



1742 Selby Av.  
St. Paul, MN 55104  
651-690-2246  
atma-sphere.com

ATMA-SPHERE PREAMPLIFIER

model Ultraviolet preamp  
OWNER'S MANUAL

Please study this document carefully before using equipment



RoHS

## CONGRATULATIONS!

You have purchased one of the world's finest preamplifiers. It has seen over thirty years of development and represents a level of performance that others will be struggling to achieve for years to come.

Every part of the preamplifier has been extensively tested and engineered so the product will perform flawlessly for years to come, with little if any service.

Please read the manual carefully and follow the instructions closely. If you have any questions, **do not hesitate** to contact your dealer and always feel free to contact us at ATMA-SPHERE MUSIC SYSTEMS. Here's to many years of happy listening!

Sincerely,

Ralph Karsten

## LIMITED WARRANTY ON ATMA-SPHERE MUSIC SYSTEMS PRODUCTS

This warranty on your ATMA-SPHERE MUSIC SYSTEMS product, which is distributed and warranted by ATMA-SPHERE MUSIC SYSTEMS, shall remain in effect for three (3) years from the date of consumer purchase, provided the enclosed registration form is completed and returned to ATMA-SPHERE MUSIC SYSTEMS within ten days of purchase.

### WHAT IS COVERED:

Except as specified below, this warranty covers all defects in materials and workmanship. The following are NOT covered by the three year limited warranty:

- \* Tubes are covered for 1 year, with the following exclusions, as per the rest of the warranty:
- \* Damage occurring during shipment (present claims to carrier).
- \* Damage resulting from failure or inability to follow proper instructions.
- \* Damage resulting from the performance of repairs or modifications by other than ATMA-SPHERE MUSIC SYSTEMS.

### WHAT WE WILL PAY FOR:

ATMA-SPHERE MUSIC SYSTEMS will pay for all labor and material expenses for repairs covered by this warranty.

### HOW TO OBTAIN WARRANTY SERVICE:

If your unit requires repairs covered by this warranty, you MUST obtain a return authorization number from ATMA-SPHERE MUSIC SYSTEMS. You are responsible for transporting the unit to ATMA-SPHERE MUSIC SYSTEMS, 1742 Selby Av., St. Paul, Minn. 55104. You must pay the initial shipping charges, but ATMA-SPHERE MUSIC SYSTEMS will pay the return charges, if the repairs are covered by the warranty. All products MUST be shipped in the original carton(s) or in replacement cartons supplied by ATMA-SPHERE MUSIC SYSTEMS. Contact ATMA-SPHERE MUSIC SYSTEMS for replacement cartons and cost.

LIABILITY IS LIMITED TO THE REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT, AT OUR OPTION, OF ANY DEFECTIVE PRODUCT AND SHALL IN NO EVENT INCLUDE INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGE OF ANY KIND.

This warranty is transferable. Implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose are limited in duration to the length of this warranty. This warranty sets forth all expressed warranties made with regard to the above referenced product. We neither assume nor authorize any other liability in connection with the sale or any shipment of products. This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state. We reserve the right to make changes and improvements in our products without incurring any obligation to similarly alter products previously purchased.

## PREAMPLIFIER SETUP AND OPERATION

Unpack the preamplifier carefully. Save the shipping container for future shipment. Warranty may be void if the unit is shipped in a different container. If you do not have a container, contact ATMA-SPHERE MUSIC SYSTEMS for a replacement.

Install the tubes; the types are marked on the chassis.

During operation, the preamp gets warm. If the preamplifier is to be placed in a shelf or rack mount system, allow for at least 3 inches of open space above the unit to avoid overheating.

After the preamplifier is properly positioned, make sure that the main power switch is in the OFF position. Connect the cables for the various components to be used with the preamplifier.

To maximize performance the Ultraviolet does not use a muting circuit! **Allow the preamplifier to warm up and stabilize before energizing your power amplifiers.** Muting circuits interfere with sound quality. Although the DC offsets generated during warmup are low level, this may be a problem for some amplifiers and speakers.

**WARNING! DO NOT TURN ON THE AMPLIFIERS IN YOUR SYSTEM UNTIL THE PREAMPLIFIER IS STABILIZED. DAMAGE TO SPEAKERS, AMPLIFIERS OR BOTH MAY RESULT!**

It takes about 30 seconds from turn on before the preamp is ready for use. The preamplifier will sound significantly better after about 45 minutes of operation.

### OPERATING NOTES

The Ultraviolet takes about 1 or 2 hours to sound its best although it is quite musical after only 15 minutes. There is no need to run the unit 24 hours a day, but if you do, test the tubes once every four months. Allow for a few weeks of normal operation to break in the unit; subtle but lucid improvements will be noticed.

Adjust the Balance control for proper channel balance. Some minor adjustment is sometimes required as the Ultraviolet is a zero feedback design. The balance control is of the shunt variety and most of the effect will be seen at the extremes of the control.

### PHONOGRAPH HOOKUP

Connect the cable from your tone arm to the phono inputs. Connect the ground wire to the ground post adjacent to the inputs.

The Ultraviolet is highly resistant to Radio Frequency Interference (RFI) problems. For best results, the phono cable should be shielded.

A step-up transformer is available for cartridges below 1mv.

## NOTES ON TUBES

Many NOS tubes can provide improved sound in the Ultraviolet. If you are using a low output cartridge, you may find that its not a good idea to use them in the phono section; these days its not easy to find truly quiet 12AT7s! Only buy from a reputable vendor, with proper assurance that the tubes can be returned if they are unsatisfactory! We advise that you do not go overboard with NOS tube types, as the prices paid for the results can be high compared to other changes you can make, fleeting, or both.

Each 12AT7 is the complete phono section for that channel. Each 6SN7 is the complete line stage for that channel.

Tube damping rings are recommended.

**\*NEVER\*** use Tweek or other contact enhancers on vacuum tubes, their sockets or the volume control! Such use voids the warranty.

## TROUBLESHOOTING TIPS

Front panel lamp doesn't light up: Check the rear panel fuse (1 Amp slow blow) and verify that the power cord is plugged in.

Buzz, hum: Make sure that the power cord is plugged into a properly grounded outlet and that the preamp is well clear of hum sources like power transformers in other equipment.

One or both channels out: Check all tubes. If you are not qualified, do not remove the cover. Hazardous or lethal voltages are present with the cover removed. Refer service to qualified service personnel.

Noisy phono section: Replace the 12AT7s in the phono section.

Low output from one channel: Check tubes.

NEVER, EVER, USE TWEAK OR ANY CONTACT ENHANCER ON TUBE SOCKETS! Tweek is resistive at vacuum-tube voltages. This will destroy the tube sockets and possibly the circuit boards!

If none of these suggestions help, contact your dealer or ATMA-SPHERE MUSIC SYSTEMS.

## WARRANTY REGISTRATION FORM

IMPORTANT: This form must be filled out and returned to ATMA-SPHERE MUSIC SYSTEMS within 10 days of purchase to validate the warranty! Please type or

print clearly.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City or town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_

Name of dealership \_\_\_\_\_

**UV-1 preamp** Date of purchase \_\_\_\_\_ serial # \_\_\_\_\_ price paid \_\_\_\_\_

Optional section for our records and information:

Comments concerning your dealer \_\_\_\_\_

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Comments concerning this product \_\_\_\_\_

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list the components in your system \_\_\_\_\_

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comments, suggestions \_\_\_\_\_

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MAIL TO: ATMA-SPHERE MUSIC SYSTEMS, 1742 Selby Av., St. Paul, MN 55104 USA