensure Consistency:** High-quality audio ensures every table, nook, and corner enjoys the same pleasant experience.

Premium Speaker Options for Restaurants



Tannoy CVS4 & CVS8

These in-ceiling speakers deliver exceptional audio clarity and coverage:

- **CVS4 (4-inch):** Ideal for small to medium-sized areas.
- **CVS8 (8-inch):** Perfect for larger dining spaces or higher ceilings.
- **Dual Concentric Technology:** Ensures even sound distribution across your venue.



Soundtown Tarvos Ceiling Speakers

A cost-effective solution with impressive performance:

- **Wide Frequency Response:** Delivers crisp highs and rich bass tones.
- **Discreet Design:** Blends seamlessly with your décor.
- **Durable Construction:** Built to last in high-traffic environments.



Sonance Professional Range

Renowned for combining aesthetics with functionality:

- **In-Ceiling and In-Wall Speakers:** Create a seamless look while offering powerful sound.
- **Outdoor Models:** Weather-resistant options for patios or open-air dining.
- **Superior Clarity:** Ensures every note and beat enhances your ambiance.



Amplifiers That Bring Your System to Life

Lab.gruppen Lucia 120 & 240

Compact and efficient, these amplifiers are perfect for restaurants:

- **Lucia 120 (120W) and Lucia 240 (240W):** Scalable power for different space requirements.
- **Multi-Zone Capability:** Adjust sound levels in different areas for a tailored experience.
- **Energy Efficiency:** Reduces operating costs while maintaining top-tier performance.



Powersoft Mezzo 322A

The Mezzo 322A combines advanced features in a compact form factor:

- **High Power Output:** Drives multiple speakers with ease.
- **DSP Technology:** Customizes audio settings to your venue's unique needs.
- **Remote Control:** Manage and fine-tune your system effortlessly.



TAILORED SOLUTIONS FOR YOUR RESTAURANT

Every venue is unique, and so are its sound requirements. Whether you're designing a cozy café or a sprawling dining room with multiple zones, the right combination of speakers and amplifiers will ensure the perfect sound experience.

By partnering with trusted brands like Tannoy, Soundtown, Sonance, Lab.gruppen, and Powersoft, you're investing in a system that complements your brand, enhances your ambiance, and leaves a lasting impression on your guests.



Let's Bring Your Vision to Life

Choosing the right sound system doesn't have to be overwhelming. For expert advice and tailored solutions, contact Aadil Matwadia. With years of experience and a passion for professional audio, Aadil will help you design a system that transforms your restaurant into a space your patrons will love.

Contact Aadil Matwadia
Phone: +27 11 608 2099
Email: aadil@proaudiosa.com

Reach out today and let your restaurant sound as remarkable as it tastes!



nord®

piano 5

For accomplished pianists seeking to elevate their craft, the Nord Piano 5 88 offers a dynamic, versatile tool that seamlessly combines world-class piano performance with advanced layering and sound design capabilities.

Designed to meet the demands of professional performers and studio musicians, this powerful instrument is a game-changer in the realm of digital pianos.



At the heart of the Nord Piano 5 88 is its 88-note Triple Sensor keybed, featuring grand weighted action for an authentic piano feel. Combined with Nord Virtual Hammer Action Technology, the keybed provides precise response and nuanced control, enabling players to fully express their artistry. Whether you prefer delicate dynamics or bold, commanding tones, the 3 Keyboard Touch options adapt to your playing style effortlessly.

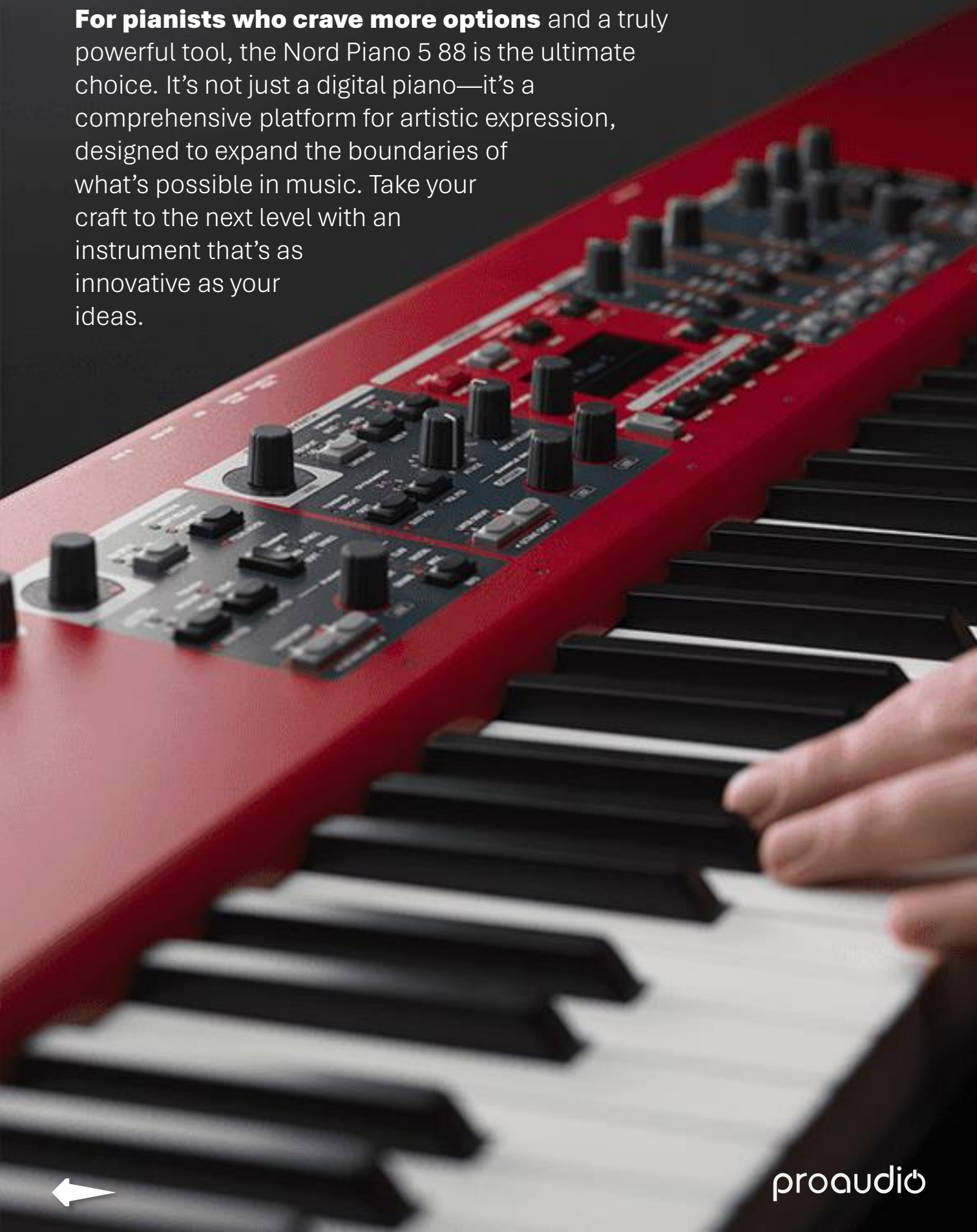
The Nord Piano 5 88 is a dual-engine powerhouse, featuring 2 independent Piano Layers and 2 Sample Synth Layers, allowing you to create lush, multi-dimensional textures. The expanded Advanced Layering functionality lets you stack sounds, blending two pianos with two sample synths for intricate, expressive arrangements.

The Advanced KB Split feature, with optional crossfades, ensures seamless transitions between zones for live performances. Explore deeper soundscapes with creative piano filters, Dynamic Compression, and Advanced String Resonance, adding realism and character to every note. The Soft Release and Dynamic Pedal Noise with the Nord Triple Pedal bring the acoustic piano experience to life, responding to your every nuance.

The Sample Synth section delivers unparalleled flexibility with 2 independent layers and double the memory for the Nord Sample Library. Featuring Soft and Bright filters, Unison for ensemble sounds, and Tru-Vibrato with real-time control, this section allows pianists to explore sound design typically reserved for synthesizers.



For pianists who crave more options and a truly powerful tool, the Nord Piano 5 88 is the ultimate choice. It's not just a digital piano—it's a comprehensive platform for artistic expression, designed to expand the boundaries of what's possible in music. Take your craft to the next level with an instrument that's as innovative as your ideas.





Tools like Round Robin, Mono and Legato modes with Glide, and Attack/Decay/Release controls offer a level of detail that transforms your instrument into a full sonic orchestra.

The Nord Piano 5 88 includes high-quality stereo effects modeled after classic stompsboxes, such as reverb with Chorale and Bright/Dark modes, and delay with Ping Pong mode. These tools let you sculpt your sound in real-time, making your live or studio performances even more compelling. The OLED display provides an intuitive interface for effortless navigation, ensuring you stay focused on your music.

With 120-voice polyphony, seamless transitions, and extensive memory, the Nord Piano 5 88 empowers pianists to explore every musical possibility. Whether you're performing on stage, crafting complex studio arrangements, or composing rich soundscapes, this instrument adapts to your needs.

Its dynamic layering capabilities, coupled with its industry-leading piano and sample libraries, make it an essential tool for those who demand versatility and excellence.



Take Control of Your Drum Sound with the Audio-Technica ATM-230PK



Why the ATM-230PK Is a Game-Changer

The ATM-230PK includes three ATM-230 hypercardioid dynamic microphones, purpose-built to handle the unique demands of drum and percussion recording. Whether you're in the studio or on stage, these mics are engineered to excel in capturing the depth, attack, and tone of your drum kit.

Built for the Job

Drums are some of the most challenging instruments to mic effectively. The ATM-230's hypercardioid polar pattern ensures tight, focused pickup, reducing unwanted bleed from other instruments and delivering a clean, isolated drum sound. This is particularly useful for live performances where stage noise can be overwhelming.

Capture Every Detail

The microphones are designed to handle high sound pressure levels (SPL), making them perfect for close-miking snare drums, toms, and other high-impact instruments. Whether it's the sharp crack of a snare or the deep resonance of a floor tom, the ATM-230 captures it all with precision.

Durability and Flexibility

Drummers need gear that can withstand the rigors of live gigs and constant setup changes. The ATM-230 microphones are built to last, with a rugged metal design that ensures reliability in any environment. Compact and lightweight, they can be easily positioned to get the perfect angle for each drum.

DRUMMERS KNOW

that the key to a great performance isn't just in their playing—it's in how their drums sound.

The Audio-Technica ATM-230PK is here to make sure every hit, roll, and groove is captured with precision and clarity.

This three-pack of dynamic microphones is specifically designed for drums, offering drummers and sound engineers the tools they need to achieve unparalleled control over their sound.



BENEFITS TO DRUMMERS

- **Precision Sound Isolation:** The hypercardioid design helps you eliminate bleed from cymbals and other kit components, allowing you to fine-tune each drum's sound.
- **Enhanced Clarity:** With the ATM-230PK, your drums will cut through the mix, ensuring every note is heard with full impact.
- **Consistency Across Setups:** Whether you're playing in a small venue or a large studio, these mics deliver consistent, professional results.
- **Customizable Sound Profiles:** Close-miking with the ATM-230PK gives you full control over your drum tones, making it easier to shape your sound to match any genre or style.

Ready to take
your sound to
the next level?

FOR STUDIO AND STAGE

The Audio-Technica ATM-230PK isn't just for live performances; it shines in studio environments too. The microphones' ability to capture the nuanced details of your drums means you'll have rich, natural recordings that are easy to mix and process. Engineers will appreciate the minimal bleed, allowing for greater flexibility during post-production.



THE AUDIO-TECHNICA ATM230PK PACKAGE INCLUDES

- **Three ATM230 Dynamic Instrument Microphones:** Designed specifically for drums and percussion, these mics feature a hypercardioid polar pattern for focused sound capture.
- **Three AT8665 Drum Mounts:** These mounts allow for secure attachment of the microphones to drum rims, facilitating precise positioning without the need for additional stands.
- **Three 5/8"-27 to 3/8"-16 Threaded Adapters:** These adapters ensure compatibility with various mounting hardware, providing flexibility in setup configurations.
- **Three Soft Protective Pouches:** Each microphone comes with its own pouch, offering protection during transport and storage.

This comprehensive set equips drummers and sound engineers with the essential tools for effective drum miking in both live and studio environments.



AN INVESTMENT IN YOUR SOUND

For drummers, controlling the sound of your kit is as important as your technique. The ATM-230PK offers a professional-grade solution that ensures your drums sound their best, every time you play.

Whether you're a gigging musician or a studio pro, these microphones provide the clarity, control, and durability you need to elevate your performances and recordings.

Blackstar®

AMPLIFICATION



ID:CORE V4 Stereo 10

Direct-to-phone TRRS audio for high quality livestreaming or recording videos, making content creation with the ID:CORE V4 simple and intuitive.



THE AMPLIFIER FOR EVERY GUITARIST

Whether you're a beginner picking up the guitar for the first time or a seasoned pro refining your craft, the **Blackstar ID:CORE V4 Stereo 10** is designed to deliver an exceptional playing experience. Engineered by the same team responsible for Blackstar's professional amps, this compact yet powerful amplifier is packed with features to inspire your playing and enhance your sound.



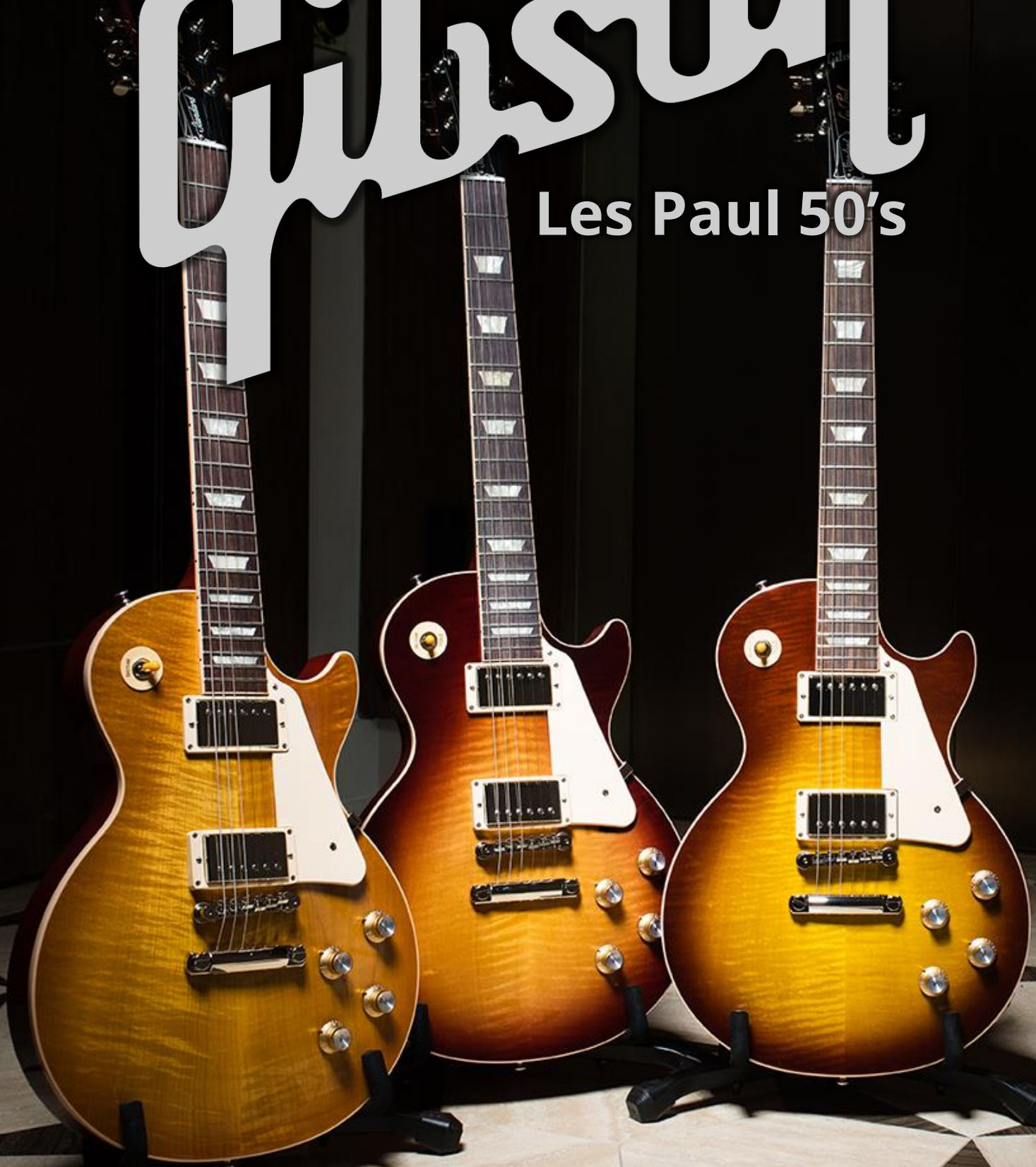
The Blackstar ID:CORE V4 Stereo 10 is a 10W (2x5W Super Wide Stereo) amplifier with dual 3" speakers, offering 6 versatile voices (Clean Warm, Clean Bright, Crunch, Super Crunch, OD1, and OD2) and 12 studio-quality effects (4 Delay, 4 Modulation, 4 Reverb). It features Blackstar's patented ISF (Infinite Shape Feature) for customizable tones and power reduction to 1 Watt for quiet practice.

What sets this amp apart is its TRRS output, allowing seamless direct connection to your smartphone for live streaming, practice recordings, or sharing your music on social media. With a simple TRRS cable, you can plug in and stream your performances with high-quality audio straight to your phone, making it an essential tool for content creators and live streamers. The ID:CORE V4 also includes USB-C for direct computer recording and the free Architect software, which provides deep editing, patch management, and CabRig™ Lite cabinet simulation. Compact, versatile, and equipped for modern players, this amp is a perfect choice for guitarists of all levels.



Gibson®

Les Paul 50's



Rediscovering the **Golden Era**

Gibson Les Paul 50s Guitars

The Gibson Les Paul 50s guitars are a stunning homage to the instrument that defined an era and shaped the sound of rock, blues, and beyond. Built with precision and care, these guitars bring the legendary craftsmanship and tonal richness of the 1950s Les Pauls into the hands of today's musicians.

Here's why adding one to your collection is a decision you won't regret:

1. **Legendary Tone**

The Les Paul 50s delivers the warm, rich sound that defined a generation of music. Whether you're playing blues, rock, or even jazz, the vintage-style humbuckers ensure you'll achieve that unmistakable, full-bodied Les Paul tone.

2. **Unmatched Craftsmanship**

With its mahogany body, maple top, and nitrocellulose lacquer finish, this guitar is a work of art. The attention to detail in its construction mirrors the quality of the originals from the 1950s.

3. **Authentic Vintage Feel**

The 50s-style neck profile and historically accurate appointments provide a playing experience that's as close as you can get to the golden age of Gibson.

4. **Versatility in Sound**

From creamy, melodic tones to raw, gritty distortion, the Les Paul 50s adapts effortlessly to any genre or playing style, making it a versatile choice for any guitarist.

5. **Timeless Appeal**

Owning a Les Paul 50s isn't just about performance; it's about owning a piece of musical heritage. The guitar's iconic design and sound are as relevant today as they were decades ago.

6. **A Lifetime Investment**

Gibson Les Pauls are known to retain their value over time. With their classic design and enduring appeal, these guitars are as much an investment in your passion as they are in your future.





dirkie coetzee

music

The Heartbeat of South African Trance

In this exclusive interview, we catch up with Dirkie Coetzee, a trailblazer in the South African trance music scene. From his early beginnings inspired by Paul van Dyk and Derek "The Bandit," to launching his own global record label and event brand, *We Are Trance*, Dirkie shares his journey of passion, perseverance, and production.

With emotional stories behind his tracks, milestones like performing alongside Cosmic Gate, and his vision for uniting the trance community, Dirkie gives us a glimpse into the mind of an artist dedicated to his craft. Dive into the world of trance as Dirkie reflects on his career, creative process, and the bright future ahead.



Interview with Dirkie Coetzee | Proaudio Sound Press Magazine

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: You began your journey in the EDM scene at the young age of 16. What was it about electronic music that first drew you in?

Dirkie Coetzee: I used to listen to Derek “The Bandit” on 5FM, and that's where I got my first taste of EDM. Paul van Dyk’s “For an Angel” was the track that cemented my love for Trance music. I joined a DJ school, and the rest is history, as they say.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: How did your early experiences performing in nightclubs and radio stations shape your growth as an artist?

Dirkie Coetzee: I got my first residency when I was 17 or 18 years old, and I played every weekend for a few years at the time. I loved the Peace-Love-Unity-Respect aspect among clubbers—it always had that “family” feeling. The underground music movement offered a lot of inspiration for me to become a producer.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: Learning music production without formal training is a challenging feat. What advice would you give to aspiring producers who are taking a similar self-taught approach?

Dirkie Coetzee: Back in the late 90s and early 2000s, online resources were scarce, and the only way to learn music production was by trial and error. Nowadays, there’s an abundance of tutorials online to learn from, and I still use online resources to learn new tricks. In my opinion, there isn’t a right or wrong way to make music—it’s a creative process. If you box yourself in, you might miss some powerful creative outcomes.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: Your music has been signed to some of the best record labels in the industry. How did it feel to have your work recognized by labels like Black Hole Recordings, Armada, and Perfecto Records?

Dirkie Coetzee: As a producer, you will always crave recognition for your music, and to me, the “pat on the back” was when my music was slowly but surely being picked up by some of the best labels and artists in the world. I dreamt that one day my heroes would play my music, and with a lot of hard work and sacrifice, I managed to achieve that dream. To this day, it means everything to me to be associated with the best labels in the world.





Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: You've collaborated with some incredible vocalists in the trance world, including Emma Lock and Jan Johnston. Can you share a memorable collaboration experience and how it influenced your music?

Dirkie Coetzee: The collaboration with Jan Johnston was a really emotional experience. My dad had passed away, and I decided to make a song in his honor. We wrote "Only the Beginning." When Jan sent me the initial idea, I was in tears hearing the message come to life. To this day, I get emotional hearing it again. The first time I played it at a club, the audience lit their lighters—it was one of the most emotional experiences of my life as a DJ.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: Trance is a genre that relies heavily on emotional and melodic elements. How do you approach creating a track that captures that emotional depth?

Dirkie Coetzee: I'm one of those artists who must have an idea in mind before heading into the studio. Sometimes it takes months to form an idea, and then I try executing it in the studio. A lot of the music I write is inspired by real-life experiences and feelings, especially the love I have for those closest to me. You'll always hear that in my music.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: You've performed on stages across the world, including Russia, Ibiza, Amsterdam, and Malta. How does performing internationally differ from your experience here in Southern Africa?

Dirkie Coetzee: I've been blessed to have some of the most passionate followers here at home, so playing for them will always be special to me. The few times I did play internationally, I was lucky to always find myself in front of equally passionate crowds. But as they say, there's no place like home.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: You recently shared a stage with Cosmic Gate at H2O. What was it like meeting and performing alongside one of trance music's legendary acts?

Dirkie Coetzee: Cosmic Gate has been a big influence on my music journey for as long as I can remember. Over the last few years, they've been supporting many of my music releases, so sharing a stage with them was a massive honor. Even though we've been on the same lineup multiple times, we only met for the first time at the last H2O.

They joked backstage about how it took 20 years for us to meet. It was a great experience—they were super humble and respectful, which made it even more special.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: When it comes to DJ gear, what is your preferred Pioneer DJ setup for gigs, and how do you use it to elevate your performances?

Dirkie Coetzee: In 2021, I celebrated 10 Years of Dirkie Coetzee with an open-to-close set at The Soundroom, and they had just gotten the CDJ-3000s. I completely fell in love with them. The larger digital touchscreens make it easier to find music when scrolling through playlists, and they feel much better than the previous CDJ-2000 models. My preferred mixer is the Pioneer DJM-900, which still seems to be the industry standard when we tour international DJs for We Are Trance events.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: You launched your own label and event brand, "We Are Trance," providing a platform for artists globally. How has the brand evolved since its inception?

Dirkie Coetzee: We Are Trance turned 10 years old in 2024. We started as a record label under the legendary Bonzai Music as our parent label. Since then, we've become a fully independent label and have released over 500 tracks. On the event side, we've hosted nearly 100 events in 10 years and toured almost 30 international artists.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: What role do you play in curating the music and events for We Are Trance, and what's your vision for its future?

Dirkie Coetzee: I have two amazing colleagues, Suzy Solar in America and Corrie Theron in South Africa, who manage the A&R side of the label. They curate and release the bulk of the music. I focus mainly on event planning and touring international talent. Our goal is to continue bringing the best trance talent to South Africa as often as possible. Without us, the local trance scene wouldn't get to experience these artists, so we invest a lot of effort to make it happen.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: We Are Trance Family has become a well-known name in the trance scene. How do you keep the brand fresh and engaging for both fans and artists?

Dirkie Coetzee: When we established We Are Trance in 2014, it was a direct rebellion against local music politics that were causing division in the industry. Our vision was to dismantle the hierarchy and unite trance followers. The DJs, artists, and followers all became one under the We Are Trance banner. Our logo, designed as a shield, represents our commitment to protecting the integrity of the trance community. The support we've received from our fans has been incredible, and they've stood with us since day one.



Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: You use KRK studio monitors in your studio. What other key pieces of equipment or software are part of your production workflow?

Dirkie Coetzee: My studio software is Ableton Live, and I keep things simple by using stock FX plugins as much as possible. My go-to soft synths are Diva and Serum because I've taken the time to learn them inside out. Less is really more in my studio, and it has worked well for me over the years.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: Do you have any specific techniques or processes you rely on to maintain creativity and productivity in the studio?

Dirkie Coetzee: I've started using templates with a basic structure and FX channels already built in. This allows me to quickly translate ideas into music and helps keep the creative flow alive.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: What upcoming releases or projects are you most excited about in 2024?

Dirkie Coetzee: I recently released my second artist album under my Deeper Calling alias, which focuses on melodic techno and progressive house. However, you'll still hear plenty of trance influences in the album, *Spacewalk*. I'm currently working on new music for 2025, which will include more vocal elements—I'm very excited about that.



Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: Finally, what's one thing you hope to achieve in the next phase of your career, whether it be in production, DJing, or growing your brand?

Dirkie Coetzee: On the DJ side, I've been trying to get onto the ULTRA SA lineup, but it seems impossible. We Are Trance will always be my biggest passion project, and I hope to launch our first outdoor festival soon.

That would be a dream come true.





JUSTINE

Justine Winterboer

A Rising Star in the DJ Scene

In this insightful interview, we sit down with Justine Winterboer, a talented DJ who has quickly made waves in the South African music scene since starting her journey in 2022.

From her love for Pioneer DJ gear to balancing her full-time career, family life, and passion for music, Justine shares her experiences, challenges, and the joy of creating unforgettable moments through her performances. Join us as she talks about her growth, mentorship, and the unique bond she shares with her cats and her B2B partner, DJ Abi Danger.



Interview with Justine Winterboer | Proaudio Sound Press Magazine

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: You've performed on various Pioneer DJ controllers at gigs—how does that experience compare with using the CDJ-3000 setup? Do you have a preference?

Justine Winterboer: As you know, I'm still relatively new to the industry, so I don't have a solid preference yet. That said, I do have a special place in my heart for the CDJ-3000. My first encounter with this 'performance unit' gave me butterflies in my tummy. All I saw were four jog wheels, four screens, and a lot of channels, and I started to panic—I was so overwhelmed!

But once I started my first mix, I got into the groove, had a tequila, and my nerves were gone. I've never backed out of a challenge, and I conquered it and LOVED it! The CDJ-3000 turned my initial panic into pure excitement and joy.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: When prepping for a set, how does your approach change when you're using a controller versus CDJs?

Justine Winterboer: Honestly, my set preparation isn't determined by the equipment provided. I do like to familiarize myself with what will be available because different gear offers different effects and features. But when it comes to prepping, I focus on my music and the audience I'm playing for. Whether it's a controller or CDJs, my main goal is to make sure everyone's having a blast.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: With being married for nine years, how do you manage the balance between family time, playing music, and selecting gigs that work for you?

Justine Winterboer: I keep my personal life private, but I have a 'family comes first' rule because they are my top priority. My husband and I maintain an open line of communication, always discussing future events to ensure they fit within the boundaries we've set together. We both have our hobbies—his is golf and mine is music—so we make sure to set aside time for these passions. But ultimately, being home with our cats is number one for us. This balance allows me to enjoy my music career while keeping my family life strong and fulfilling.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: What's your favorite piece of Pioneer DJ or AlphaTheta DJ gear and why?

Justine Winterboer: I've only ever played on Pioneer DJ gear, so I haven't had the chance to try out AlphaTheta just yet. But I'm a huge fan of experimenting with different controllers and CDJs. Being tech-savvy, I love diving into new gear. Right now, my favorite piece of Pioneer DJ gear is the XDJ-XZ. It's not called the 'powerhouse' for nothing! It's my number one because I was mentored on it, which makes it quite sentimental for me. Plus, it has all the features I need to get creative with my mixing.



Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: You play at a lot of private parties. Do you find these gigs better than nightclub performances? How are they different?

Justine Winterboer: I do prefer private parties over the nightclub scene, mainly because I have a full-time job as a medical device sales representative. Prioritizing rest is crucial so I can be 100% on top of my responsibilities at my kick-ass day job. Plus, the nightclub scene doesn't really align with my family life.

Private parties are more intimate for me; someone is hiring me specifically to create epic vibes and bring energy to their event. That said, I'm not opposed to playing at nightclubs, as long as the genre, the vibe, and the booking times align with my other responsibilities. So, if you see me at a nightclub, you know it's going to be a special night!

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: Since starting in 2022, you've seen great success as a DJ. For upcoming DJs, what advice would you give for landing gigs and finding quality gear?

Justine Winterboer: W.W.L.D. (What Would Lea Do) 😊 I was lucky to be mentored by Lady Lea through her Flipside Mentorship program. I owe all my success thus far to her as she's guided me and helped me get to this point.

My advice to upcoming DJs is to get the right coaching, put yourself out there at events, and always be humble—it's a small industry, and support goes a long way. With regards to finding quality gear, find a reputable audio supplier—I personally use Proaudio as my supplier. Their team has always been professional and helped me with any questions or needs I might have.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: You were known as DJ Despicable early on. What led to the decision to change your stage name?

Justine Winterboer: Well... when I started lessons with Lady Lea, I was asked to pick a DJ name. I didn't know what to choose because I'm quite an indecisive person. So Lea asked me what my mother calls me, and I answered cheekily, "My mother calls me despicable," and that's how that name came about for a fraction of time. I decided to change it due to the fact that I like my government name, and everyone knows me as Justine—so why change it?



Proaudio Sound Press Magazine:

When you were starting out, you often used the Pioneer DDJ-400. What was your favorite feature of that controller?

Justine Winterboer: I like that it's compact and easy to transport to gigs. It is the first controller I ever bought and will always hold a sense of nostalgia for me. I am looking at upgrading in the near future to a controller that can operate without a laptop, as I find the DDJ-400 a little limiting.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: On a fun note, we hear you're a big cat lover! Tell us about your cats.

Justine Winterboer: Oh, absolutely! My cats are like my backup dancers, but with more attitude and less coordination. I've got four of them. There's Big Ted, who loves to scratch (mostly the furniture, unfortunately). Hank is the smooth operator, always lounging around like he owns the place.

Luna is the chatterbox, always vocal about her opinions on my playlists. And finally, Jinjie, who's always the life of the party, especially when the catnip comes out. They keep my life interesting and my home filled with unexpected remixes of chaos and cuddles!



Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: You often play back-to-back sets with DJ Abi Danger. How do you go about preparing for those collaborative performances?

Justine Winterboer: We are PIRs (Partners in Rhyme), and we talk pretty much every day. When we do play B2B sets, our collaborative stage name is "Just Danger." We like to spend time together, either in person or on the phone, discussing the music we think would best suit the audience for the event.

We share our playlists with each other and add to it as we see fit. We like to have a pre-jam session as well—not just for the events but also for the social aspect of our friendship. We also plan our outfits... this is necessary to build our brand!







TOM NOVY

A Journey Through Music, Memories, and Mastery

In this exclusive interview, the legendary Tom Novy takes us behind the scenes of his extraordinary career, spanning decades of global chart-toppers, iconic remixes, and unforgettable live performances. From his magical experiences in South Africa to his thoughts on the evolution of DJing, Tom shares candid insights into the music industry, his creative process, and his enduring passion for house music. Dive in to discover the stories, advice, and vision of a true pioneer in electronic music.



Interview with Tom Novy | Proaudio Sound Press Magazine

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: You've been to South Africa a few times, and you always bring the house down. I remember you playing your track "I Don't Want Nobody" here—how did the crowd respond to that song during your performance? Do you have any standout memories from your shows in South Africa?

Tom Novy: Oh, there are plenty of crazy stories! Once, I was supposed to play at Halifax in Johannesburg, and I did a major radio show there to promote the track and the party. When we got to the club that night, the place was empty.

The owner told me they'd had so much demand that they closed off the street behind the club and turned it into a mini-festival! There were thousands of people dancing out there. It was magical. But honestly, I have nothing but great memories of my shows in South Africa. The people there have such a good vibe and know their house music. Every gig was amazing.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: You've worked on some legendary remixes, like Fragma - Toca's Miracle (Tom Novy & Jashari Deepdown Mix). How was it to remix such an iconic track? Did you feel any pressure when reworking a song that had already made such a big impact?

Tom Novy: You always think, "What could I make better here?" Sometimes it works, and sometimes it doesn't quite hit the mark. Not every remix carries the energy it should. That's probably why I don't remix as much as I used to. For "Toca's Miracle," we wanted to bring our beat to the track. It's a magical vocal, and there wasn't a deeper version out there that really did it justice. With that breakbeat switch, it gets this cool vibe, and the guitar shines through. It still rocks today—crazy!

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: Recently, you posted a rather direct comment on Facebook about the current state of DJing and how you feel the profession has changed, especially with social media. Could you elaborate on what you think has gone wrong with today's DJ culture, and what advice would you give to new DJs trying to make it in this environment?

Tom Novy: Look, it always sounds like an old artist complaining about the new times, right? But it's a fine line. My post wasn't about hating but raising awareness about what DJing should really be about: music. I think the priorities in our industry have completely drifted.



What's even real anymore? And why is everything so overhyped? Now it's all about the clown act: make a fool of yourself to go viral. Forget your ideals and do anything for followers and likes. Then you might have a shot at a career. That's truly sad. People think art is expendable, but it's actually the answer to everything. My advice for new DJs? Be yourself, build a real community with your music and your skills. Forget all the other stuff.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: Your latest track "Tom Novy & Lukas Love - Lights Get Dark" has a very cool, fresh sound. How would you describe your musical evolution over the years, and how does this new track fit into the direction you're heading as an artist?

Tom Novy: Yeah, the new track turned out great. It's got a bit of that UK garage soul that's trending right now. I've never been one to stick to just one genre. As an artist, you need the freedom to cross genres. Otherwise, it gets boring, and you end up being known for just one style. And if that style fades? Then what? That's too narrow-minded for me.

I stick with house music in all its forms. My side project, Cosmic Soul, is more about my musical roots and the chill side of Tom Novy. That might be a bit much for some people. I just released a new album on Bandcamp exclusively. Check it out if you like:

[Cosmic Soul on Bandcamp](#)



Proaudio Sound Press Magazine:

You've had a career spanning decades with worldwide chart successes, from "Superstar" to "Your Body". What do you think has been the key to your staying power in an industry that is always changing?

Tom Novy: I think you have to stay true to yourself and not get caught up in chasing fame or money at any cost. I got big when social media wasn't a huge influence yet, and it wasn't the billion-dollar business it is now. DJ fees were high, but they reflected how many people came to an event for a specific DJ.





Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: You've performed on stages all over the world and alongside major names in the industry. Who were some of the DJs or artists that you felt you clicked with the most, and what were some of your most memorable gigs?

Tom Novy: I've generally gotten along well with most of my fellow DJs. The connection has always been the music. We're kind of like family that way. So many performances are unforgettable and close to my heart. My time in Ibiza was huge for me—14 years as a Space resident and seven years running the Timeless party at Lio. And playing at the Love Parade in front of over a million people is something I'll never forget.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: In addition to DJing, you've hosted TV shows and have been a long-standing radio DJ. How has your experience as a host influenced your approach to music, and do you prefer connecting with your audience through the radio or live in clubs?

Tom Novy: Oh yeah, I still love doing radio. No live show right now since I'm short on time, and radio itself is in a bit of a transition. But I produce two mixed streams for a local radio station in my hometown, Munich. One is called Tom Novy Mix and features the latest club music—all in the mix. 24/7, just tune in, hit play, and dance.

[Tom Novy Mix](#)

[Tom Novy Chill Out Mix](#)

Today, some artists are overhyped even before anyone's really heard of them. I think that's working to my advantage now. People remember you because you're actually in their heads.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: You've produced and remixed for some huge artists like Ludacris, Eric Morillo, and 10CC. Do you approach remixes for major artists differently than for your own productions? What do you enjoy most about working on other artists' music?

Tom Novy: Back then, we did it to tap into the reach of big stars. There was no TikTok, limited internet, no social media. Now, everyone's just doing edits instead of remixes. The Afro House hype right now is all based on edits and versions of pop songs or classics across genres.



Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: When producing new music or remixing a track, what's your creative process like? Do you start with a specific idea, or does it evolve while you're experimenting with sounds?

Tom Novy: Oh man, there's all sorts of stuff. My day is full of music. I listen to a lot, constantly surrounded by it, always on the lookout for samples and ideas, or just humming something and playing it out later. It's not really planned or coordinated. Some days I'm super creative, and some days, nothing good comes out. I've shifted from analog tools to digital over the years. That's just how it's evolved.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: Before a gig, how do you prepare your set? Do you plan out tracks in advance, or do you prefer to improvise based on the crowd's energy? How do you use Rekordbox in your preparation process?

Tom Novy: After so many years, the library's set in my head. Sure, I use Rekordbox, but I keep it pretty relaxed. I make my playlists and check what I feel like playing that night. Big festival, small club—I'll adapt. But at the end of the day, you walk into a club, take in the vibe, read the crowd, and get a feel for the energy. It's different everywhere. I think that's the most important skill a DJ should have. The party has to be unforgettable.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: You've already achieved so much in your career, but what's next for Tom Novy? Are there any upcoming projects or collaborations we should be excited about?

Tom Novy: There's always something new going on. Music, more music, new shows, a residency at an amazing beach club in Split, Croatia, next summer. Our own Timeless parties, the two labels—it's rare that I'm bored. But I've turned my hobby and passion into a career, and I'm grateful every day for what I've been able to experience and achieve. Future projects? Staying healthy, spending time with family and close friends, and making as much great music as possible.

A big hug to South Africa, and thanks for this interview!



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18

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A Merry Christmas

from Proaudio

Reflecting on a Remarkable Year Together

As the festive season approaches, the team at Proaudio extends our warmest wishes to all our valued clients across South Africa and Africa. This time of year reminds us of the power of connection and gratitude, and we want to take a moment to thank you for being an integral part of our journey throughout 2024.





MERRY
CHRISTMAS
& HAPPY NEW YEAR


Celebrating a Year of Growth and Achievements

2024 has been a milestone year for Proaudio. Here are some highlights that we're proud to share:




Expansion of Brand Portfolio

-  **Gibson Guitars Distribution:** In August, Proaudio was appointed as the official distributor for Gibson Guitars in South Africa. This partnership allows us to offer iconic instruments from Gibson, Epiphone, and Kramer to South African musicians, enhancing our product range and supporting the local music community.
-  **dBTechnologies Partnership:** September saw the beginning of our exclusive distribution agreement with dBTechnologies. This collaboration enables us to provide advanced audio solutions to a broader range of artists, engineers, and venues across South Africa.

Launch of New Facilities

-  **Musical Instrument Showroom:** In March, we unveiled our new MI Showroom at Proaudio, offering a state-of-the-art space for showcasing instruments from brands like Nord, Epiphone, Ashdown Engineering, Blackstar Amplification, and more. The launch event featured live performances and provided guests with an immersive experience of our latest offerings.

Industry Engagement and Support

-  **Pioneer DJ Collaboration:** In March, Proaudio, in collaboration with Pioneer DJ South Africa, launched a platform to support women in the electronic music industry. This initiative featured interviews and panel discussions with prominent female DJs and industry personalities, aiming to empower and create successful female artists.
-  **Powersoft Distribution:** In March, we expanded our global network by welcoming Proaudio as the distributor for Powersoft in South Africa. This partnership allows us to offer innovative audio solutions to our clients, enhancing the quality and reliability of our services.
-  **Expanding Our Reach:** Through Proaudio Sound Press Magazine, we've kept the industry informed and inspired with interviews, product highlights, and insights into the latest trends. This platform has helped us connect with both emerging talent and seasoned professionals across the continent.



Christmas

in the South African Music and Sound Industry

Christmas in South Africa is unique—celebrated in the warmth of summer, it's a time for open-air gatherings, live music festivals, and outdoor performances. For the sound and music industry, it's one of the busiest times of the year. DJs, musicians, and sound engineers come together to create unforgettable moments, whether it's a lively Christmas party or a soulful church service.

At Proaudio, we're proud to supply the equipment that makes these moments possible. From providing reliable sound systems for large-scale events to compact setups for intimate gatherings, our products help spread the joy of music during the festive season.

A *Message* of Gratitude

As we reflect on the past year, we are incredibly grateful to our clients, partners, and supporters. Your loyalty and trust have been the foundation of our success.

It's your passion for music and sound that drives us to bring the best products and services to the market.

We're excited about the opportunities that 2025 will bring and look forward to continuing this journey with you.





Wishing You a Joyful
Festive **Season**





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#pro-dj

From all of us at **Proaudio**, we wish you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas filled with music, happiness, and special memories.

Let's make 2025 a year of even greater achievements together.

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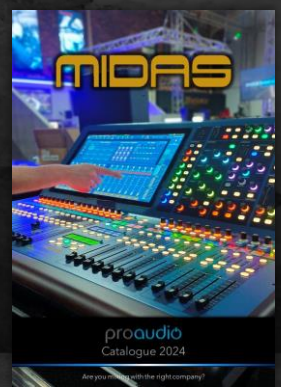
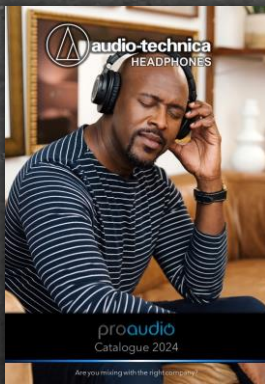
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