



▶ **EVENTIDE MIXINGLINK**

Eventide’s MixingLink™ defies easy categorization. It is a battery-powered stomp box that has an XLR microphone/DI pre-amp (48-volt phantom power from included power supply), a mono effect loop with onboard mixer and auxiliary send/return paths and a clear-sounding stereo headphone amp. MixingLink will act as a nexus for interconnecting disparate audio sources and processors each with different audio operating levels, impedances and connectors. It’ll accept line, microphone and instrument levels.

In the studio I used MixingLink as a pre-amp for an additional microphone recording input. I liked that its line level output goes directly to the DAW interface—no console required. In addition, the FX Loop allows for any pedal to be inserted in the recording path within MixingLink itself. The FX Loop send and return support balanced and unbalanced signals.

There are three mixing control knob effect modes. Dry+Fx keeps the dry signal level fixed and the knob sets the effect level. The knob changes to a wet/dry control in Mix mode, and FX Only mode mutes the dry signal with the knob setting the effect level.

Ideal for any creative and adventurous producer looking for a new sound or technique, MixingLink is superb for interconnecting any and all pieces of gear together.

An ingenious electronic design packed into a small box, MixingLink sells for \$299 MSRP. eventide.com

▶ **ZIVIX JAMSTIK+**

The Zivix jamstik+ controller uses lighting-fast infrared light sensing technology to track finger placement and provide real-time feedback. As a guitar-learning tool, this ability catches fingering mistakes before they become bad habits. jamstik+ is portable, lightweight and wirelessly connects via Bluetooth to any iOS device or Android Marshmallow OS.

The new picking system with a Fishman magnetic pickup makes all the guitarist’s repertoire of tricks, such as tapping and pull-offs, possible with this small five-fret instrument. jamstik+ has real strings, frets and no need to ever tune. The jamTutor app series takes you through lessons interactively, step-by-step, making it easy if it’s your first time with a guitar or just want to get back into playing. Using the Four Chords app allows you to play more than 1,000 popular songs.

You can practice anywhere using your ear buds or connect your device to a speaker or amp and play along with GarageBand® and hundreds of other existing MIDI apps.

The Zivix jamstik+ sells for \$299 MSRP and includes jamTutor guitar lesson series, jamstik+ and jamMix apps. jamstik.com



▼ **JOEY STURGIS FINALITY LIMITER PLUG-IN**

Joey Sturgis Tones’ new Finality limiter comes in both full-featured Advanced and Lite versions. I tested the AAX64 version in Pro Tools HDX 12.4 and found Finality Advanced offered a full complement of controls including Look Ahead for anticipating loud peaks before they occur. Look Ahead is adjustable from 0.01ms to 5ms.

Besides Input, Release, Threshold, Output and Wet/Dry controls, Finality Advanced has the Aggro switch that changes the shape of the release time curve. The Color mode adds saturation to the signal—I found it noticeable on the low frequencies within a Finality-processed stereo drum overhead track. The default Hard Mode position caused a faster release from deeper gain reductions.

Finality Advanced has a well-featured side-chain system with side-chain monitoring, and adjustable (up to 12kHz) high pass filter. There is also Auto Gain for automatically adjusting make up gain.

Finality Advanced offers just the right amount of controls to arrive at just the right processing for any source. I liked the Mode switch choices and the Color switch’s saturation sound. I found Finality Advanced great for drums—it is aggressive and vibey sounding.

I also tried Finality Lite. It is a “bare bones” version of this limiter with the same sonic presence as Advanced. Finality Advanced sells for \$89 MSRP and \$59 MSRP for Lite. joeysturgistones.com/products/finality



▶ **EASTWEST SOLO CELLO**

Recorded in Studio 1 at EastWest Studios in Hollywood, CA where the Hollywood Orchestra collection was produced, the EastWest Solo Instruments series “fit” right in with the same consistent sound and ambience. Solo Instruments is a realistic instrument collection that includes EastWest’s Solo Cello, Solo Harp and, coming soon, the Solo Violin collections. Solo Instruments are part of the EastWest’s Composer Cloud.

Produced by Doug Rogers and Nick Phoenix and engineered by Shawn Murphy, Solo Instruments is the latest addition to the Hollywood series.

Hollywood Solo Cello features a large number of different instrument files, categorized into long, short, key switch and legato types. Hollywood Solo Cello can use articulations to generate long sounds, including sustaining instruments with varying levels of vibrato or special playing styles like flautando and tremolo.

There are different types of legato instruments that include multiple sample layers to handle different aspects of legato playing. MIDI Continuous Controllers are used to control loudness, dynamic layers and/or vibrato depths that allow users to shape musical lines the way a live musician does.

Currently a free trial is being offered. soundsonline.com/composercloud



BARRY RUDOLPH is a recording engineer/mixer who has worked on over 30 gold and platinum records. He has recorded and/or mixed Lynyrd Skynyrd, Hall & Oates, Pat Benatar, Rod Stewart, the Corrs and more. Barry has his own futuristic music mixing facility and loves teaching audio engineering at Musician’s Institute, Hollywood, CA. He is a lifetime Grammy-voting member of NARAS and a contributing editor for *Mix Magazine*. barryrudolph.com

Mojave



MA-1000 SIGNATURE SERIES

"Thanks for letting me test out the new microphone - it was spectacular. When expectations are so high for a product you always hope for the best and Mojave delivered!"

Mike Clink

(Guns N' Roses, Metallica, Megadeth, Mötley Crüe)

mojaveaudio.com



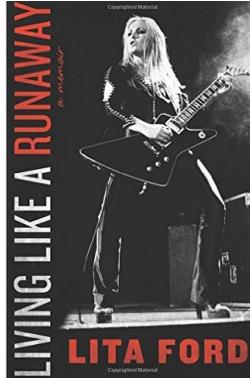
Follow us on   

BOOK STORE

Living Like a Runaway: A Memoir

By Lita Ford
(hardcover) \$26.99

Ford reveals the ups and downs of her life as the lead guitarist of the pioneering all-female band, The Runaways, and her platinum-selling, Grammy-nominated solo career. Often referred to as heavy metal's leading

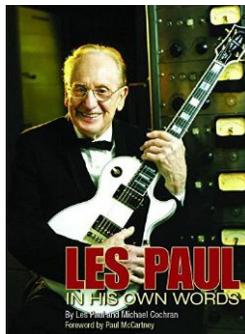


guitar player, Ford opens up about the '70s and '80s music scene—including her bandmates in The Runaways, guitar god Ritchie Blackmore, The Sex Pistols, The Ramones and many more. Some nice tips for guitarists in here, too.

Les Paul in His Own Words

By Les Paul, Michael Cochran
(softcover) \$29.99

First published as a collector's edition in 2009, this is the first-ever paperback version, and it recounts how this legend toiled away to launch a new era in American popular music. It's fun

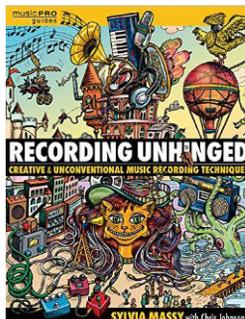


to read how Paul created the first solid-body electric guitar by taking a tone arm from his father's phonograph and sticking it into his five-dollar guitar. This book is packed with words of insight from this unique, multi-talented contributor to modern music.

Recording Unhinged

By Sylvia Massy
(hardcover) \$29.99

Challenging the reader to think outside of the box when recording music, Massy (Tool, Prince, Tom Petty) and her colleagues of celebrity music industry producers, engineers and recording stars test established guidelines and delve into approaches that aren't normally done to produce compelling, intimate,

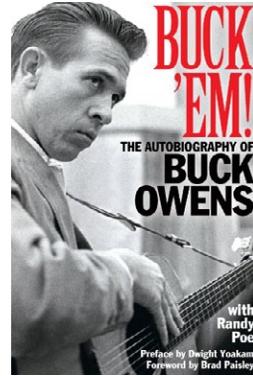


heartbreaking and eerie recordings. With good humor Massy includes tips by Hans Zimmer, Al Schmitt, Bruce Swedien, Dave Pensado, Tchad Blake, Linda Perry, Michael Franti, Michael Beinhorn, Bob Ezrin and many others.

Buck 'Em!

By Buck Owens, Randy Poe
(softcover) \$19.99

Based on 100 hours of taped interviews, this book traces how the Country Music Hall of Famer Buck Owens created a new country sound, putting Bakersfield, CA on the

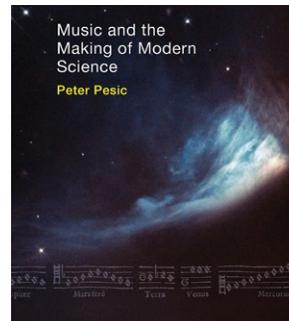


country music map. Owens also relates how he became one of the first country artists to create his own publishing company, his negotiations with Capitol Records, his acquisition of radio stations and the creation of the Crystal Palace, a cherished music venue in the U.S.

Music and the Making of Modern Science

By Peter Pesic
(hardcover) \$40.00

From Descartes to Kepler, Plato to Newton, music has offered wide-ranging influence on science, and still does. Pesic's book reveals exploration of music and science co-mingling.

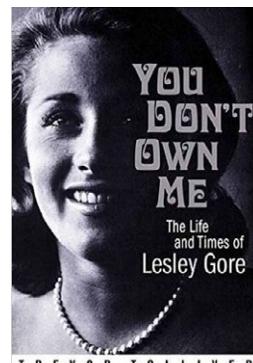


Key moments in science are examined, including the establishment of irrational numbers, planetary motion, optics, electromagnetism, and quantum physics, as well as these moments' relations to music.

You Don't Own Me: The Life and Times of Lesley Gore

By Trevor Tolliver
(hardcover) \$24.99

Sixteen-year-old Lesley Gore rose to fame in 1963. But beneath the bubblegum facade was a girl squirming against social and professional



pressures to simply be herself. Author Tolliver's *You Don't Own Me* chronicles the singer's rise to fame, her devastating fall and struggle for relevance in the '70s, and her re-emergence as a songwriter, political activist and camp icon.