

# University of Miami Frost School of Music

## *DI-Pro-P1 Review*

I believe it was a trade magazine review that turned me on to your P-1 direct box. A guitar-playing friend of mine with a home recording setup was about to have a birthday, so based on the review I decided to buy him one and at the same time take the opportunity to compare it to whatever else I could get my hands on. Our department within the Frost School of Music uses custom-built passive boxes that employ Jensen transformers, and we have Whirlwind active boxes for specialized applications. When the solid but small P-1 arrived, we happened to be setting up for a recital which involved a Martin 6-string acoustic and an electric bass. Those players were able to contribute an L.R. Baggs active and a Radial passive, so we had ourselves a little shootout between the five different boxes.

I must say that I've never taken the opportunity to do this test before. I'm very particular with microphones, but somehow always expected to fix any direct input problems with EQ. The results were astonishing! Some of the sounds were muddy, others brittle, others had no bottom end to speak of, and most sounded "processed" or "phasey" in some way. The P-1 stood out with a clear, full frequency signal in the same way that a nice condenser microphone compares with a low-cost dynamic. The difference was not subtle. Plus, this box still puts the transformer in there for you which can really help with stray hums & buzzes -- you get the best of both worlds!

I've just ordered 10 of these boxes, and heartily recommend them to anyone in need of a straightforward, solidly built and GREAT sounding DI.

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