

Warmth and softness

A twin channel “Variable Gm” device, where compression ratio starts low and increases gradually, being so subtle and natural, but “punchy” when driven hard. Very low noise, full balanced all tube signal path giving a crisp and warm sound with greater presence, naturality and transparency.

The “vari-mu” is a competent performer in its totally analog form, both for recording direct and processing tracks in the mix.

It enhances the vocals and individual instruments by being unobtrusive, gently warming sounds, impressive on overall mixes.

The frequency response is absolutely flat over the entire audio range and beyond.

It is built like a tank, a life-lasting 3-unit rack chassis that’ll warm the heart of every sound engineer.



QES Labs



Variable Gm

*Twin channel Tube Variable- μ
Compressor Limiter*



QES

www.qeslabs.com

Unit with analog tube circuitry, totally handmade with the finest selection of components.

Sales Representative:

The system

Class A all tube signal path. Totally balanced, “*dual mono*” or stereo linked operation. Its low output impedance ensures long run cables to be driven with ease.

Input Attenuator -∞/0dB
Continuous rotary knob to fit any high level input.

Output Attenuator -10 to 0 dB
Continuous rotary knob (24-step on mastering version).

Attack 5 to 100 mS
Continuous rotary knob (24-step on mastering version).

Release 12 steps
Selectable between: 0.5, 0.6, 0.7, 0.8, 1, 1.2, 1.5, 2, 2.5, 3, 4, 5 Sec. (counter-clockwise position).

Threshold out to -8 vu
Continuous rotary knob (switched in mastering).



Matched components

In the Variable μ circuitry, the ratio is automatically selected from the circuit itself, with the effect of a more natural sounding response.

Analog needle meter In – GR - Out
Selectable to show the amount of gain reduction, input and output volume-unit (V.U.) levels.

Link Dual Mono / Stereo linked
It sets the unit to operate as two completely independent compressors, or linked for stereo operation.

True bypass
Hard-wired true bypass, gas-filled relay controlled, to easily allow A-B'ing of program material.

Side-chain HPF (High Pass) 3 steps
It prevents the very-low frequency to access the side-chain, preventing the bass to control the limiting action. 1st order (6dB/oct.), selectable between Off, 120, 150 Hz.



Spec Sheet

C.M.R.R. ≥ -60dB
Rejection ratio at 10 kHz.

Frequency response 20Hz – 20KHz
+0, -0.5 dB

Signal to Noise Ratio ≥ -98 dB
Max output level, 22Hz to 22KHz, 600Ω terminated.

M.O.L. maximum output level +26 dBm
For 1% T.H.D. + Noise, 600Ω terminated.

XLR Inputs and Outputs
Floating transformer-coupled balanced design, Pin 2 Hot.

Tubes (each channel)
5749 x2 (6386LGP custom option), 6201, 5726, 6V6 x2

Input impedance 20 kΩ

Output impedance 250 Ω

Power supply 115/230Vac, 50/60 Hz

Net weight (main unit + PSU) 45.42lbs (20.6kg)

