



# V256

## Vocoder

Congratulations on your purchase of the Electro-Harmonix V256 Vocoder. The V256 is a versatile and easy to use vocoder with the added benefit of being in a compact pedal format. Musicians no longer need large rack equipment, computer plugins, or large keyboards to get a wide array of classic and modern vocoder sounds as well as a few very unique vocal transposition effects. The V256 includes internal synthesizers for easy vocoding without an external instrument.

### Special Features of the V256:

- 3 VOX-ROBO vocoder modes that feature a robotic synthesizer
- Single, Major, and Minor modes feature a drone synthesizer
- 3 Brand new vocal transposition modes including TRANSPOSITION, INSTRUMENT CTRL, and REFLEX-TUNE
- Vocoder bands adjustable from a vintage sounding 8 bands to a smooth sounding 256 bands
- TONE, GENDER BENDER, and PITCH controls
- Save and load up to 9 presets: 1 preset for each mode.
- Scroll through the presets using the MODE knob or PRESET footswitch.
- Built-In balanced Mic Pre-Amp with switchable Phantom Power and Gain adjustment.
- Effect output on balanced XLR line output and 1/4" unbalanced instrument output

**WARNING:** Use only the AC Adapter that the V256 comes supplied with. Do not use any other AC Adapters. Using other AC adapters, even those made by Electro-Harmonix, could cause harm to the unit, the adapter or you. The V256 does not use batteries.

## - QUICK START GUIDE -

### **BASIC MIXER CONNECTION SETUP**

1. Connect your microphone to the MIC input on the right side of the V256 using a balanced XLR cable.
2. Using an unbalanced instrument cable, plug your instrument into the INST Input Jack on the right side of the V256.
3. Connect a balanced XLR cable to the EFFECT output jack on the left side of the V256. Connect the other end of the XLR cable to the line input of a mixer.
4. Connect an unbalanced instrument cable from the INST output jack on the left side of the V256. Connect the other end of the instrument cable to the instrument input of a mixer, or the input of an amplifier.
5. Plug the AC Adapter into a wall outlet.
6. Plug the barrel connector of the AC Adapter into the 9V power jack at the top of the V256. **Polarity is center negative.**
7. If using a condenser microphone, flip the Phantom Power switch up to the top position, otherwise leave it off. The Phantom Power switch is located on the right side of the V256, next to the XLR MIC input.
8. Push the MIC BYPASS footswitch until its associated LED is OFF. Sing into the microphone, you will hear your dry vocal at this point. Adjust mixer settings as well as the MIC GAIN switch on the V256 to obtain optimal mic levels.

### **BASIC AMPLIFIER CONNECTION SETUP**

1. Connect your microphone to the MIC input on the right side of the V256 using a balanced XLR cable.
2. Using an unbalanced instrument cable, plug your instrument into the INST Input Jack on the right side of the V256.
3. Connect an unbalanced instrument cable from the INST output jack on the left side of the V256. Connect the other end of the instrument cable to the input of a guitar, bass, or keyboard amplifier.
4. Plug the AC Adapter into a wall outlet.
5. Plug the barrel connector of the AC Adapter into the 9V power jack at the top of the V256. **Polarity is center negative.**
6. If using a condenser microphone, flip the Phantom Power switch up to the top position, otherwise leave it off. The Phantom Power switch is located on the right side of the V256, next to the XLR MIC input.
7. Push the MIC BYPASS footswitch until its associated LED is OFF. Play the instrument, you will hear only dry instrument signal at this point.

8. The factory setting for the INST output of the V256 is 100% dry instrument signal only. In order to use the V256 in this mode the INST output blend needs to be adjusted.
9. Hold down the MIC BYPASS footswitch and adjust the BLEND knob. Fully CCW is 100% instrument signal. As you turn the knob CW more V256 effect signal is added and at noon, the mix of dry instrument to V256 effect will be even. As you continue to turn the knob CW past noon, the dry instrument level will decrease and at fully CW the mix will be 100% V256 effect.
10. After the BLEND knob is adjusted for the desired mix, release the MIC BYPASS footswitch and the instrument output mix will be set. If the MIC BYPASS is not held down, moving the blend knob will make no difference to the INST output mix.

### **BASIC VOCODER SETTINGS**

1. Now that the V256 is hooked up and ready to go, here is a sample setting to get started.
2. Turn the MODE knob until the mode VOX-ROBO 1 is selected and set the other parameters as follows:
  - BLEND        FULLY CW
  - BANDS        NOON
  - TONE         NOON
  - GENDER      NOON
  - PITCH        FULLY CW
3. Press and release the MIC BYPASS footswitch so that the effect is now ON and the LED is lit.
4. Play the instrument and sing into the microphone at the same time. You will now hear your voice modulating the sound of the carrier instrument.
5. To use the internal synthesizer, turn the PITCH knob to noon.
6. Sing into the microphone and you will hear your voice modulate the robotic synth.
7. These basic settings also apply to the single, major, and minor drone modes.

### **BASIC VOCAL TRANSPOSITION SETTINGS**

1. Turn the MODE knob until the mode TRANSPOSITION is selected and set the other parameters as follows:
  - BLEND        FULLY CW
  - BANDS        NOON
  - TONE         NOON
  - GENDER      NOON
  - PITCH        NOON
2. In this setting the vocal transposition will be at unity. Using the XLR output, turn BLEND to noon for a subtle double tracking effect.
3. Adjust the GENDER BENDER knob to hear a more male or female version of your voice.
4. Turn the PITCH knob fully CW to hear 1 octave up, and fully CCW to hear 1 octave down.

## **BASIC INSTRUMENT CONTROL SETTINGS**

1. Turn the MODE knob until the mode INSTRUMENT CTRL is selected and set the other parameters as follows:
  - BLEND FULLY CW
  - BANDS NOON
  - TONE NOON
  - GENDER NOON
  - PITCH 2 O'CLOCK
2. Sing into the mic and you will hear your original vocal pitch. Play a single note line on your instrument as you sing, you will hear your voice but the pitch will now track the instrument's notes.
3. Turn the BANDS knob to 2 o'clock and hear how your voice now slides to new notes as you play your instrument.

## **BASIC VOCAL REFLEX-TUNE SETTINGS**

1. Turn the MODE knob until the mode REFLEX-TUNE is selected and set the other parameters as follows:
  - BLEND FULLY CW
  - BANDS NOON
  - TONE NOON
  - GENDER NOON
  - PITCH FULLY CCW
2. Without playing an instrument sing into the mic. You will hear your pitch being hard corrected to a chromatic scale.
3. Turn the BANDS knob fully CCW and sing into the mic. You will hear the pitch correction happen much more gradually giving your vocal performance a more natural sound.

## - DESCRIPTION OF MODES -

The V256 has 9 modes to choose from. Each mode gives the musician a different sonic palette to work with. In addition, each mode may change the functionality of some of the V256's knobs. In this section we will describe each mode and the functionality of the knobs that change with each mode.

Use the MODE knob to scroll through the 9 modes. Turning the MODE knob clockwise goes up the LED ladder. Turning the MODE knob counter-clockwise goes down the LED ladder.

Below is a table displaying the function of each knob as it relates to a selected mode. Arrows indicate the function that occurs as the knob is turned to or towards the extreme knob position in that direction. The up arrows indicate the center position of the knob.



BLEND



BANDS



TONE



GENDER  
BENDER



PITCH



MODE

◀ Dry...Wet ▶	Vocoder Bands ◀ 8...256 ▲ ...256+Res ▶	Treble/Harmonic Enhancement ◀ Less...More ▶	Formant Shift ◀ Downward... ▲ Off...Upward ▶	Robo Pitch ◀ Off - Low... ...High - Off ▶	<b>VOX-ROBO1</b>
◀ Dry...Wet ▶	Vocoder Bands ◀ 8...256 ▲ ...256+Res ▶	Treble/Harmonic Enhancement ◀ Less...More ▶	Formant Shift ◀ Downward... ▲ Off...Upward ▶	Robo Pitch ◀ Off - Low... ...High - Off ▶	<b>VOX-ROBO2</b>
◀ Dry...Wet ▶	Vocoder Bands ◀ 8...256 ▲ ...256+Res ▶	Treble/Harmonic Enhancement ◀ Less...More ▶	Formant Shift ◀ Downward... ▲ Off...Upward ▶	Robo Pitch ◀ Off - Low... ...High - Off ▶	<b>VOX-ROBO3</b>
◀ Dry...Wet ▶	Vocoder Bands ◀ 8...256 ▲ ...256+Res ▶	Treble/Harmonic Enhancement ◀ Less...More ▶	Formant Shift ◀ Downward... ▲ Off...Upward ▶	Drone Pitch ◀ Off - C2... ...C4 - Off ▶	<b>SINGLE DRONE</b>
◀ Dry...Wet ▶	Vocoder Bands ◀ 8...256 ▲ ...256+Res ▶	Treble/Harmonic Enhancement ◀ Less...More ▶	Formant Shift ◀ Downward... ▲ Off...Upward ▶	Maj Drone Pitch ◀ Off - C3maj... ...C5maj - Off ▶	<b>MAJOR DRONE</b>
◀ Dry...Wet ▶	Vocoder Bands ◀ 8...256 ▲ ...256+Res ▶	Treble/Harmonic Enhancement ◀ Less...More ▶	Formant Shift ◀ Downward... ▲ Off...Upward ▶	Maj Drone Pitch ◀ Off - A3min... ...A5min - Off ▶	<b>MINOR DRONE</b>
◀ Dry...Wet ▶	Portamento ◀ Slow:Orig+FX... ▲ Fast...Slow:FX ▶	Treble ◀ Less...More ▶	Formant Shift ◀ Downward... ▲ Off...Upward ▶	Transposition ◀ -Oct...+Oct. ▶	<b>TRANS- POSITION</b>
◀ Dry...Wet ▶	Portamento ◀ Slow:Orig+FX... ▲ Fast...Slow:FX ▶	Treble ◀ Less...More ▶	Formant Shift ◀ Downward... ▲ Off...Upward ▶	Inst. Threshold ◀ High...Low ▶	<b>INSTRUMENT CONTROL</b>
◀ Dry...Wet ▶	Portamento ◀ Slow...Fast ▲ Fast + VIB ▶	Treble ◀ Less...More ▶	Formant Shift ◀ Downward... ▲ Off...Upward ▶	Key ◀ Off - C....B ▶	<b>REFLEX TUNE</b>

## **VOX-ROBO Modes**

VOX-ROBO Modes 1, 2, and 3 are identical. This provides the flexibility to save 3 separate ROBO presets. These modes function as standard vocoders using an external instrument as the carrier signal, and in addition have robotic internal synthesizers that can be used as the carrier signal and controlled with the PITCH knob. When the PITCH knob is fully CCW or fully CW, the internal synthesizer is silenced. When the PITCH knob is at noon the robotic tone is a C3 note. When the internal synthesizer is on, and an external instrument is played, they will be mixed together and used as the carrier signal simultaneously.

You can "play" the internal synthesizer using a MIDI keyboard or sequencer.

## **DRONE Modes**

The Drone modes have a more natural, musical sounding tone than the robotic modes. Just as in the VOX-ROBO modes, the instrument input is always active as a source for the carrier signal.

**SINGLE DRONE** – The single drone is a single pitch drone based on an organ sound. When the PITCH knob is at noon, the pitch is a C3 note. The PITCH knob controls this note up to +/-1octave. At fully CW or fully CCW, the drone is silenced.

**MAJOR DRONE** – The major drone is a three note major triad based on an organ sound. When the PITCH knob is at noon, the chord is C4 major. The PITCH knob functions are the same as in "SINGLE DRONE".

**MINOR DRONE** – The minor drone is a three note minor triad based on an organ sound. When the PITCH knob is at noon, the chord is an A4 minor. The PITCH knob functions are the same as in "SINGLE DRONE".

You can "play" the internal drone synthesizer using a MIDI keyboard or sequencer.

## **THE FREEZE FUNCTION**

In any of the vocoder modes in the V256 when the MIC BYPASS footswitch is held down while an instrument is being played, the V256 will freeze whatever is being played through the INST input at the moment the MIC BYPASS button is pressed. The V256 will freeze this sample for as long as the MIC BYPASS footswitch is held down. This frozen sample can also be saved into a preset. Simply save the preset while the MIC BYPASS footswitch is held down and the instrument sample is frozen.

When the preset is recalled, the frozen sample as well as any drones that were saved will be recalled. In order to clear the saved frozen sample, hold the MIC BYPASS footswitch without any instrument input, or turn the pitch knob to fully CCW. This will clear the frozen sample however if the preset is reloaded the frozen sample will return. In order to clear the frozen sample from the preset, turn the pitch knob fully CCW so the frozen sample stops playing, then save a new preset in the current mode.

This feature can be used together with the internal synthesizers and can also be used to freeze MIDI triggered notes.

## **VOCAL TRANSPOSITION MODES**

### **TRANSPOSITION**

In this mode the V256 does not require an external instrument. The V256 will transpose the vocal signal by an amount determined by the PITCH knob. At noon the transposition is at unity. At fully CW it is +1 octave and at fully CCW it is -1 octave.

The BANDS knob can be used to control how quickly the intervals change when controlled by a MIDI input. At noon, the transposition interval will change instantaneously. As the knob is moved CW the notes will change to new intervals more slowly creating a portamento type of effect. As the knob is moved CCW the notes will change to new intervals more slowly, and vocal pitch changes will also be delayed. Blended with the original vocal, this effect can be used to add complexity to a double tracked vocal sound where the V256 effect sound will reach new vocal pitches a little slower than they are sung.

A MIDI controller can control the amount of transposition. When two notes are played together, the interval between those two notes will be applied to the transposition. When a MIDI note is played, the setting of the PITCH knob will no longer be relevant and the original vocal pitch will be heard. As a second note is played along with the first note, the interval created will be applied to the vocal transposition. The MIDI notes being played are irrelevant, only the interval matters. When the MIDI notes are released, the transposition will go back to where the PITCH knob is set.

### **INSTRUMENT CTRL**

In this mode the V256 will replace the vocal pitch with the pitch of an external instrument. The PITCH knob controls the threshold of how loud the instrument must be in order for the V256 to replace the vocal note. At fully CCW, the instrument has the least effect, and at fully CW the V256 will never revert back to the dry vocal pitch. The pitch will remain at the last instrument controlled note until a new note is played.

In this mode the BANDS knob controls how fast the pitch changes. At noon, the pitch will change instantly. As the knob is turned CW the instrument controlled pitch will slide to new notes more slowly. As the knob is turned CCW, the instrument controlled pitch changes will slow in the same manner and in addition the original dry vocal notes will change more slowly. When the external instrument falls below the threshold setting and the V256 reverts back to the singer's original vocal performance, as the singer changes pitch, notes will slide to one another with a portamento effect.

A MIDI keyboard or sequencer can be used as the control instrument allowing you to play or automate the notes you want to replace your vocal notes.

## **REFLEX-TUNE**

In this mode the V256 works as an automatic pitch corrector and will quantize the dry vocal pitch to nearest note depending on the scale and key set by the user. When the PITCH knob is fully CCW, and there is no external instrument being played, the V256 will quantize to a chromatic scale. If there is an external instrument being played, the V256 will determine the key based on the chords being played and will quantize to the determined key in a diatonic scale. To revert back to the chromatic scale, turn the PITCH knob to noon and back to fully CCW. When the V256 is in chromatic mode, only the REFLEX-TUNE LED will be lit.

As the PITCH knob is turned CW, a different combination of LEDs will light depending on the position of the PITCH knob. The combination of LEDs indicates the diatonic key scale setting for the V256. The table in the "controls" section, under "PITCH" explains which keys are represented by the LEDs.

The BANDS knob controls how fast the pitch changes from one quantized note to another. Fully CCW is the slowest change and creates the most natural sounding performance. At noon the quantized notes are changed instantaneously with no vibrato, creating the most dramatic effect. At fully CW the note changes are still abrupt but more of the original vibrato is let through.



## - PRESETS -

The V256 can save one preset for each of the 9 modes. Each preset will pertain directly to the mode you have saved it in. Once a preset is saved, the V256 will remember the preset after power has been disconnected.

Saving a preset will save the setting of all 5 of the black knobs. The V256 will also save any frozen samples that are created by holding the MIC BYPASS footswitch. You must hold down the MIC BYPASS footswitch while saving the preset to save the frozen sound.

The V256 will not save the state of the MIC BYPASS footswitch, the MIC GAIN toggle switch or the PHANTOM POWER toggle switch.

### **PRESET SAVE PROCEDURE:**

1. To save the knob positions as they are currently set, press and hold down the MODE knob.
2. Hold down the MODE knob for 3 seconds. Nothing will occur for 2 seconds, then all the mode LEDs will blink for 1 second.
3. After the LEDs stop blinking, release the MODE knob. The PRESET LED will light up solid. The PRESET LED is located to the left of the PRESET footswitch.
4. Your preset has been saved in the mode that is currently lit.

### **PRESET LOAD PROCEDURE:**

#### **USING THE MODE KNOB**

1. To Load a preset you previously saved: turn the MODE knob to the mode where the preset was saved.
2. Press and release the MODE knob. The PRESET LED will light up to indicate that the preset has loaded. Please Note: The current knob positions are no longer valid.

#### **USING THE PRESET FOOTSWITCH**

1. To Load a preset you previously saved using the PRESET footswitch: press and release the PRESET footswitch. The PRESET LED will light up to indicate that the preset has loaded for the currently selected mode. Please Note: The current knob positions are no longer valid.
2. If you press and release the PRESET Footswitch while a preset is already loaded into the current mode, the V256 will jump down to the next mode and load its preset. For example, if you have a preset loaded into VOX-ROBO 1 mode and press the PRESET footswitch, the V256 will then select VOX-ROBO 2 as its current mode, with its preset loaded.

After loading a preset, if you move a knob, the knob's new location will supersede the presets stored value for that knob. At this point, the PRESET LED will blink rapidly to indicate that a knob has been moved. If you then turn the knob back to its position, as saved in the preset, the PRESET LED will stop blinking.

If the PRESET LED is blinking rapidly, when you press the PRESET footswitch, it will reload the preset for whichever mode you are currently in.

### **PRESET UNLOAD PROCEDURE:**

A preset can be unloaded to restore the current knob positions so they represent what you hear. There are two ways to unload a preset, press and release the MODE knob or turn the MODE knob to another mode. If a frozen sample is saved into a preset, it can be cleared by holding the MIC BYPASS footswitch without playing the instrument, or by turning the PITCH knob fully CCW. To erase the frozen sample permanently from the preset, the preset must be saved again while the frozen sample is cleared.

## **- CONTROLS, INDICATORS & I/O-**

### **BLEND**

This knob sets the mix of dry vocal signal to V256 effect. Fully CCW is 100% dry, you will hear only your dry vocals. Noon is an even mix of dry vocal and effect signal. Fully CW is 100% wet, you will only hear the V256 effect.

The BLEND knob also controls the mix of instrument signal to vocoder effect on the INST output jack. To set the INST output mix hold down the MIC BYPASS footswitch and turn the BLEND knob. Fully CCW will be 100% instrument signal or MIDI controlled internal synthesizer. Noon will be an even mix of dry instrument and effect signal. Fully CW will be 100% effect signal. From the factory, the INST output jack is set for 100% dry signal. The V256 will remember your last setting of the INST mix control through all modes. Each preset can save a different setting.

### **BANDS**

In all modes EXCEPT TRANSPOSITION, INSTRUMENT CTRL, and REFLEX-TUNE the BANDS knob sets the number of bands for the vocoder. Fully CCW is 8 bands for a more lo-fi gritty sound. Center position is 256 bands with no vocal resonance, for a smooth vocoder sound. As the knob is turned CW from noon, the V256 will add filtered resonance from the vocal pitch into the 256 bands. This adds complexity to the vocoder sounds as some bands are accentuated by the vocal pitch.

In **TRANSPOSITION** the BANDS knob controls how fast pitches change to new intervals when controlled by a MIDI input. This creates a portamento type of effect. At noon the pitch change will be instantaneous. As the knob is turned CW the pitch change between new intervals is slowed down. As the knob is turned CCW the pitch change between new intervals will happen is slowed down, and the vocal pitch changes will also be slowed.

In **INSTRUMENT CTRL** the BANDS knob controls the pitch slew time to create a portamento type of effect. At noon the pitch change will be instantaneous. As the knob is turned CW the control pitch will slide to new notes slower, with the slowest setting being fully CW. Turning the knob CCW from noon effects the control pitch in the same way as turning CW, but now the original vocal note changes are also slowed.

In **REFLEX-TUNE** this knob controls how fast the pitch changes and how much of the singer's vibrato is let through. Fully CCW is the most subtle use of the effect. Pitch corrections are more natural sounding and more of the singer's vocal nuances can be heard. At noon, the quantized pitch changes are instantaneous for the most dramatic effect. Only fully quantized notes will be heard. As the knob is turned further CW, hysteresis is added and vibrato can be heard along with instant dramatic note quantization.

## **TONE**

This knob adjusts the tonal quality of the effect. Fully CCW emphasizes lower frequencies and fully CW emphasizes higher frequencies. In the vocoder modes, as the TONE knob is turned CW from noon, harmonic overtones are added to the instrument signal to make them sound fuller and richer. In ROBO modes turning the TONE knob further CW from noon creates a frequency multiplication of the internal synth. This can be tuned to taste and has a ring modulation type of effect.

## **GENDER BENDER**

Formant shift corresponds roughly to the length of the vocal tract. Bass and baritone singers have longer vocal tracts than sopranos and tenors.

In all modes, the GENDER BENDER knob adjusts the amount of formant shift that is applied to the effected signal. For knob settings above noon, the formant will shift upward, which is equivalent to shortening the vocal tract, to sound more female. For knob settings below noon, the formant will shift downward, which is equivalent to lengthening the vocal tract, to sound more male. At noon, there is no formant shift.

## **PITCH**

In the first six modes, the PITCH knob controls the pitch of the internal synthesized voices. Fully CCW or fully CW will silence the synthesized voices and the vocoder will only use the external instrument input as the carrier signal.

In **TRANSPOSITION** mode the PITCH knob controls the amount of transposition up to +/-1 octave.

In **INSTRUMENT CTRL** mode the PITCH knob controls the threshold of the instrument control. When the instrument is above the set threshold the instrument controls the pitch. When the instrument is below the threshold set by the PITCH knob, the original vocal pitch is passed through. Fully CW, the last note played persists and the pitch will not change until a new instrument controlled pitch is provided.

In **REFLEX-TUNE** mode the PITCH knob controls the key scale used for note quantizing. The current key setting is displayed using the LED ladder. See the chart below as a guide for picking the key you want to select. If the PITCH knob is fully CCW notes are quantized to a chromatic scale. You can also set the key of Reflex Tune using an instrument. Set PITCH to fully CCW, the V256 will determine the key of the song based on the chords being played by the instrument, and the corresponding diatonic scale will be used for quantizing. In order to revert back to the chromatic scale, turn the pitch knob to noon, and back to fully CCW.

LED [major] [minor]	C A	C# A#	D B	D# C	E C#	F D	F# D#	G E	G# F	A F#	A# G	B G#
1 VOX-ROBO 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	ON	ON
2 VOX-ROBO 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	ON	ON	ON	-
3 VOX-ROBO 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	ON	ON	ON	ON	-	-
4 SINGLE DRONE	-	-	-	-	-	ON	ON	-	-	-	-	-
5 MAJOR DRONE	-	-	-	ON	ON	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 MINOR DRONE	-	ON	ON	ON	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7 TRANSPOSITION	ON	ON	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

## MODE KNOB

This is the white knob located in the upper right corner of your V256. The MODE knob is a rotary encoder enabling the user to scroll through the 9 Modes of the V256. Turn the knob counter-clockwise to progress down through the modes: from VOX-ROBO 1 to REFLEX-TUNE mode. Turn the knob clockwise to progress up through the modes: from REFLEX-TUNE to VOX-ROBO 1 mode.

The MODE knob also has a push switch to save and load presets. To load a preset: turn the MODE knob to select the desired mode and then give the MODE knob a quick tap. To save a preset: push down and hold the MODE knob for 3 seconds. You will then see all mode LEDs blink rapidly. Continue to hold down the MODE knob until the LEDs stop blinking. At this point the preset is saved and you can let go of the knob. Only one preset is saved per mode and the preset you save is based on the selected mode.

## PRESET FOOTSWITCH / LED

Press and release the PRESET footswitch to load a preset into the presently selected mode. If a preset is already loaded into the presently selected mode, pressing the PRESET footswitch will select the next mode and load its preset.

The PRESET LED will light solid when a preset is loaded. While a preset is loaded, if a black knob is turned, the PRESET LED will blink rapidly telling you that though a preset is loaded, one or more knobs have been turned. Pressing the PRESET footswitch while the PRESET LED is blinking will re-load the preset for the current mode.

### **MIC BYPASS FOOTSWITCH / STATUS LED**

The MIC BYPASS footswitch toggles the V256 between effect mode and bypass mode. If the STATUS LED is lit, then the V256 is in effect mode. If the STATUS LED is off, then the V256 is in bypass mode. The MIC BYPASS footswitch can also be pressed and held to sample and freeze the instrument signal or to change the setting of the BLEND control for the INST. Output jack. While the footswitch is being held the STATUS LED will blink.

**In bypass mode:** the dry vocal is output through the EFFECT Output XLR jack and the effect is muted. In effect mode: the output of the BLEND control determines how much effect vs. dry vocal signal is output through the EFFECT Output XLR jack.

In bypass mode, the instrument signal goes through the INST output jack. In effect mode, the user can define the mix of dry instrument signal to vocoder effect output on the INST output jack.

### **MIC GAIN TOGGLE SWITCH**

Use this switch to change the sensitivity of the mic pre-amp in the V256. Experiment with your setup to see whether LO or HI gain mode works best.

### **PHANTOM POWER TOGGLE SWITCH**

On the side of the V256, next to the MIC INPUT XLR jack, is the PHANTOM POWER toggle switch. Pushing the toggle switch up will supply +40V to the microphone. The PHANTOM POWER switch should only be set to ON when using a condenser microphone.

### **MIC INPUT XLR Jack**

The MIC INPUT XLR jack is a fully balanced microphone input. Connect your microphone directly to this input jack. The input impedance at the MIC INPUT XLR jack is 10 k $\Omega$ .

### **INST INPUT 1/4" Jack**

In the vocoder modes of the V256, the instrument signal can be used as the carrier signal for the vocoder effect. In INSTRUMENT CTRL mode, the instrument signal is used to determine the note that will replace the pitch of the sung note. In REFLEX-TUNE mode, with the PITCH knob set fully CCW, the instrument signal will determine the diatonic key and the V256 will quantize to notes in that key scale. In TRANSPOSITION mode, the instrument input has no function.

Plug the output of your instrument into the INST INPUT jack. The input impedance presented at the INST INPUT jack is 2.2 M $\Omega$ .

### **EFFECT OUTPUT XLR Jack**

The V256's effect is output through the EFFECT OUTPUT XLR jack on the side of the unit. The effect signal as well as the dry and bypassed vocals are output from this jack. The EFFECT OUTPUT XLR jack is a fully balanced line output jack. It can be connected directly to the line input of a mixer, on stage breakout boxes or the input of an A/D converter. The output impedance is 700  $\Omega$ .

### **INST OUTPUT 1/4" Jack**

The Instrument output on the V256 outputs a blend of the effected signal as well as the dry instrument signal or MIDI controlled internal synthesizer. The mix is set from the factory 100% dry and initially only instrument signal will be output from this jack. To change the output mix on this jack, hold down the MIC BYPASS footswitch and turn the BLEND knob. When the BLEND knob is fully CCW, it will output 100% instrument signal. At noon, the output will be an even mix of V256 effect and instrument signal. At fully CW, the output will be 100% effect signal.

Connect this output to your amp, effect pedals or other devices. The output impedance is 700  $\Omega$ .

### **9V Power Jack**

Plug the output of the V256's supplied AC Adapter into the 9V power jack located at the top of the V256. The V256 requires 9 to 9.6VDC at 200mA with a center negative plug. The V256 accepts Boss style AC Adapters.

### **MIDI Input Jack**

The V256 has a standard 5 pin MIDI input jack. You can play the V256's internal synthesizers using a MIDI keyboard or sequencer. Out of the INST output jack, the internal synthesizers will be heard the same way an instrument input will be heard. If the INST output jack has the blend set 100% dry, only the dry internal synthesizer, "played" by a MIDI controller, will be heard. If the INST output jack has the blend set at noon, a mix of the dry MIDI controlled internal synth and the wet vocoded effect will be heard. With the INST output jack at 100% wet, the dry MIDI controlled internal synth will no longer be heard, only the vocoded effect will be heard.

Additionally the V256 can receive control messages from a MIDI controller or other MIDI device so that every function in the V256 is MIDI controllable. Below is a list of the MIDI control parameters. The default setting for the V256 from the factory is OMNI OFF, set to channel 16.

### **PATCH CHANGE**

Program numbers 1 to 9 (1 = VOX ROBO 1, 9 = REFLEX-TUNE) select V256 modes with presets loaded.

Program numbers 11 to 19 (11 = VOX ROBO 1, 9 = REFLEX-TUNE) select V256 modes without presets loaded.

## CONTROL CHANGE

CC 1	Modulation Depth: 0-127
CC 7	Internal Synth Volume: 0-127
CC 14	Maximum Pitch Bend in Semitones: 0-12
CC 15	Fine Tuning: units of 1.5625 cents. 0=-100 cents, 64=0 cents, 127=98.44 cents
CC 20	BLEND Knob: 0=CCW 127=CW
CC 21	BANDS Knob: 0=CCW 127=CW
CC 22	TREBLE Knob: 0=CCW 127=CW
CC 23	GENDER Knob: 0=CCW 127=CW
CC 24	PITCH Knob: 0=CCW 127=CW
CC 25	INST. Out Jack Blend: 0=100% INST.; 127=100% Effect.
CC 26	LFO rate: 0=stopped to 127= Maximum Modulation Rate
CC 27	Effect On/Bypass: On = 127; Bypass= 0
CC 28	MIC BYPASS/Freeze FSW: 127 = pressed, 0 = released
CC 29	PRESET FSW: 127 = pressed, 0 = released
CC 30	ENCODER PRESS: 127 = pressed, 0 = released
CC 64	Internal Synth Sustain: 0-127
CC 124	Omni off (Only when received on default channel = 16) send "0"
CC 125	Omni on (Only when received on default channel = 16) send "0"

## TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Mic Pre-Amp Gain:

LO Mode = 15dB; HI Mode = 25dB (XLR out into High Z load)

LO Mode = 4.5dB; HI Mode = 15dB (XLR out into 600  $\Omega$  load)

A/D and D/A Conversion Sample Rate = 36 kHz

A/D and D/A Conversion Bit Resolution = 24 bits

## - WARRANTY INFORMATION -

Please register online at <http://www.ehx.com/product-registration> or complete and return the enclosed warranty card within 10 days of purchase. Electro-Harmonix will repair or replace, at its discretion, a product that fails to operate due to defects in materials or workmanship for a period of one year from date of purchase. This applies only to original purchasers who have bought their product from an authorized Electro-Harmonix retailer. Repaired or replaced units will then be warranted for the unexpired portion of the original warranty term.

If you should need to return your unit for service within the warranty period, please contact the appropriate office listed below. Customers outside the regions listed below, please contact EHX Customer Service for information on warranty repairs at [info@ehx.com](mailto:info@ehx.com) or +1-718-937-8300. USA and Canadian customers: please obtain a **Return Authorization Number (RA#)** from EHX Customer Service before returning your product. Include with your returned unit: a written description of the problem as well as your name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, and RA#; and a copy of your receipt clearly showing the purchase date.

### **United States & Canada**

EHX CUSTOMER SERVICE  
ELECTRO-HARMONIX  
c/o NEW SENSOR CORP.  
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LONG ISLAND CITY, NY 11101  
Tel: 718-937-8300  
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JOHN WILLIAMS  
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UNITED KINGDOM  
Tel: +44 179 247 3258  
Email: [electroharmonixuk@virginmedia.com](mailto:electroharmonixuk@virginmedia.com)

This warranty gives a purchaser specific legal rights. A purchaser may have even greater rights depending upon the laws of the jurisdiction within which the product was purchased.

To hear demos on all EHX pedals visit us on the web at [www.ehx.com](http://www.ehx.com)  
Email us at [info@ehx.com](mailto:info@ehx.com)

## **FCC COMPLIANCE**

*Note: This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:*

- *Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.*
- *Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.*
- *Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.*
- *Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.*

*Modifications not expressly approved by the manufacturer could void the user's authority to operate the equipment under FCC rules.*