

# Guitar Player

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## SPECS

- 24-bit conversion/ 96kHz sampling
- 90 effects algorithms
- 390 presets
- Compact Flash Types I and II memory storage.
- Analog I/O: combination XLR (+4dBu)/ 1/4" (-10dBV)
- Digital I/O: S/PDIF, AES/EBU, and Toslink (IEC568 or ADAT)
- BNC word clock I/O
- 9-pin D-Sub RS232 interface
- MIDI In/Out/Thru
- 20 seconds of delay/looping per effects block
- Dual machine architecture (two stereo effects blocks)
- 2 programmable analog footpedal/footswitch jacks
- MIDI in/out/thru
- Phantom power for MIDI foot controller
- Dedicated Tap button for locking delays to the beat

## PRO AUDIO REPORT EVENTIDE ECLIPSE

TESTED BY BARRY CLEVELAND

The Eclipse (\$2,995 retail/\$1,995 street) replaces the venerable H3000 Ultraharmonizer as Eventide's entry-level processor. Besides offering a vast selection of excellent, general-purpose reverbs, delays, and other effects, the Eclipse contains dozens of presets specifically designed for use with guitar—many of which are positively breathtaking.

While the Eclipse packs lots of operational flexibility, its user interface is remarkably straightforward and intuitive, once you understand the basics. The front panel's controls are ergonomically arranged, and the large LCD presents operational information in a quickly assimilable arrangement. As with Eventide's more expensive processors, the Eclipse features a numeric keypad, a large data wheel, and several assignable soft buttons for selecting and adjusting parameters, along with an ever-useful Tap button that flashes to indicate the tempo (delay time, modulation rate, etc.) within the currently loaded program.


One glance at the Eclipse's rear panel makes it clear the unit was designed to be connected to just about any analog or digital gear imaginable—it even has an RS232 computer interface. Of particular note to guitarists, however, are two 1/4" jacks for connecting footswitches and/or expression pedals, and a 7-pin MIDI In jack that allows you to connect and remotely *power* a MIDI floor controller—all of which facilitate extensive hands-free control capabilities.

I tested the Eclipse in a variety of applications using nearly every combination of inputs and outputs, with excellent results in all cases—including plugging my Les Paul directly into the left 1/4" input and patching the left output directly into an amp.

The Eclipse utilizes dual-engine architecture

(meaning you have two basic effects blocks to work with), which is configurable in series, parallel, stereo, or dual mono. You'd think the mono programs would work best in a guitar amp's mono effects loop, or when patching the Eclipse between a guitar and amp, but lots of the stereo programs also sounded great in those applications. (Of course, those stereo programs sound *really* great in stereo.) There's also a handy search and sort function that allows you to organize the programs by category or application, including "Guitar."

Okay, so the Eclipse has all sorts of sophisticated features—but how does it sound? Put simply, it is one of the most impressive effects processors I have ever heard at any price. The delays manage to sound fat and even *warm*, while simultaneously remaining crisp and clear. The reverbs are robust and beautifully detailed, and the choruses, flangers, phasers, and other modulation effects are wide and deep. The pitch-shifting effects—Eventide's specialty—are outstanding. Many of the preset programs are truly inspiring, and they can quite naturally coax users into exciting new creative spaces. The only sounds I wasn't wild about were the overdrive and distortion programs, which paled in comparison to most stompbox tones—but this is little more than a quibble, as only a total fool would shell out major coin for an Eclipse and use it as an overdrive pedal.

The Eclipse is *deep*, and a review of this length can do little more than allude to some of the unit's many features. Suffice to say that I was extremely impressed with its performance, I'd recommend it to anyone, and I believe it more than deserves an Editors' Pick Award. 

Eventide, (201) 641-1200; eventide.com.



# ECLIPSE 3.0

# Eventide®

OPTIMIZED  
FOR LIVE  
PERFORMANCE

## "POSITIVELY BREATHTAKING"

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— BARRY CLEVELAND  
GUITAR PLAYER, JUNE 2004



## FEATURING

UP TO 8 VOICES OF DIATONIC PITCH SHIFTING

INCLUDES THE BEST H3000 EFFECTS

20 SECONDS OF DELAY OR LOOPING

ULTRA-FAST PROGRAM CHANGE

390 WORLD CLASS PRESETS

FREE INTERNET UPGRADES

**NEW** USER DEFINABLE SCALES **NEW**

90 EFFECT ALGORITHMS

TRUE BYPASS

