





### Dear Customer:

Selecting fine audio equipment such as the unit you've just purchased is only the start of your musical enjoyment. Now it's time to consider how you can maximize the fun and excitement your equipment offers. This manufacturer and the Electronic Industries Association's Consumer Electronics Group want you to get the most out of your equipment by playing it at a safe level. One that lets the sound come through loud and clear without annoying blaring or distortion — and, most importantly, without affecting your sensitive hearing.

Sound can be deceiving. Over time your hearing "comfort level" adapts to higher volumes of sound. So what sounds "normal" can actually be loud and harmful to your hearing. Guard against this by setting your equipment at a safe level BEFORE your hearing adapts.

### To establish a safe level:

- Start your volume control at a low setting.
- Slowly increase the sound until you can hear it comfortably and clearly, and without distortion.

### Once you have established a comfortable sound level:

- Set the dial and leave it there.

Taking the time to do this now will help to prevent hearing damage or loss in the future. After all, we want you listening for a lifetime.

## INTRODUCTION

Thank you for purchasing the Micro Line Drive. This preamplifier is one of a series of compact McCormack components designed to deliver the exceptional levels of natural musicality usually found only in much larger, more expensive products.

While repackaging our famous circuits in this more convenient form, we reduced complexity, but not quality. This preamplifier is handcrafted with top quality, highly reliable parts — most often the same ones used in our full-size components. We are confident that you will be well satisfied with its sonic performance and find pleasure in its functional beauty. Before you enjoy these experiences, please take a few minutes to read this Owner's Manual. This will ensure your listening pleasure today, and for many years to come.

## OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

**UNPACKING** - Be sure to save the Micro Line Drive's box and packing materials. Store them in a dry environment. It is best to use the original packaging should you need to transport or ship the Micro Line Drive in the future.

**INSTALLATION** - Place the Micro Line Drive as close as possible to its final installation location, while leaving yourself access to the back panel. **NOTE:** The Micro Line Drive has no ON-OFF switch, having been designed to be on at all times with minimal power consumption. Connect the transformer's cord to the Micro Line Drive using the jack labeled AC IN on the back panel, but do not plug the transformer into an AC wall socket yet. Check to be certain that both VOLUME knobs are turned down all the way, fully counterclockwise. (The use of this unique dual mono volume/balance feature is described in the LISTENING section below.)

- Set the 2 front panel toggle switches to their INPUTS and MUTE positions.
- There are 3 identical inputs on the back panel labeled INPUT 1, INPUT 2, and INPUT 3. Connect your line level sources (CD, DCC, R-DAT, Mini Disc, VCR, tuner, cassette deck, phono preamplifier, etc.) to the inputs of your choice.

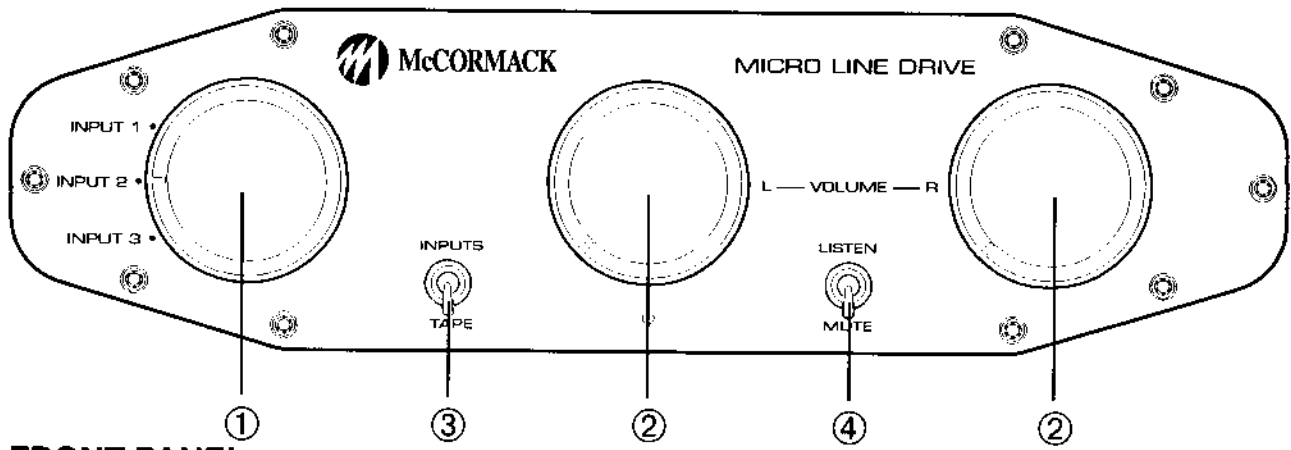
- There are 2 sets of main outputs: BYPASS and ACTIVE. The BYPASS output is connected directly to the volume controls. The ACTIVE output is driven by an active gain stage. When using the BYPASS output, it is recommended that the total cable capacitance be less than 1000 picofarads per channel.
- Be certain your power amplifier is turned off, then connect it to the Micro Line Drive output of your choice. If you wish, both outputs may be used at the same time allowing 2 power amplifiers to be driven simultaneously.
- Place the Micro Line Drive in its permanent location. Check that all RCA plugs are fully inserted, making tight connections. Make sure that both the VOLUME knobs are turned fully counterclockwise, all the way down.
- Plug the power transformer into a convenient AC wall socket. The green LED in the lower center of the front panel will light.
- Turn on your power amplifier.

**ABOUT INTERCONNECT CABLES..**The Micro Line Drive uses high quality RCA phono jacks for input and output connections. Please remember that selecting high quality cables for use with this revealing component will result in superior sonic performance from your system. Your McCormack dealer will guide you in making this important component choice.

## LISTENING

- Rotate the input selector to the desired input.
- Set the INPUTS/TAPE switch to the INPUTS position.
- Set the LISTEN/MUTE switch to LISTEN.
- Slowly turn either VOLUME knob clockwise until you reach the desired listening level. The 2 VOLUME knobs are linked so that they rotate

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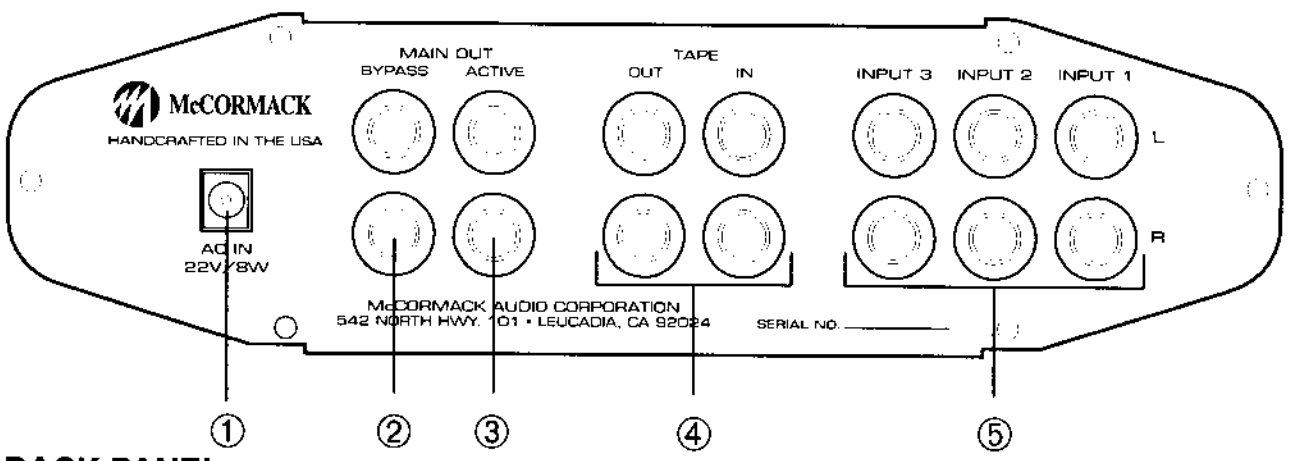
**FRONT PANEL**

**FUNCTION KNOBS**

- ① INPUT SELECTOR – Use this 3-position control to choose the source you wish to use.
- ② VOLUME CONTROLS – Use these linked dual mono volume controls to adjust both volume and balance. Read LISTENING section for complete details.

**FUNCTION SWITCHES**

- ③ INPUTS/TAPE SWITCH – Use this 2-position switch to choose either the line level inputs or the tape deck for listening.
- ④ LISTEN/MUTE SWITCH – Use this 2-position switch to either listen to or mute the signal.



**BACK PANEL**

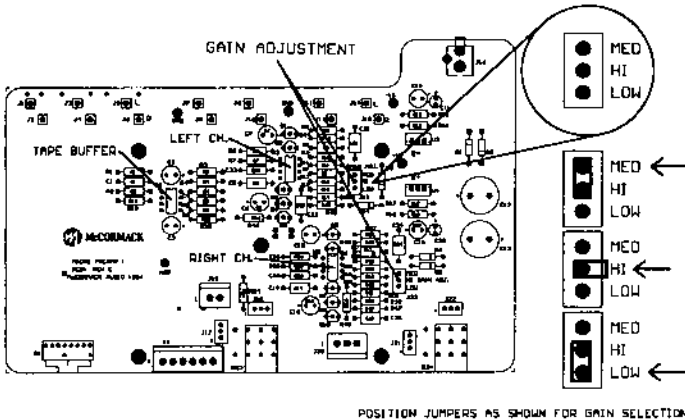
- ① AC IN – Use this jack for connecting the wall-mounted transformer to the Micro Line Drive.
- ② BYPASS MAIN OUTPUT – Use this output pair for a signal which bypasses the active gain stages.
- ③ ACTIVE MAIN OUTPUT – Use this output pair for a signal processed through an active gain stage.

- ④ TAPE PAIRS – Use these inputs and outputs to connect a tape deck or external signal processor.
- ⑤ INPUT PAIRS – Use these input pairs to connect 3 line level sources, such as a CD player, tuner, DCC, Mini Disc, or the audio signal from your VCR.

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together, adjusting both the left and right channels simultaneously. However, they also can be used to adjust balance as described in the following section.

- Adjust balance between the two channels, when necessary, by holding one of the VOLUME knobs firmly with one hand and rotating the other knob with your other hand. Once the correct balance is established, it will be maintained and you may adjust volume by turning either of the VOLUME knobs. To reset the balance, repeat this simple procedure.
- To listen to a tape, simply connect your tape deck to the TAPE jacks on the back panel and select the TAPE position on the INPUTS/TAPE switch.
- Set the LISTEN/MUTE switch to the MUTE position when you are finished listening.



## GAIN ADJUSTMENT

Your Micro Line Drive allows you to choose between 3 levels of gain to best match your system. Gain setting is different from volume control. Gain is the amplification factor of the preamplifier (how much "boost" is applied to the incoming signal), while moving the volume control simply changes how much of the input signal is fed to the amplifier stage.

The gain settings are: HI (+12 dB), MED (+6 dB), and LOW (+1 dB). All units will be set for MED gain at the factory. If you wish to change the gain setting, follow this simple procedure.

- 1.) Turn down the VOLUME controls, turn off your power amplifier and disconnect the Micro Line Drive from the AC wall socket.
- 2.) Use the small Allen wrench supplied with your Micro Line Drive to loosen the 6 screws holding the top cover in place and remove the top cover.
- 3.) Use the diagram above to locate the 2 sets (1 per channel) of black plastic gain adjustment jumpers.

4.) Adjust the gain by pulling both jumpers (1 per channel) straight up, then pushing them straight down in the newly selected position.

5.) Replace the top cover. Tighten the screws carefully. Reconnect the Micro Line Drive to the AC wall socket and turn on your power amplifier.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

- If you experience loss of power or signal, check your interconnect, power cord, and transformer connections. Make certain all are secure. Check your AC wall socket to make sure it is supplying power.
- If the green LED at the lower center of the front panel is lighted but there is no sound from the system, then check all cables for tight connections. Check the position of the INPUTS/TAPE switch.
- Check the position of the LISTEN/MUTE switch. It should be in the LISTEN position.
- Make certain both your signal source and your power amplifier are operating correctly.
- There are no fuses or other user serviceable parts in the Micro Line Drive. Contact your McCormack Dealer for service options.

## SPECIFICATIONS

<b>Inputs:</b>	3 line level 1 tape
<b>Outputs:</b>	1 main, active (with selectable gain) 1 main, bypass 1 tape
<b>Gain:</b>	adjustable to either +1 dB, +6 dB or +12 dB
<b>Input impedance:</b>	13k ohms
<b>Output impedance:</b>	main, active – 100 ohm main, bypass – varies with volume setting (approx. 1700 ohms at the 12 o'clock setting) tape 100 ohm
<b>Absolute polarity:</b>	non-inverting
<b>Dimensions:</b>	9.5" wide, 9" deep, 3" high
<b>Shipping weight:</b>	8 lbs.

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