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Subject: grace m101 vs Presonus Tube Pre vs. Behringer ADA8000

Posted by [Mike Audet](#) on Wed, 24 Dec 2008 02:51:07 GMT

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Hi Guys,

I just spent my first couple of hours with a grace m101. It's definitely the best mic preamp I've ever owned. I learned a lot from comparing it to my older ones, too. I recorded the same thing on acoustic guitar through all three mic pres with a 4050 pointed at the neck joint from about 10 inches away.

The m101: bright, full, but the biggest thing I noticed was how you could hear every nuance of the pick hitting every single string. It was like the sound had more texture than I'm used to. There is a percussive dimension that is missing or lesser on the other mic pres.

The Presonus Tube Pre: Brighter than the m101 and not as full. All that texture/percussive quality of the m101 is missing with the Tube Pre. It's like a whole dimension of the sound is missing - because it is. It sounds plastic, like a sock is muffling all the percussive content of the sound.

The ADA800: It's not as bright as the other two, but it's fuller than the Presonus. As for the texture dimension, it's about half way between the Tube Pre and the m101. This surprised me because I expected it to come in last. The Tube Pre was an upgrade to my ears above the Mackie XDR preamps that I used to have, and the mic pres in the ADA800 are significantly better than the Tube Pre.

I'd recommend the m101 to anyone. You can never eq back in what the Tube Pre leaves out. Way cool.

I hope this mini review is useful to someone.

Mike

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