

ERD/ERD manual - raven edition

micro_research



IMPORTANT: RED POWER CONNECTOR STRIPE/-12V IS ORIENTED TO THE BOTTOM OF MODULE.

I have graven it within the hills and my vengeance upon the dust within the rock.

ERD/ERD (Earth Return Distortion) is the first and most extreme expression of the ERD philosophy, seeking to literally put the earth back into circuit with technology. All world electricity travels through the earth and nearly all electronic circuitry and devices are extracted and refined from the earth. ERD/ERD puts a small block of sentient earth into the Eurorack circuit, allowing control and audio signals to be distorted and amplified as they pass through the earth block. It can be viewed in conventional terms as an earth conditioned VCA (amplification factor by knob control or CV) and distortion. Local electrical and atmospheric signals also condition the earth signal. Two jack connections are also included, optionally switching out the local earth block in favour of routing through local earth piles and forest sites.

The raven edition

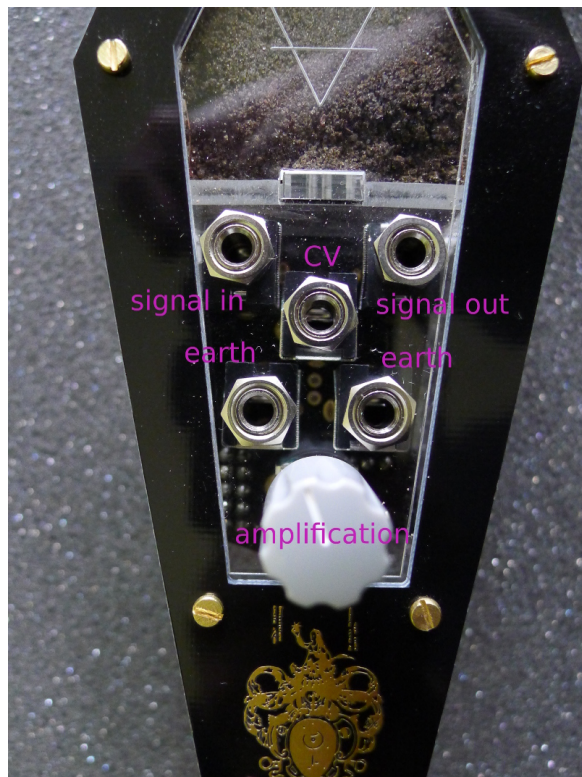
This opinion, in its general form, was that of the sentience of all vegetable things. But, in his disordered fancy, the idea had assumed a more daring character, and trespassed, under certain conditions, upon the kingdom of in-organization. I lack words to express the full extent, or the earnest abandon of his persuasion. The belief, however, was connected (as I have previously hinted) with the gray stones of the home of his forefathers. The conditions of the sentience had been here, he imagined, fulfilled in the method of collocation of these stones –in the order of their arrangement, as well as in that of the many fungi which overspread them, and of the decayed trees which stood around –above all, in the long undisturbed endurance of this arrangement, and in its reduplication in the still waters of the tarn. Its evidence –the evidence of the sentience –was to be seen, he said, (and I here started as he spoke,) in the gradual yet certain condensation of an atmosphere of their own about the waters and the walls. The result was discoverable, he added, in that silent, yet importunate and terrible influence which for centuries had moulded the destinies of his family, and which made him what I now saw him –what he was.

[Edgar Allen Poe. The Fall of the House of Usher]

The ERD/ERD raven edition contains earth from the grave site of Edgar

Allen Poe in Westminster Cemetery, Baltimore (with many thanks to Raymond Johnson). Within *The Fall of the House of Usher* Edgar Allen Poe in 1839 instantiated one of the first geophysical writing machines, describing in detail how the earth and all "vegetable things" creates psyche and sentience. It is this earth which is contained and rendered audibly and psychically influential anew with the ERD/ERD raven edition.

Layout



- The centre knob controls amplification and distortion.
- The middle/lower two Jacks (labelled earth and earth) are for optional connection to external earth.
- Signal in and Signal out are top left and right as marked.
- CV input controlling amplification is lowest.

Tech specs

12HP, 20mA at +12V, 8mA at -12V, 0mA at 5v. 1 CV input, 1 signal input, 1 signal output, 2 jacks for external earth connection, 37mm deep.

Suggested uses and notes



Simply wire up the power connector (red/-12V to bottom as shown above) and plug in audio or control voltage signals to signal in, output from signal out and play with the amplification knob.

The earth coffin/container will pick up stray electromagnetic signals, particularly if your hand is placed close to the earth.

Patching in an external earth pile will switch out the local earth container. You can plug two minijacks between an earth pile or forest site and the earth-labelled uppermost jack sockets of the module. Any conductive material will also work with differing properties. Note that only the tip of the minijack should be connected to the earth pile.

Do not expose the ERD/ERD to extremes of high or low temperature or to direct sunlight. Condensation may appear in the ERD window and this is no cause for concern.

If the ERD/ERD does not seem to be processing incoming signals well, and there is a significant increase in hum it is possible that the earth has dried out. One easy solution is to take the module out of the rack and place the earth container part (not the panel or circuit) in a shallow dish of water and wait perhaps half an hour until it has sucked up some water. Then simply dry that part and replace. This does not need to be done very often - perhaps every 6 months depending on external conditions.

Further reading

Technology and the Plague: <http://www.1010.co.uk/org/plague.html>

Edition

This ERD/ERD module (raven edition) is numbered in a strictly limited edition of 10.