

was the super bass had a slightly fatter bottom end than the Revelation. Although, the super bass was built as a bass head and the Revelation isn't trying to duplicate tones. We thought we'd better check this out further so we plugged in one of our '81 JCM 800's. We were once again able to match the tonal characteristics of the 800 using the Revelation but we did still notice the difference in the bottom end.

Channel 3 gave us tones that were more reminiscent of our 900's and up. This channel became our favorite for soloing as we were able to pull out a high amount of saturation in the sound while still getting the definition and clarity in the notes. The clean mode on this channel was also really cool for those funk licks.

With all the tonal variations available to us, there didn't seem like there was anywhere else to go. Enter Channel 4... This channel reacted best with the Les Paul and the Ibanez. (anything with a humbucker). It is a remarkably versatile channel. In clean mode we really nailed a great jazz tone while playing our Gibson 335. Warm and fat is the best way to describe the tone color of this mode.

In mid gain mode, we switched to the Les Paul to get a brutal rhythm sound. Tonally you could compare this channel's sound to that of a dual rectifier, 5150 or something from the same type of family. With the saturation of gain and fat bottom end, this channel didn't like chord voicings that became adventurous. Sticking to powerchords, riffs



and solos is a must here!

Switching in the high gain mode prompted us to change guitars to the Ibanez and rip out some brutal licks. This mode is anything but subtle. The sound is in your face and sure to offend the neighbours. For metal fans this is defiantly the channel and mode you should try first. Whilst the high gain mode was awesome, we found that rolling the gain back gave us a great fat rhythm sound that would easily fill out the mix in a one guitar band.

With the amount of options available to us on each channel we were a little sceptical when it came time to try out the switching functionality for this rig. In this test, we set up a digital delay, chorus, phaser and a compressor into the four effects loops and set up the footswitch.

The footswitch gives you 6 options. One for each channel, global effects on/off and master volume select. We set up four tones on each channel using a combination of each of the effect loops in the mix. Switching between the channels was seamless and noiseless. The amp also stored each channels gain mode and effect selection with the 'patch'. While we have seen this type of thing before in multieffects units and amp modelers it was a first for us to do this with a real tube amp. Having the analogue warmth in the tones while having digital versatility in tone is a definite plus for this head.

Changing the amp into midi mode was an even bigger thrill. With complete control over gain settings, effects, master volume

and channels, we were able to program all our favorite tones into the internal memory and access them all via our midi controller. It was like having 4 amps and a bradshaw switching system in the one small package. Programming the patches was also a breeze. All that was needed was to stomp on a button from our midi controller, set the parameters we wanted then hold down the program button. The amp stores the combination in its internal memory and revisits those parameters when the single midi command is sent. No manuals needed!

### Verdict

We have been searching for a tube amp that could do it all for a really long time. With the introduction of amp modelers on the market we thought that the day would never come. None of us expected it would poke its head up in our own back yard.

MI Audio has proven themselves on the world stage with their boutique lines of pedals and with the same standard of build and tonal perfection, they have successfully blown our minds with the Revelation. This amp has been thoroughly thought out and all bases have been covered. Whether you're a session player needing multiple rigs, or loyal to a single sound, this amp delivers. We are proud to award this little monster the Guitarist Gold award!

Other manufacturers include as 'value added' features, to sell you on their product. This amp sells itself.

### The bottom line

**What we liked:** Too much to list.

**What we didn't like:** Yesterdays lunch.

**Guitarist says:** The perfect combination of tone and technology - it really can do it all.

### MI Audio Revelation

**Price:** \$3999

**Origin:** Australia

**Type:** All Valve, 4 channel head with 3 gain stages per channel. Switchable master volumes, 4 effects loops.

**Output:** 100%, 60%, 30%

**Channels:** 4 independent and uniquely voiced.

**Controls:** Pre (Gain, Bass, Mids, Treble, Gain button) Post (Master Volume A & B, Presence, Depth and Amp Feedback)

**Footswitch:** 6 option (not included \$199) or Midi.

**Additional Features:** 4 x independent & switchable effects loops, 3 levels of gain per channel.

**Options:** None.

**Range Options:** Custom 'finishing' options available.

**MI Audio 02 1234 5678**

**www.miaudio.com.au**

### Test results

**Build quality** ★★★★★  
**Features** ★★★★★  
**Sound** ★★★★★  
**Value for money** ★★★★★

**GUITARIST RATING** ★★★★★