

So I'll just say, 'Look – forget everything except the music, just put it on and listen to it, and if you still hate it, then that's fine.' Everyone's got their own view on things, but I've found that people who've actually listened to it tend to like it."

You've obviously been careful to avoid the posthumous-Jimi-album, 'Crash Landing' syndrome.

"Yes, I didn't even want to put a picture

of Jimi on the cover. It would have been really wrong to say that this was a Hendrix album; it's *not* a Hendrix album. Although it's a darned sight closer to a Hendrix album than eighty per cent of the so-called Hendrix albums that are out there! And it's selling quite well, considering that not many people know it's out. It seems to be selling on the basis of people buying it, taking it home and saying 'Hey, have a

listen to this', and their friends go 'That's pretty cool!'

The sleeve of 'If 60s were 90s' features a quote from Hendrix himself, which reads: 'When I die I want people to play my music, go wild and freak out, and do anything they want to do.' Du Kane and Beautiful People have probably followed his words to the letter; in fact, somewhere or other, Jimi is probably smiling.

Sadowsky Outboard Bass Preamp

Preamps are one possible answer to those vague sound and tone-related problems we all experience from time to time – those times when you feel your sound *needs* that extra something, but you can't quite put your finger on what it is.

Having been quite impressed with the

Layout

This unit contains the same impressive electronics as the renowned Sadowsky basses. It's very portable at around five inches deep, three inches wide and one and a quarter inches high; it weighs eight ounces, and comes complete with a belt clip – although this can be easily removed if you just want to sit the preamp on top of your rig.

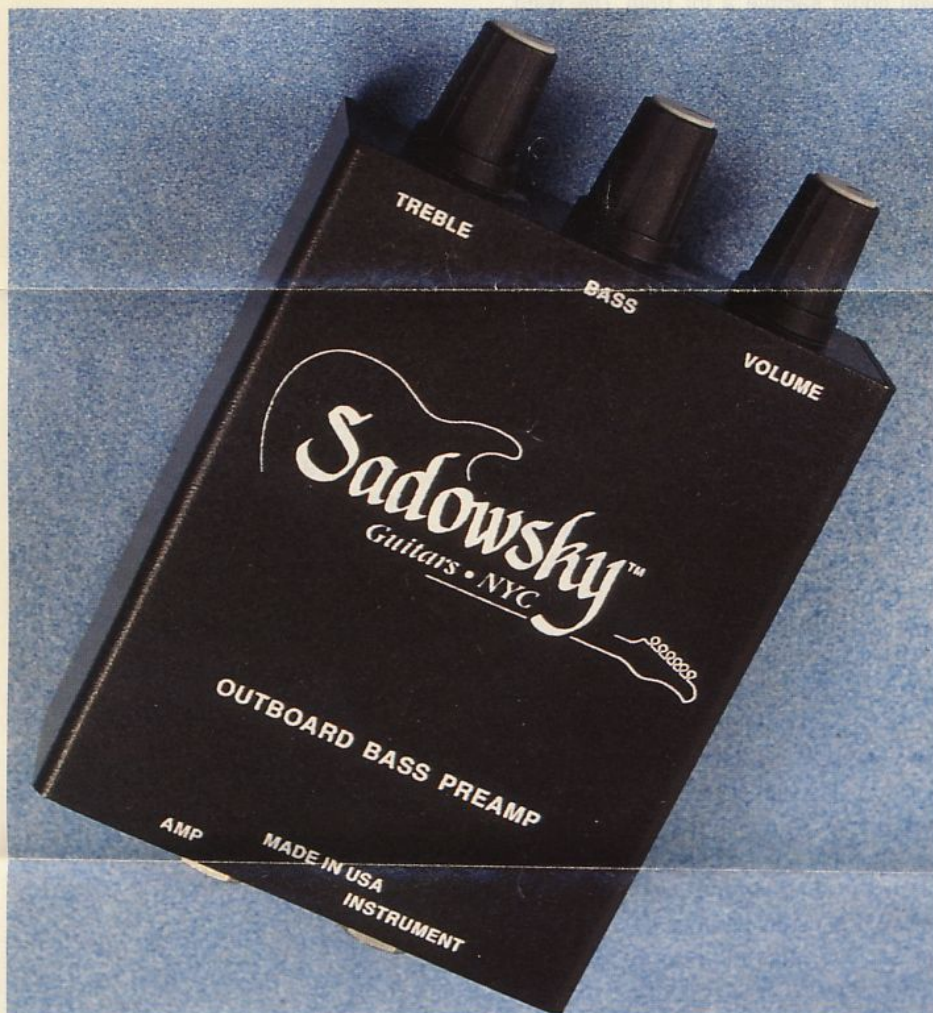
The Sadowsky bass preamp is a boost-

in, the Sadowsky preamp circuitry provides significant boost to both the bass and the treble frequencies, with impressive separation. It's a powerful device, and I certainly found no need to go anywhere near the maximum settings in order to achieve a bright, ringing treble accompanied by a fat and equally satisfying bass sound.

In fact, the Sadowsky is more than a preamp for electric basses only; it could be a definite asset when used with an acoustic bass, too, as you can use it as a kind of mixer to both lift the sound and smooth out the inconsistencies you get when amplifying this type of instrument.

Conclusion

The Sadowsky is a well-designed and well-built device capable of significantly enhancing bass sound. This unit would be best suited to passive electric bass guitars – such as standard Precisions and Jazzes, for instance – and so it could well provide a solution for 'vintage bass' players who would like to give their sound some lift without corrupting the original specifications and internal circuitry of their instrument. At £179 it's not cheap, but it's cheaper than taking a chisel to your '64 Fender. ■



results gained from a medium gain preamp wired into a Fender Precision, I subsequently had the opportunity of trying a totally outboard bass preamp manufactured by Sadowsky Guitars, a unit which boasts an impressive user list that includes names like Marcus Miller, Will Lee and Bernard Edwards.

only device. It operates on the 40Hz and 4kHz frequencies up to a maximum gain of +13dB, and there are individual controls for volume, treble and bass, plus instrument in/amp out jack sockets. All that's required in the way of power is a 9V battery, which should provide you with approximately 800 hours of use. Plugging

SPEC CHECK

Sadowsky Bass Preamp

Price:	£179
Size:	5" x 3" x 1/4"
Weight:	8 ounces
Power:	9v battery
Features:	volume, treble and bass controls, with a maximum gain of +13dB. Belt clip included

Available through your local dealer, or contact the Bass Centre on 071 265 1567.