

# ALEXANDER PEDALS

## SUPER RADICAL DELAY

REVIEW BY **DAVID A. EVANS**  
STREET PRICE **\$329.99**



The '80s seems to be the decade that simply won't go away. Even with Gray's Sports Almanac in hand, a person couldn't have predicted that in 2016, Alexander Pedals would try to bring a little bit of the '80s back to the future. This time around, the company has introduced us to its Super Radical Delay, a pedal which incorporates a crystal-clear 920 millisecond delay with some iconic '80s modulation effects.

The Super Radical Delay is a delay pedal which offers users the opportunity to "massage" the delayed signal. But the pedal can also function

as a modulation pedal independent of the delay function. So, if the Mix knob is cranked to the full "wet" setting while the Time knob is cranked down (no delay), the pedal will apply the modulation effects without any delay. Most people who buy a delay pedal will do so because they want delay, but it's good to know that Alexander's pedal can do a bit more.

Of the four modulation settings, Mod is the closest the pedal comes to straightforward delay: it's clear, it's there, and it'll do the job for you if you're looking for some slapback echo or some space-

sounds for an extended jam session. However, with a bit of adjustment, Mod also produces a distinctly '80s, metallic-sheen chorus effect. Depending on the knob settings, the Super Radical Delay can add the chorus to the delayed or to the dry, non-delayed signal. Basically, the pedal will double as a chorus effect if need be.

Glitch mode operates like a bit crushing effect, which for the most part was fairly tame and glistening. But, if the Range is cranked up all the way along with the Repeats, the pedal will produce a wavelike sound that tends to break up as

the trough of the wave is reached. It's actually a pretty cool sound, even though my best description of it might be "sea lion barking."

The third mode, Bend, operates as a pitch bender whose intervals can go from and octave lower than the inputted note to at least an octave higher. The repeats are reprocessed, of course, so if the first delayed note is shifted up one octave, then the second repeat of that same note will sound two octaves higher than the original note.

Finally, the Flow mode uses a resonant filter to provide what Alexander describes as a "liquid effect." Without any dry signal mixed in, the Flow mode was clearly a resonant filter whose slow-open sound would fit right in to a DJ's mix.

In addition to its modulation effects, the Super Radical Delay offers up to 128 presets. That number pretty much blows the competition out of the water, especially for pedals of this size. Alexander accomplished this feat by incorporating

MIDI controllability, which is itself accessible through a traditional MIDI cable or a more contemporary USB-Mini B cable. Now, the Super Radical Delay can—without any MIDI help—access three presets and identify the preset with its LEDs. Changing one of these three presets simply requires holding down the sturdy Bypass/Preset button. For the other 126 presets (perhaps all needed for one song), one must use a MIDI controller.

Considering all the merits of the Super Radical Delay, it seems that Alexander brought back some of the better things about the '80s. Sometimes retro crazes become a little tired, but in the case of the Super Radical Delay, tone hounds might once again want to go back in time.

## WHAT WE LIKE

Crisp, clean delay with a few of those distinct 80s modulation effects that we all love. 128 presets!

## CONCERNS

The blue LEDs on the pedal's face were bright. Normally I wouldn't point this out, but at times I felt that I had to shield my eyes while adjusting the settings.