# BX-13 v3



# EXPANDED BUS CONVERTER VERSION 3 OWNER'S MANUAL

#### DESCRIPTION

Congratulations on your purchase of the **BX-13 V3** Expanded Bus Converter.

The **BX-13 V3** combines the technology found in the Roland **BC-13** bus converter but with expanded foot switch controls, guitar volume pedal input, and EV-5 standard control output.

Like a BC-13 Bus Converter, the **BX-13 V3** can convert the vintage 24-pin style signals into modern, 13-pin control signals, enabling the vintage guitar synth enthusiast access to the latest in guitar technology. Your **BX-13 V3** has been hand-built and handwired using quality components for reliable operation and is backed by a one-year parts and labor warranty.

Please read this owner's manual carefully before using the **BX-13 V3**.

#### **IMPORTANT NOTES**

- When connecting a guitar and synthesizer to the **BX-13 V3**, be sure that power to the synthesizer is switched off.
- The 13-pin connector used with the **BX-13 V3** is locking style, and therefore cables cannot be disconnected unless the locking pin is released.

#### PANEL DESCRIPTIONS

- **1.24-Pin GR Input Connector:** Input for 24-pin style G-Series guitar cable.
- 2.13-Pin GK Output Connector: The modern, 13-pin synthesizer output connector.
- **3. Synth Foot Switch:** This switch turns on and off the volume level for the Synthesizer. The associated RED LED will glow when the synthesizer output is on.
- **4. Guitar Foot Switch:** This switch turns on and off the volume level for the guitar. The associated GREEN LED will glow when the guitar output is on.
- 5. Synth Volume: This knobs adjusts the level of the guitar synthesizer. The recommended position is "3 o'clock" or with the white pointer aimed directly at the Fuzz/Guitar switch. If you have a VG-88 or a guitar synth that displays the output level, you can use the calibration procedure outlined below to precisely set the output level of the synthesizer.
- **6. Guitar Volume:** This knob adjusts the output of the standard (humbucker) guitar sound sent to the guitar synthesizer.
- 7. Fuzz/Guitar Switch: This switch selects between standard (humbucker) guitar sound and the hex fuzz guitar sound. The hex fuzz sound is typically

much louder than the standard (humbucker) sound, and the **Guitar Volume** knob may need to be adjusted to a lower output level. The hex fuzz sound is only available on guitars with hex fuzz, like the Roland **G-202**, **G-303**, **G-505**, and **G-808**.

- 8. Ctl Select Switch: This Switch has three positions: CV2 (resonance), Off, and CV3 (Ibanez IMG2010 whammy bar, pressing down). In the CV2 position, turning the CV2 (or resonance) control on the guitar synth controller generates a EV-5 output voltage from the CTL OUT jack. In the CV3 position, pressing down on the virtual whammy bar on an Ibanez IMG2010 guitar will generate a EV-5 output voltage from the CTL OUT jack. The Off position disables this feature.
- **9. Ctl Out:** This jack outputs a EV-5 standard control voltage signal to any Roland guitar synthesizer with an EV-5 input. Synthesizers with EV-5 inputs include the VG-88, VG-99, GI-10, or GI-20.
- **10. EV-5 In:** This input allows a Roland EV-5 or EV-5 compatible pedal to vary the output of the standard (humbucker) output or hex fuzz from the guitar. Do not connect a cable from the **EV-5 In** to the **Ctl Out**.

#### SWITCH FUNCTIONS

The **BX-13 V3** changes some of the functions of vintage G-Series controllers to match new, 13-pin functions.

- **Master Volume** knob is now for Guitar Volume only. This knob changes the volume of the Guitar when a cable is connected to the standard 1/4" output jack on the guitar.
- **Guitar Tone** Knob controls the tone of the guitar's normal sound.

- Filter Knob, or CV#1, becomes the volume control for the Synthesizer.
- **Resonance Knob**, or CV#2, can be used to generate an EV-5 control signal.
- Mode Switch becomes S1 and S2. The function of S1 and S2 changes depends on the **GK Function** setting of the guitar synthesizer.

### CALIBRATION

This is the procedure to precisely calibrate the synthesizer output of the BX-13 V3.

- 1. Rotate the Synth Volume knob to minimum: Turn the BX-13 V3 top panel synth volume control knob counterclockwise to fully minimum.
- 2. Rotate the Filter or CV#1 Volume knob to maximum: Turn the filter, or CV #1 control knob on the guitar fully clockwise to maximum.
- 3. Slowly increase BX-13 V3 Synth Volume: Slowly turn the BX-13 V3 top panel synth volume control knob clockwise. If you have a guitar synthesizer like the VG-88 which displays the output level, stop turning when the level reaches

100. If your synth displays MIDI volume, stop turning at level 127. If your synth does not display the output level, play your guitar while turning the knob until the output reaches maximum. Typically, the **BX-13 V3** top panel synth volume control knob will be in the "3 o'clock" position, with the white pointer aimed at the **Fuzz/Guitar** switch.

4. VG-88: To monitor the output level on the VG-88, press the GUITAR edit button. Next press the PAGE RIGHT arrow twice. You should see the EQ/PAN/MIXER page. Press the F6 EDIT button. On the right side of the display is the LEVEL indicator that shows the output.

### SIGNAL FLOW



## SPECIFICATIONS

#### **BX-13 V3 Bus Converter:**

- **Connectors:** One 24-pin input connector, one 13-pin output connector, 2 1/4" standard phone jacks for EV-5 pedal input (guitar volume) and Ctl Output (EV-5 control voltage out).
- **Dimensions:** 6(W) x 8(D) x 2 3/4(H) inches
- · Weight: 1 lbs 5 oz

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