**PRESS RELEASE**

**Ash Soan Uses Neve® 88RLB Preamps To Capture The Sound of An Iconic Neve Desk**

*By installing two Neve***®** *88RLB preamps in his project studio, this acclaimed drummer can enjoy the same sound he gets in top studios such as British Grove.*

**Burnley, UK. September 14th 2021**: Neve’s classic 88RS console weighs around two tons and certainly doesn’t fit into most project studios, including the one owned by internationally acclaimed drummer Ash Soan. But when Ash wanted to capture the sound of this iconic desk on his recordings, he found a simple solution in the shape of two Neve**®** 88RLB mono mic preamps.

Ash, who has toured and recorded with some of the biggest names in the music industry, has installed the 88RLB units into a rack that already included four Neve**®** 1073LB mic preamps, which he bought over 10 years ago.

“My studio is mainly used for drum recording and I have a selection of UA interfaces, with Neve preamps for the main kit,” he explains. “I use 1073’s for my kick, snare and hats but I wanted the 88RLB for my overheads. They fit perfectly together and work great, and I’m very happy with the results I’m achieving.”

Currently a member of Trevor Horn’s band The Producers (along with Steve Lipson and Lol Crème), Ash’s impressive 30-plus year career has resulted in 58 Top Ten albums, 29 No. 1 albums and 10 No.1 singles for artists such as Cher, Seal, Robbie Williams, Billy Idol, Adele, Enrique Iglesias, Dionne Warwick and Rumer, James Morrison, Cee Lo, Celine Dion and Ronan Keating.

A music graduate from Salford University and a former student at Tech Music School, Ash Soan got his first big break as a drummer in 1994 when he joined the band Del Amitri. He toured and recorded with Del Amitri until 1997, then subsequently played with Faithless and Squeeze. He also played at the 2012 Olympic Games opening ceremony with Mike Oldfield and was the house drummer on the television show *The Voice* for seven years. His film work is also extensive and incudes playing on the *Terminator Genisys* and *Mission Impossible Fall Out* soundtracks for composer Lorne Balfe and on the *Kung Fu Panda 3* and *The Lion King 2019* soundtracks for Hans Zimmer.

As someone who operates at the top of the recording profession, Ash has worked in many of the world’s best recording studios and has often enjoyed the sound of high quality analogue Neve consoles such as the 88RS. It is this exposure to the best that inspired him to invest in Neve 88RLS units for his own studio.

“I was at British Grove recently with Hans Zimmer and Stephen Lipson and I loved the Neve 88R console there,” he explains. “Installing 88RLB units is a very cost effective, convenient and accessible way of getting that sound into a small studio like mine.”

Based in Norfolk, Ash’s studio was originally set up as a practise space and somewhere to store his equipment, but while working on *The Voice* he began hosting sessions for clients such as Alicia Keys and Dua Lipa, so he decided it was time to focus more attention on the room.

“I’ve since used the studio to record for Seal, Cher, James Morrison, Rod Stewart, Dua Lipa, Alicia Keys, Julian Lennon, Hans Zimmer, Sam Smith and Ed Sheehan,” he says. “It tends to be primarily pop and film sessions and I mainly use Pro Tools.”

Ash’s new Neve’s 88RLB units are in the 500 Series format and use exactly the same technology as the preamps in an 88R console. However, they also come with useful extra features such as a sweepable high pass filter, intelligent phantom power control, a DI input and a REGenerate function that makes is easy to add analogue warmth to individual sources, or even entire mixes.

“I just love the colour from the preamps on my drums,” he says. “I’ve had that sound many times in the past when I’ve recorded in large studios, but owning my own preamps is the perfect way to add that sound to the recordings I am making now.”

**-ends-**

**About AMS Neve**

AMS Neve engineers have pioneered the greatest proportion of the ground-breaking techniques in the professional audio industry.  Just a few examples of “world firsts” are moving fader automation, hard disk editing, digital console technology, digital audio for film, microprocessor-controlled effects units and standards such as MADI.

The most discerning artists, producers and facility owners regard AMS Neve products as No. 1 for desirability on their equipment list and have done so for the past fifty years.

Recognised by all the premier bodies in the various fields of music, TV and film, the products and their designers have been honoured by two Scientific and Engineering Academy® Awards, an Emmy™ and a Grammy™ amongst many others.

All AMS Neve products are designed and built in-house at the company’s Headquarters in Burnley, England. For more information please visit: [http://www.ams-neve.com](http://www.ams-neve.com/)

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