

PEDALBOARD

MANUFACTURER
FLATTLEY

MODEL
REVOLUTION & CENTURION (SILVER RANGE)

PRICE
£259 & £185

CONTACT
FLATTLEY GUITAR PEDALS 07802 455 127
WWW.FLATTLEYGUITARPEDALS.COM

ROUND-UP

Flattley pedals

A duo of drives from UK-based boutique maker

Words Trevor Curwen Photography Olly Curtis

VIDEO DEMO ► <http://bit.ly/guitaristextra>

Gloucestershire-based boutique pedal company Flattley Guitar Pedals specialises in hand-wired pedals that aim to use only the highest quality components. Designer and builder Paul Flattley offers meticulously hand-finished pedals with artwork created by his daughter Phoebe, a graphic designer, who often bases the art around Mexican sugar skulls.

There are other custom options available, but the Revolution pedal we have here is typical of those sparkly finishes. The Centurion pedal is an example of the new 'Silver Range' (available

directly from the company), which features plainer graphics and a lower price-point than the more ornate units.

One cool feature of the pedals is the Halo light ring that surrounds the footswitch and diffuses the light when playing live, avoiding the off-putting brightness you may get from standard LEDs. There are several colours available including the blue and purple seen on our review pedals. One variation is the custom-ordered Halo Light Plate with the light emanating from a transparent section inserted between the pedal base and chassis.



FLATTLEY

Revolution £259

Flattley describes the Revolution as being a "dynamic overdrive" and that's absolutely correct: playing through it feels really good as it responds to your touch and cleans up nicely with guitar volume, too. It's based around a Tube Screamer-style circuit, and an A/B test with our TS808 proved that it could nail all those TS sounds with ease and then some. The thing is, the Revolution goes beyond a standard TS by offering a range of clipping options courtesy of a three-way toggle switch for an op-amp integrated circuit, LED diodes or silicon diodes.

Each of the settings has its own attributes, completely warranting its inclusion. The upper setting of the switch has a lower output than the others and gives you the tightest sound with controlled bottom-end, whereas in the middle position things seem more opened up – louder, looser and more raunchy. The lower position of the switch may be the crunchiest of the lot with more compression and a spongier feel under the fingers as you dig in for sustain. **G**

VERDICT There's no shortage of drive pedals around, but this example excels with its easy playability and three-voice versatility



FLATTLEY

Centurion (Silver Range) £185

If you hadn't guessed from its name and layout, the Centurion is a transparent overdrive in the same vein as the Klon Centaur. This Centurion is a Silver Range pedal, although you can buy one with a more traditional Flattley look for £259.

Set Gain at minimum and Treble to match your amp, and the Volume knob will give you boost from its eight o'clock position onwards so that there's plenty of knob travel to dial in just the right amount of clean boost from a slight lift to something that will really get your amp cooking – all while remaining true to your tone or perhaps adding a little enhancement from the Treble knob.

Advancing the Gain brings in a gradual increase in lower-gain drive, through 'clean with an edge' and 'just breaking up' tone to a mild raunch. These are practical degrees of drive that'll work in conjunction with the Volume to punch up an amp to the next level, or give extra options to another overdrive pedal when stacked together. **G**

VERDICT A great pedal for giving you more of what you've already got, complementing any decent amp or drive pedal

Tech Spec

ORIGIN: UK

TYPE: Dynamic overdrive pedal

FEATURES: True bypass

CONTROLS: Volume, Drive, Tone, Clipping Switch, Bypass footswitch

CONNECTIONS: Standard input, standard output

POWER: 9V DC adaptor (not supplied)

DIMENSIONS: 72 (w) x 120 (d) x 55mm (h)

**Guitarist
CHOICE**

9/10

Tech Spec

ORIGIN: UK

TYPE: Transparent overdrive pedal

FEATURES: Buffered bypass

CONTROLS: Gain, Treble, Volume, Bypass footswitch

CONNECTIONS: Standard input, standard output

POWER: 9V DC adaptor (not supplied)

DIMENSIONS: 120 (w) x 96 (d) x 51mm (h)

8/10

