

BACK TO THE FUTURE

IT'S AFFORDABLE, IT HAS KT66 TUBES, AND IT'S INSPIRED BY THE TONES OF THE 1960s AND '70s – MARSHALL'S NEW AMP LOOKS LIKE IT'LL BE TOP OF THE LIST FOR CLASSIC ROCK PLAYERS EVERYWHERE

There's no denying the general trend towards classic-era-inspired tube amps of late, with much misty-eyed nostalgia surrounding Marshall's fabled late-'60s and 1970s stacks. So it's with great excitement that *Guitar Buyer* learned of the new Vintage Modern series amplifiers from the British rock legend.

The Vintage Modern series is what many of us have been waiting for; a large dollop of the vintage tonal attributes of Marshall's lovely – albeit relatively expensive – Hand Wired amps, in a more affordable all-valve design.

1960s, '70s & BEYOND

At the heart of the Vintage Modern amplifiers (available in 100- and 50-watt heads, and a 50-watt 2x12 combo) is a KT66 power section, the same output tubes used in the

much-lauded 1962 'Bluesbreaker' combo, as used by Eric Clapton among notable others in the mid-1960s. At the preamp end, there are two gain controls called 'detail' and 'body' that are 'frequency selective'; that's to say you can boost the high- and low-end independently to get your optimum tone. From our initial play tests and demos, the responsiveness and flexibility from the guitar's volume control is extremely impressive. There's also a mid-boost feature.

This is a single-channel amp, but with the addition of a footswitchable 'dynamic range' function. 'Low range' is more classic '60s-style Marshall, while 'high range' adds gain for a more 1970s Master-Volume-and-beyond response. The accompanying cabinets are loaded

with 25-watt Celestion G12C Greenback speakers, created for the Jimi Hendrix Signature stack.

Add a master volume, series effects loop, reverb and the cool, purple-tinged Levant covering, and this is without doubt one of the most hotly anticipated Marshalls in decades, not least with the 2266 50-watt head at just £673, and still manufactured in the UK, too.

Don't miss next month's issue, where we'll have a full, in-depth review of the 50w half-stack and 50-watt 2x12 combo. **GB**

For more information, see www.marshallamps.co.uk



■ About time too! The simple, all-tube 50-watt 2x12 combo, yours for £796

■ The full stack: The Vintage Modern 2466 100-watt head is priced at £757

■ 50-watt half stack: cabinets are £490, loaded with Celestion G12C Greenbacks