BLACK ROOSTER AUDIO

VLA-2A
LEVELING AMPLIFIER

OVERVIEW & INSTRUCTIONS
WWW.BLACKROOSTERAUDIO.COM

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About the VLA-2A

Vintage Leveling Amplifier

After many many hours of hard work Black Rooster Audio is proud to finally present the VLA-2A plug-in - the finest and most faithful emulation of THE optoelectronic compressor* of the late 1960s.

We have put all our knowledge, craftsmanship and heart into designing the most authentic native emulation available on the market to this date. We recommend the VLA-2A especially for vocals and drums. It also performs outstandingly well on bass or even on the master bus. Sensibly adjusting the gain and compression settings will make your signals shine.

Embrace the simplicity and beauty of optoelectronic compression!

Plugin Activation & System Requirements

Black Rooster Audio plug-ins are equipped with a straightforward and easy to use challenge-response activation system. We did our best to make sure our system works well for both online and offline users. By supporting USB key activation, mobile use is supported and just as easy as permanent activation of your computer's hard disk.

For detailed information about the activation process and the current system requirements of our plug-ins please refer to:

www.blackroosteraudio.com/faq.html

*LA-2A is a reg. trademark of Universal Audio, Inc. The VLA-2A is developed by Black Rooster Audio based on its proprietary modeling techniques. Universal Audio, Inc. has not sponsored or endorsed Black Rooster Audio's products in any way, nor licensed any intellectual property for use in the VLA-2A.

Key features

Authentic circuit emulation

Our real time SPICE type component based circuit simulation approach allows to authentically capture the sound and feel of the analog sample in all nuances. Every crucial part of the device, including in- and output transformers, side chain and audio path tube stages, the emphasis filter network, down to the T4A cell have been faithfully modeled and matched with an original ´68 reference unit.

SSE2 optimized code

DSP operations are pipe-lined using the SSE2 instruction set. This ensures highest possible performance operation despite very complex computations.

Auto-adjusted oversampling for maximum audio transparency

Aliasing artifacts are efficiently attenuated using a low latency linear phase Dolph-Chebyshev poly-phase design. The oversampling is auto adjusted to your session's sample rate to save valuable CPU power while offering the most transparent sound possible.

HighDPI / Retina support

All our plug-Ins support high pixel density on Mac OSX and Windows to bring you the most enjoyable user experience on high DPI displays. Please refer to your manual to find whether your DAW is HighDPI capable if you're working on Windows.

Controls & User Interface

» On/Off
Engages or bypasses processing.

» Ratio (Limit/Compress)
Toggles between a smooth or a more aggressive compression mode

» Peak Reduction (0 .. 100)
Controls the amount of compression applied to the input signal

» Gain (0 .. 100)
Controls the amount of gain in the audio amplifier. Turning up the gain will gradually drive the signal into a beautiful sounding saturation.

» VU Meter
The VU meter helps you to monitor average input, gain reduction or output levels in dB. A readout of -14dB full scale in the plug-in equals a level 0 dBu in the hardware.
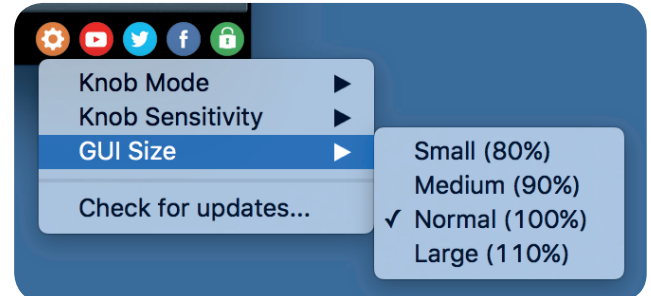
» Meter (In/GR/Out)
Toggles between input-, gain-reduction- and output-metering.

GUI Size

In the GUI size menu you can select your preferred GUI scaling from a list of four settings, if the default mode (Normal) is too big or too small for your taste. Please note that the GUI size setting is a global preference that affects all Black Rooster Audio plug-ins installed on your system.

Check for updates

Click the Check for updates entry to see if the plug-ins installed on your system are up-to-date. This function requires internet access.

Knob behaviour & keyboard shortcuts

Use the plug-ins settings menu to select your preferred knob mode globally, i.e. all of our plug-ins share the same setting among all DAW applications. Choose between „Host Setting", „Circular", „Relative Circular" and „Linear":

• By default the knob mode is set to „Host Setting" which means that the knob mode is dictated by the DAW application. Some VST hosts allow to change the knob mode setting in their preference menu. Our plug-ins will respect the host knob mode in that setting.
• In the „Circular" or „Relative Circular" modes knobs will react to circular mouse gestures and you have to drag your mouse in clockwise or counter-clockwise direction to change a knob's value.
• In the „Linear" mode you have to drag your mouse up or down when selecting a knob to change its value.

Use the knob sensitivity menu to adjust the knob sensitivity to taste. This function is only available in linear mode.

All of our plugins support the following keyboard shortcuts

AU Hosts on Mac OS
Alt + Click - Reset control to its default value
Shift + Drag - Fine control
Shift + Mousewheel - Fine control

VST Hosts on Mac OS
CMD + Click - Reset control to its default value
Shift + Drag - Fine control (only a applicable in linear knob mode)
Shift + Mousewheel - Fine control

VST Hosts on Windows
Ctrl + Click - Reset control to its default value
Shift + Drag - Fine control (only a applicable in linear knob mode)
Shift + Mousewheel - Fine control