Catalinbread 853710004758

Catalinbread Belle Epoch Deluxe Tape Echo Delay Pedal User Manual

Model: 853710004758

1. Introduction

The Catalinbread Belle Epoch Deluxe is a meticulously crafted tape echo delay pedal designed to replicate the authentic sound and feel of the legendary Maestro Echoplex EP-3. This pedal incorporates exact EP-3 circuitry, including the 22-volt power rail, JFET preamp, mixer stage, and high-gain silicon transistor-based record and playback amplifiers. The only modern deviation is the use of a 24-bit high-fidelity digital delay line in place of physical tape, ensuring reliability while preserving the classic tone. This manual will guide you through the features, setup, and operation of your Belle Epoch Deluxe pedal.

2. Safety Information

- Use only a 9VDC power supply with a center-negative polarity. Using an incorrect power supply can damage the unit and void the warranty.
- Do not expose the pedal to excessive moisture or extreme temperatures.
- Avoid dropping the pedal or subjecting it to severe impacts.
- Do not attempt to open the enclosure or modify the internal circuitry. Refer all servicing to qualified personnel.
- Keep out of reach of children.

3. Product Overview

The Belle Epoch Deluxe features a robust metal enclosure with clearly labeled controls and jacks. Familiarize yourself with the layout before connecting the pedal.



Figure 1: Catalinbread Belle Epoch Deluxe Pedal Layout. This image displays the top panel of the pedal, highlighting the various control knobs, footswitches, and input/output jacks.

Controls and Jacks:

- **9VDC ONLY (Power Input)**: Connect a standard 9VDC center-negative power supply here.
- **EXP (Expression Pedal Input)**: Connect an expression pedal for external control over certain parameters.
- **OUT (Output Jack)**: Connect this to your amplifier or the next pedal in your signal chain.
- **IN (Input Jack)**: Connect your instrument or the preceding pedal here.
- **DEPTH Knob**: Controls the modulation depth. The type of modulation depends on the setting of the Echo program.
- **RECORD LEVEL Knob**: Controls the gain of the input signal hitting the record amplifier. Range from no signal all the way to heavily overdriving the transistor record amplifier.
- **ECHO VOLUME Knob**: Controls the wet/dry mix using the identical mixer circuit as the EP-3 for the same subtle phase and tone shifts of the dry signal.
- **ECHO SUSTAIN Knob**: Controls the amount of delay feedback and is tuned to function just like the EP-3. Run-away echo starts around noon.
- **ECHO DELAY Knob**: Adjusts the delay time.
- **ECHO OSC. Footswitch**: Activates the Echo Oscillation feature.
- **BYPASS Footswitch**: Toggles the effect on and off.
- **V/D (Vibrato/Doubler) Switch**: Selects between Vibrato and Doubler modes for modulation.
- **EXP (Expression) Switch**: Engages expression pedal control.

4. Setup

1. **Power Connection**: Connect a 9VDC center-negative power supply to the 9VDC ONLY input jack.
2. **Instrument Input**: Connect your guitar or the output of your previous pedal to the IN jack.
3. **Amplifier Output**: Connect the OUT jack to your amplifier's input or the input of your next pedal.
4. **Expression Pedal (Optional)**: If using an expression pedal, connect it to the EXP jack.
5. Ensure all connections are secure before powering on your amplifier.

5. Operating Instructions

Basic Operation:

- Press the BYPASS footswitch to engage or disengage the effect. When engaged, the LED indicator will illuminate.
- Adjust the ECHO DELAY knob to set the desired delay time.
- Use the ECHO VOLUME knob to control the mix of the wet (effected) and dry (unaffected) signals.
- The ECHO SUSTAIN knob controls the number of repeats. Turning it clockwise increases feedback, leading to self-oscillation past noon.

Advanced Features:

- **RECORD LEVEL**: Experiment with this knob to achieve different tonal characteristics. Lower settings provide cleaner repeats, while higher settings can introduce saturation and overdrive to the echoes, mimicking the tape saturation of the original unit.
- **DEPTH & V/D Switch**: The DEPTH knob controls the intensity of the modulation. The V/D switch selects between Vibrato (V) and Doubler (D) modulation types. Adjust DEPTH to taste for subtle warble or more pronounced pitch shifts.
- **ECHO OSC. Footswitch**: This footswitch allows for momentary or latching self-oscillation. Press and hold for momentary oscillation, or tap to latch it on/off. This creates dramatic, evolving soundscapes.
- **Expression Pedal Control**: When an expression pedal is connected and the EXP switch is engaged, you can control specific parameters (e.g., delay time, feedback) in real-time with your foot. Refer to the Catalinbread website or product documentation for specific expression pedal assignments.

6. Maintenance

- **Cleaning**: Wipe the pedal with a soft, dry cloth. Do not use abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Storage**: Store the pedal in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight when not in use.
- **Jacks and Knobs**: Periodically check that all jacks are free of debris and that knobs turn smoothly.

7. Troubleshooting

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No sound when pedal is engaged.	Incorrect power supply; faulty cables; pedal not receiving signal.	Ensure 9VDC center-negative power supply is used and connected correctly. Check all patch cables. Verify instrument and amplifier are working.
Weak or distorted signal.	Low battery (if applicable, though this unit is 9VDC only); incorrect input level.	Ensure proper power supply. Adjust the RECORD LEVEL knob.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Unwanted noise or hum.	Ground loop; faulty power supply; interference from other electronics.	Use an isolated power supply. Try a different power outlet. Move pedal away from other electronic devices.
Delay repeats are too short/long or too few/many.	ECHO DELAY or ECHO SUSTAIN knobs set incorrectly.	Adjust ECHO DELAY for time and ECHO SUSTAIN for number of repeats.

8. Specifications

Attribute	Value
Brand	Catalinbread
Model Number	853710004758
Item Weight	1.09 pounds
Product Dimensions	5.5 x 4.1 x 2.9 inches
Color	Black and Silver
Hardware Interface	1/4-inch Audio
Signal Format	Analog
Voltage	22 Volts (Internal EP-3 circuitry operates at 22V, but pedal requires 9VDC input)
Date First Available	January 11, 2022

9. Warranty and Support

For information regarding warranty coverage, product registration, or technical support, please visit the official Catalinbread website or contact their customer service directly. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.
Catalinbread Official Website: www.catalinbread.com

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