

Nembrini Audio announces availability of MRH-159 Brown Sound

A guitar amp plugin modeled on arguably most famous amp of all time



analogue saturation circuits digital reproduction specialist Nembrini Audio announces the availability of MRH-159 Brown Sound — a guitar amp plugin par excellence modeled on what is arguably the most famous amp of all time with an option to switch to a modded Marshall* Super Lead 1959 100W guitar amp head to achieve rock guitarist extraordinaire Eddie Van Halen's so-called 'brown sound' signature distortion tone that many musicians have tried to emulate - as of June 14...

It is fair to say that a Marshall* Super Lead 1959 100W guitar amp atop a couple of 4x12 loudspeaker cabinets remains the definitive guitar rig for many players. Thanks to Nembrini Audio's MRH-159 Brown Sound being modeled on what is arguably the most famous amp of all time, there is no need, necessarily, to go to such - sizeable and expensive - extremes to achieve a perfect tone. The guitar amp plugin itself is designed to do just that with two channels, one voiced for a higher treble response and the other for a normal response; each has its own loudness - VOLUME 1 and VOLUME 2 - option and two (linkable) - I and II - INPUTS with the 'HIGH' (top) option offering more gain and output volume while the 'LOW' (bottom) one is quieter with more headroom.

However, it is MRH-159 Brown Sound's standout BROWN SOUND MODS functionality with which Nembrini Audio effectively hits a home run by switching in a modded Marshall* Super Lead 1959 100W guitar amp head to achieve guitarist

extraordinaire Eddie Van Halen's so-called 'brown sound' signature distortion tone that many musicians have tried to emulate. Enabling the sought-after sound in question comes courtesy of several changes to the stock amplifier involved in creating MRH-159 Brown Sound, including a VARIAC variable transformer (to reduce the main voltage down to 90V) - re-emerging as VOLTAGE VARIAC in the resultant BROWN SOUND MODS GUI (Graphical User Interface) panels; EL34 tubes - found mainly in the final output stages of audio amplification - exchanged for the 6CA7 Fat Bottle - a more classic version of the EL34 with a large bottle and big, warm sound; middle tone stack potentiometer changed to 50 kOhms; and adding a 25uF cathode capacitor 'fat cap' on the V2 tube.

That said, the 'brown sound' to which Nembrini Audio's MRH-159 Brown Sound (partly) owes its notable name can mainly be attributed to the cabinet concerned being loaded with two 12" 8 Ohms JBL* D120 loudspeakers on the top and two 12" 8 Ohms Celestion* G12M 25W Greenback guitar loudspeakers on the bottom, blended with Shure* SM57 microphones, but MRH-159 Brown Sound fosters further creativity for flexible guitarists by offering a choice of six selected cabinet emulations - namely, MRH 4x12 BROWN (based on a Marshall* 1960A 4x12 with two of those JBL* D120s atop two Celestion* G12 25W Greenbacks); MB RECT 4x12 V30 (based on a Mesa Boogie* Rectifier 4x12 with Celestion* Vintage 30 loudspeakers); ORANGE 4x12 V30 (based on an Orange* 4x12 with Celestion Vintage 30 loudspeakers); SLD 4x12 LEGEND (based on a Soldano* 412B 4x12 with Eminence* Legend V12 loudspeakers); BG 2x12 V30 (based on a Bogner* 2x12 with Celestion Vintage 30 loudspeakers); and TWEED 4x10 P10Q (based on a Fender* Tweed Bassman 4x10 with Jensen P10Q loudspeakers), selectable in CABINET mode.

MRH-159 Brown Sound users can choose two virtual microphone (MIC 1 and MIC 2) settings for their amp recording chain, selecting from four different emulated models — namely, DYNAMIC 57 (based on the popular Shure* SM57 dynamic microphone); RIBBON 121 (based on the modern Royer Labs* R-121 ribbon microphone); CONDENSER 414 (based on the classic AKG* C414 condenser microphone); and DYNAMIC 421 (based on the vintage Sennheiser* MD 421 dynamic microphone) - with ON/OFF AXIS position switch, plus continuous POSITION and DISTANCE knobs. It is worth noting that if the aforesaid MRH 4x12 BROWN cabinet emulation is selected then those MIC 1 and MIC 2 settings are respectively related to the Celestion* G12 25W Greenback and JBL* D120 loudspeaker emulations. An associated MIXER section with PHASE, SOLO, MUTE, and fader controls allow for blending of the two microphones and the STUDIO REV (reverb).

Readily realising further flexibility, the CABINETS - IMPULSES LOADER panel permits loading of up to three third-party impulse responses that can be blended together using volume, PAN, PHASE, SOLO, and MUTE controls, while an associated browser window allows users to easily search through all their third-party impulse response files - not that MRH-159 Brown Sound users need necessarily concern themselves with seeking out third-party impulse responses since it comes complete with an already selected set of cabinet impulses.

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Always active are MRH-159 Brown Sound's CLEANER and NOISE GATE sections - the former featuring RUMBLING and HARSH controls, respectively reducing low- and high-frequency content, while the latter's THRESHOLD and RANGE respectively defines the level where the gate is activated and amount of noise reduction selected - alongside a levels section with faders for INPUT (adjusting that level from minus infinite to +12dB) and OUTPUT (adjusting that level from minus infinite to +12dB). Activating an associated FIX button ensures that the input level remains the same when changing presets.

Put it this way: when working with MRH-159 Brown Sound, achieving rock guitarist extraordinaire Eddie Van Halen's so-called 'brown sound' signature distortion tone is now within reach of anyone - all without breaking the bank. But achieving that much-missed guitarist's extraordinary playing technique... that's a different ball game entirely.

Marshall Super Lead 1959 is a registered trademark of Marshall Amplification Ltd. MRH-159 Brown Sound was developed by Nembrini Audio SRL based on its own modeling techniques. Marshall Amplification Ltd has not endorsed nor sponsored MRH-159 Brown Sound in any manner, nor licensed any intellectual property for use in this product.

* Please note that all marks and models are trademarks of their respective owners, which are in no way associated or affiliated with Nembrini Audio SRL. These product names, descriptions, and images are provided for the sole purpose of identifying the specific products that were studied during Nembrini Audio's sound design process.

MRH-159 Brown Sound is available for purchase (as an iLok-protected AAX-, AU-, VST2-, and VST3-supporting plug-in for macOS 10.9 or newer and Windows 7 or newer) at an attractive introductory price of only \$37.00 USD until July 4, 2021 - rising thereafter to a regular price of \$137.00 USD - from its dedicated webpage, which also includes more in-depth information.

Flexibility further abounds as MRH-159 Brown Sound is also available in AuV3 format for iOS at an introductory price of \$9.99 USD until July 4, 2021 - rising thereafter to a regular price of \$19.99 USD - on the App Store from [here](#).

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