Subject: Preamp suggestions
Posted by Shane on Sun, 14 Oct 2012 16:23:33 GMT
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Hopefully I'll have a little money to invest in a preamp this fall after our financial audit at work gets done = bonus.

I've been looking at several different kits and was wondering your opinions on them.

First up is the Hagerman Clarinet. I actually bought the high dollar film caps and resistors to build this then Jim ran out of boards over a year ago. He has recently reordered boards so it's back on my radar. I would most likely build my own chassis for this pre as I think spending upwards of $150 on the chassis is ludicris. I've never read a bad review on the Clarinet.

Here's a link to the Clarinet for your reference:
http://www.hagtech.com/clarinet.html

Next up is the OddWatt Forewatt preamp. I've heard the Forewatt and remember it sounding nice in the Oddwatt system. Bruce is a great guy so I'm sure build support would be there in spades. A bonus is that I don't have to build a chassis for it.

Here's the link to the Forewatt:
http://oddwattaudio.com/owforewatt.html

My last choice is the Audiotropic Moebius. This has been on my radar for many years now and I remember hearing one at the GPAF and was quite impressed. It's a simple topology and Eric has been very helpful in answering my questions and giving advice in the past. The chassis is straightforward and unique as well.

Here are the links to the Moebius:
http://www.audiotropic.net/Products/mobius.html
http://www.audiotropic.net/Projects/Mobius/mobiusProj.html

All in all I think that these three kits should be comparable in build price, with the Clarinet being a tad more than the other two.

Any pros or cons you can think to share would be helpful.

As a side note, this will be getting used with my Darling 1626 amp, Bottlehead Seduction, a couple of SS receivers, and my ST-35 if I ever get that finished.