

## ELECTRO-HARMONIX LESTER G DELUXE ROTARY SPEAKER

£174

### Chairman of the rotary club

**LESLIE** rotating speakers were designed for use with Hammond organs, until The Beatles had the bright idea of using one to amplify guitars. The EHX Lester G Deluxe Rotary Speaker pedal captures that classic swirling phase sound of a Leslie, as immortalised on the spooky intro riff to Soundgarden's *Black Hole Sun*, among others.

Leslie cabs have two speakers, offering bottom-end grunt from a woofer that feeds a rotating drum and top-end from a horn that physically spins. The Lester G's balance control lets you sweep between emulations of those two sounds, and you can set the maximum and minimum speeds that the pedal's virtual drum and

treble horn rotate at. Stepping on the speed/brake switch increases and decreases the rate that the 'speakers' spin. Sounds tricky, but the bottom line is the Lester G nails the effect perfectly. What makes it even more lovable is the onboard compressor and drive circuitry. You can get the Lester K Stereo Rotary Speaker (£139) without these features, but they're a big part of the authentic Leslie sound. The 'squash' compression setting is worth the extra outlay on its own.

There are a bunch of great rotary speaker simulators on the market – such as the Pigtronix Rototron and Strymon Lex – but the Lester G is the most convincing example we've given a spin for a long time.

Ed Mitchell



**TYPE:** Rotary speaker simulator pedal  
**CONTROLS:** Volume, fast, slow, balance, acceleration, drive, attack, sustain, squeeze, bypass switch, speed/brake switch  
**SOCKETS:** Input, left [mono] output, right output, expression pedal input, power  
**BYPASS:** Buffered  
**POWER:** 9V power supply (included)  
**CONTACT:** Electro-Harmonix  
[www.ehx.com](http://www.ehx.com)

SUMMARY	FEATURES				
	SOUND QUALITY				
	VALUE FOR MONEY				
	BUILD QUALITY				
	USABILITY				
OVERALL RATING		★★★★★			

## DOD LOOKING GLASS

£154

### Natural wide-ranging overdrive that reflects your true sound

**A** collaboration with US boutique firm, Shoe Pedals, DOD's latest drive utilises a class-A FET design, popular among high-end pedal companies for its valve-like dynamic response. But where some overdrive pedals only work well in certain guitar/amp combinations, the Looking Glass is a more universal fit thanks to an input filter knob, which can dial in a smoother sound to tame overly spiky pickups. The pre-overdrive bass cut knob can also take some flab out of the sound, making it leaner and tighter and aiding clarity if you use humbuckers, while a treble knob operates within a controlled range to get the sound just right at the output.

Drives such as the Tube Screamer can add a definite colour, but the Looking Glass lives

up to its name by giving you a mirror image of your own sound, albeit dirtier and with subtle tonal tweaks where you want 'em. The low-gain setting runs from clean boost through early breakup to a low-level amp-like drive, while the high-gain goes further into overdriven amp territory, and at higher settings has some of the flavour of smooth, quality fuzz.

With a touch-sensitive response and clever EQ options, the Looking Glass is a well-designed transparent overdrive pedal that will suit just about any guitar/amp combination, clean or dirty. It's a great buy for blues players who want a bit 'more' out of their amps, but it will suit any player who wants extra dirt while retaining their core tone.

Trevor Curwen



**TYPE:** Class-A FET overdrive pedal  
**CONTROLS:** Level, gain, treble, bass cut, input filter, high/low switch, internal DIP switches (for use with buffered pedals)  
**SOCKETS:** Input, output, power  
**BYPASS:** True bypass  
**POWER:** 9V battery or 9V DC adaptor (not supplied)  
**CONTACT:** Sound Technology  
 01462 480000  
[www.digitech.com](http://www.digitech.com)

SUMMARY	FEATURES				
	SOUND QUALITY				
	VALUE FOR MONEY				
	BUILD QUALITY				
	USABILITY				
OVERALL RATING		★★★★★			