
Subject: Favorite sleeper mics?

Posted by [Dedric Terry](#) on Sat, 01 Jul 2006 16:45:24 GMT

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Well,

My two best vocal mics both went south (how inconsiderate of them) and while I'm waiting for repairs I decided to see what was out there in the low cost, great value market (diamonds in the rough?) for LDC mics just in case I get in a pinch and rental isn't an option - any suggestions? I don't really want to spend more than \$200 as it would just be an emergency backup, and I may rent anyway, but any range is of interest if only out of curiosity.

When I recently found my vocal mic for the session that day (and my last good one) had developed a terminal case of buzz and hum (not cables unfortunately - probably a cap or the power supply), I had to fall back to a Chinoknockoff \$99 LDC from Pacific Pro Audio that I had bought a few years ago on a whim.

Despite my expectations, the PPA mic actually sounded good - much better than I expected. The high mids and highs were better on this vocalist (female) than the mic that died. No sibilance problems - easy to EQ (proximity and sensitivity isn't consistent, and low mids aren't great on male vocals, but for this it worked). Hmm. My brain knows this mic can't be that good (didn't fare so well on the key jangling test, or on a male R&B vocalist, but...\$99 is only \$99) - hey, if it works, it works. It still isn't the best of the inexpensive knockoffs though...

So, what other sleeper mics are out there that are clear, clean, and as smooth as one can expect for that price (other than the Studio Projects C1)?

Regards,
Dedric

Subject: Re: Favorite sleeper mics?

Posted by [gene lennon](#) on Sat, 01 Jul 2006 16:55:00 GMT

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One sleeper for male vocals is the Shure SM7b, which sells for around 350, but goes on eBay for just over 200 used.

units like the shinybox 23C. If you do go with a ribbon you need a preamp with lots of clean gain. (about 60db)

Gene

Dedric Terry <dterry@keyofd.net> wrote:

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>Regards,

>Dedric

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Subject: Re: Favorite sleeper mics?

Posted by [Deej \[1\]](#) on Sat, 01 Jul 2006 17:20:19 GMT

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The new SE ribbon mic has lots of output and is a wonderful vocal mic. I'm using one in my rehearsal room right now with a Mackie VLZ preamp. (course, it's a bit more than \$200.00)

Deej

"gene lennon" <glennon@NOSPmyrealbox.com> wrote in message
news:44a6a8e4\$1@linux...

>
> One sleeper for male vocals is the Shure SM7b, which sells for around 350,
> but goes on eBay for just over 200 used.

>
> I like ribbons on female Id, but I haven't tried any of the new low cost
> units like the shinybox 23C. If you do go with a ribbon you need a preamp
> with lots of clean gain. (about 60db)

>
> Gene

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Subject: Re: Favorite sleeper mics?
Posted by [wmarkwilson](#) on Sat, 01 Jul 2006 18:10:09 GMT
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Hey Dedric, I bought one of these on your recom. Still have it, still lean on it. Great mic.

W.

"Dedric Terry" <dterry@keyofd.net> wrote in message
news:C0CC02C4.1824%dterry@keyofd.net...

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Subject: Re: Favorite sleeper mics?
Posted by [Dedic Terry](#) on Sat, 01 Jul 2006 19:17:22 GMT
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Hey Mark,

I had forgotten about that. It sounds like I liked it at the time :-). It is interesting that some of these mics do turn out to be a bargain of sorts. I had forgotten about mine until recently.

Regards,
Dedic

On 7/1/06 12:10 PM, in article 44a6b982\$1 @linux, "W. Mark Wilson" <wmarkwilson@integrity.com> wrote:

> Hey Dedic, I bought one of these on your recom. Still have it, still lean
> on it. Great mic.
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> "Dedic Terry" <dterry@keyofd.net> wrote in message
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Subject: Re: Favorite sleeper mics?

Posted by [Dubya Mark Wilson](#) on Sat, 01 Jul 2006 20:40:14 GMT

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Mine doesn't do the car key test very well but fortunately I'm not recording car keys. I think the PPA is a 797 Audio with Pacific Pro Audio's label on it. Haven't looked into it deeply but I think that was confirmed by someone in the know.

W.

"Dedic Terry" <dterry@keyofd.net> wrote in message
news:C0CC2662.183B%dterry@keyofd.net...

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> I had forgotten about that. It sounds like I liked it at the time :-).

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Subject: Re: Favorite sleeper mics?
Posted by [Dedic Terry](#) on Sat, 01 Jul 2006 21:17:22 GMT
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I think I had heard the same thing about the PPA.

I actually did record car keys recently, but used a different mic.

I'm considering mixing a little car keys with my cow bell tracks. I think it will be a nice touch to my Christmas project: "The First CowBell".

Regards,
Dedic

On 7/1/06 2:40 PM, in article 44a6dcb0\$1@linux, "Dubya Mark Wilson" <mark.xspam@avidrecording.com> wrote:

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>>>> Detric
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Subject: Re: Favorite sleeper mics?
Posted by [Rob Arsenault](#) on Sat, 01 Jul 2006 23:37:09 GMT
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Check out this MXL, very affordable and impressive, sounds great.

http://www.digitalprosound.com/2003/07_jul/reviews/mxl_v69.htm

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Subject: Re: Favorite sleeper mics?

Posted by [Carl Amburn](#) on Sun, 02 Jul 2006 00:28:02 GMT

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Man, I love my CAD E100's and E-II. I think the E200 & E300 lines are sweet as well. They aren't the quietest mics in the world - and they are super-hot (high level). Takes a little getting used to. You can find these pretty cheap nowadays too - especially on eBay.

-Carl

"Dedric Terry" <dterry@keyofd.net> wrote in message
news:C0CC02C4.1824%dterry@keyofd.net...

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Subject: Re: Favorite sleeper mics?

Posted by [Dubya Mark Wilson](#) on Sun, 02 Jul 2006 04:54:31 GMT

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Carl, isn't the EII the same thing as the E200? I got my E200 in 1994. Was
the EII before or after?

W.

"Carl Amburn" <carlamburn@hotmail.com> wrote in message
news:44a711dd@linux...

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