

# GLADIVS

## TUBE AMPLIFIER FOR GUITAR

### Model Express

## USER MANUAL

### Contents

Security Information.....	2
Controls .....	4
Front Panel.....	4
Back Panel.....	5
Comissioning.....	6
General Product Description, Options.....	7
Specifications.....	8
GLADIVS Express.....	8
Valves.....	9
Appendix	
EC Declaration of Conformity.....	10

Congratulations on your purchase of the GLADIVS Express and thank you for the trust you have placed in us. To ensure trouble free enjoyment we highly recommend that you thoroughly read this manual before using your new GLADIVS amplifier for the first time.

Please keep these instructions for future reference.

## Security Information

Please read these operating instructions carefully before using the amplifier for the first time.

### REMOVAL AND INSERT

Always unplug the unit when not in use. Always unplug the power cord by the plug not by the cord, pulling on the cord can cause damage that can lead to a fire hazard or electrical shocks.

### DO NOT TOUCH THE PLUG WITH WET HANDS

Plugging or unplugging the amplifier with wet hands can result in an electric shock.

### MAINS VOLTAGE

Pay attention to the specified voltage values. Using the wrong mains voltage can lead to malfunctions, fire or electric shock.

### CABLE PROTECTION

Protect the cables from mechanical stress (squeezing, pulling) and from moisture. Damaged cables may lead to fire or short circuits.

### ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS

Do not operate the amplifier in high humidity, not outdoors during heavy rain or thunderstorms.

### AMBIENT CONDITIONS

Do NOT operate the amplifier in high humidity.

### REPAIRS

Never override the fuses and never replace them with values other than those specified.

Repairs, including the replacement of defective fuses, should only be carried out by qualified personnel.

Unauthorized changes, which have not been expressly approved by the manufacturer Gladius Amps, forfeit the right of the owner to operate the device.

### HAZARDOUS SITUATION

If you notice any abnormal phenomena such as smoke, noise or odors, immediately turn off the power and unplug the power cord from the power supply. Then please contact qualified personnel. Continued operation can be hazardous and cause a fire or electric shock. This also applies to cases where the device has been exposed to rain or moisture, foreign objects or liquids have entered the amplifier and must be removed, the amplifier has fallen to the ground, or generally does not work properly.

## **Security Information (continued)**

### **DO NOT OPEN THE CASE**

**CAUTION:** Never open your equipment yourself. There are no user serviceable parts inside. Therefore we strongly advise not to open the unit yourself. Opening a unit is only allowed to trained and qualified service engineers, who are fully aware of the fact that it can be dangerous to service a mains powered unit.

- Always earth the unit. –

### **EXTRANEOUS OBJECTS**

Please do not insert solid objects or liquid materials into the amplifier. In the case of an accident, please turn the unit off immediately and disconnect the power cable. Then, please contact qualified personnel. If an object is inside the unit, it may cause a fire, short circuit, or other damage.

Never place containers with liquids (eg beverages) on the amplifier. Failure to do so may result in fire or electric shock.

### **POSITIONING OF THE DEVICE**

Place the amplifier on a safe and stable support.

Please do not place heavy objects on the amplifier and make sure that the cables are laid so that no one can stumble over them and injure themselves.

### **VENTILATION REQUIREMENTS**

The ventilation slots should provide adequate ventilation. Make sure that you do not obscure the ventilation slots of the amplifier, since there is a risk of fire. To ensure adequate ventilation, leave at least 10 cm of space between the amplifier and the wall.

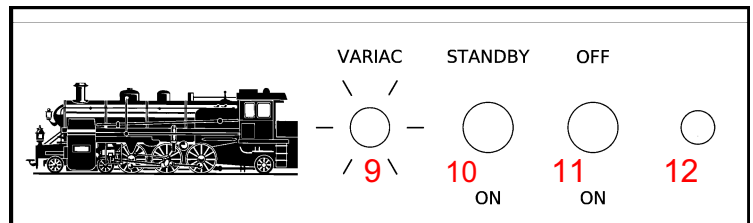
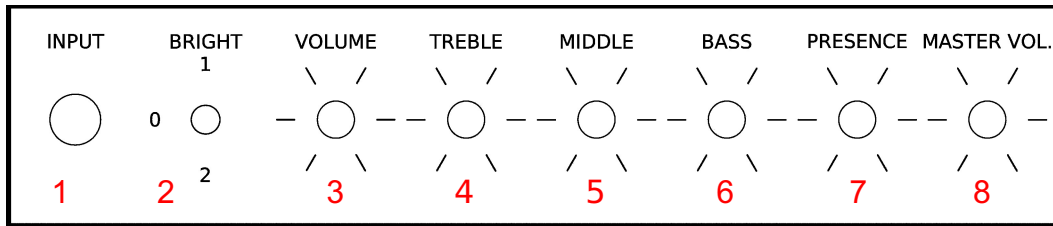
### **DETACH THE CABLES BEFORE REMOVING THE AMPLIFIER**

If you want to transport the amplifier, switch it off and disconnect the power, instrumentation and loudspeaker cables from the unit. Failure to remove the cables could result in fire or short circuit.

### **UNPLUG THE AMPLIFIER**

If you do not use the amplifier for an extended period of time, we advise you to disconnect the device from the power supply in order to avoid accidental hazards.

## Front Panel Controls



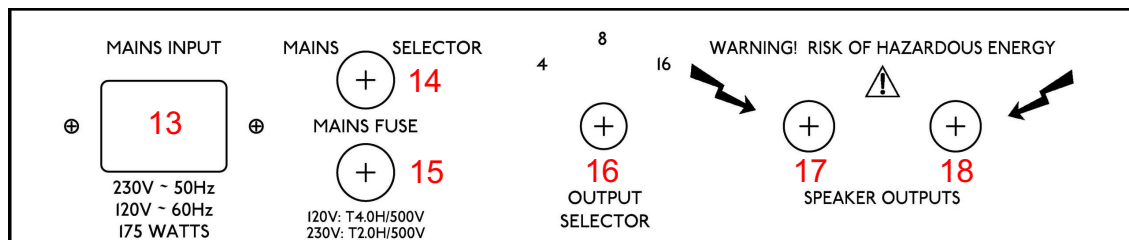
### Amplifier

- (1) INPUT: Instrument jack
- (2) BRIGHT: Position 1 and 2 provide different high end sound profiles.
- (3) VOLUME: Adjustment of volume
- (4) TREBLE: Continuous adjustment of the treble frequencies.
- (5) MIDDLE: Continuous adjustment of the middle frequencies.
- (6) BASS: Continuous adjustment of the bass frequencies
- (7) PRESENCE: Adjustment of presence
- (8) MASTER VOL.: Adjustment of master volume
- (9) VARIAC: This power control is a special feature of the GLADIVS amplifiers, that enables you to play at low volume without noticeable loss of sound quality.

### Power Supply

- (10) STANDBY: Standby position, amplifier function switched off.  
ON: Amplifier active.  
Switch the switch (10) to ON after approx. 2 minutes so that the tubes are preheated and ready for operation. Between sets, use the STANDBY switch instead of the mains switch to spare the tubes. Frequent heating and cooling shortens the life of the tubes and should be avoided.
- (11) Mains Switch ON - OFF  
**Attention!** Do NOT turn ON the mains switch (11) unless switch (10) is in STANDBY position, to avoid damage to the tubes!
- (11) INDICATOR: Signal lamp for mains.

## Back Panel Controls



(13) MAINS INPUT: Mains connector socket 230 V~ , 120 V~ respectively

(14) MAINS Selector for mains voltage 230 V~ or 120 V

**Attention! Before changing the settings the amplifier must be disconnected from mains and the required mains fuse must be inserted (see inscription) Turning on the amplifier with the wrong setting of the mains selector may cause heavy damage (q.v. security information).**

(15) MAINS FUSE

**Attention! This fuse must not be replaced with a fuse of a different type, nor be bridged.**

(16) OUTPUT SELECTOR: Three-position loudspeaker impedance switch for outputs (17), (18) - selectable impedance 4  $\Omega$ , 8  $\Omega$  and 16  $\Omega$ .

(17), (18) Speaker connection sockets

**Attention! Speakers may be connected only when the amplifier is disconnected from the mains supply..**

## Commissioning

Only operate the amplifier after it has adapted to the prevailing ambient temperature. Otherwise there is the danger of damage by condensation or by electric shock.

The amplifier may only be operated with connected loudspeakers. Always connect the speakers to the amplifier first before connecting the amplifier to the power supply. The loudspeaker impedance must be set with the output selector to the impedance of the speaker cabinet. The load capacity of the connected speaker cabinet (maximum power handling) must be at least as high as the output power of the amplifier.

Either a single speaker cabinet or two cabinets can be connected. If two cabinets are operated at the same time, both must have the same impedance and the output selector must be set to half the impedance. The power handling capacity of each of the two cabinets must be at least half the output power of the amplifier.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Never operate the amplifier without a sufficient load, otherwise you may damage or destroy the power amp! Ensure your cabinet's specifications match the respective output's specs as noted below.

Example

1 speaker cabinet with 16  $\Omega$  and 50 W is connected to an amplifier with 18 W output power  
--> Set the output selector to 16  $\Omega$  on the amplifier.

2 speaker cabinets with 8  $\Omega$  and 50 W are connected to an amplifier with 18 W output power.  
--> Set output selector to 4  $\Omega$  at the amplifier.

2 speaker cabinets with 16  $\Omega$  and 50 W are connected to an amplifier with 18 W output power.  
--> Set output selector to 8  $\Omega$  at the amplifier.

Plug the speaker cable into the speaker cabinet before plugging it into the amplifier to prevent the speaker connection from being forgotten (else the valves of the power amp could be damaged).

Make sure that the STANDBY switch is set to STANDBY before the power switch is turned on. Wait approximately two minutes after turning on before setting the switch to the ON position. The power valves must reach the appropriate temperature before use.

## **General Product Description**

The GLADIVS Express is a classic single channel class AB tube amplifier.

The amplifier is hand wired and has an aluminium chassis.

In addition the amplifier is equipped with the GLADIVS Variac, which allows to play at greatly reduced volume and without noticable sound losses.

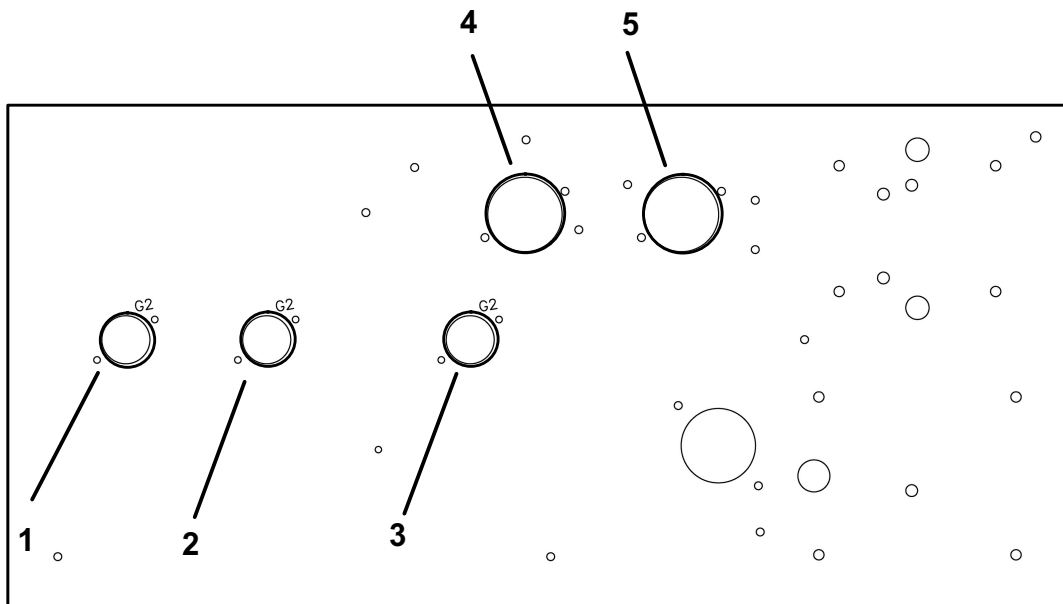
## Specifications

### GLADIVS Express

Type:	Class AB
Output power	< 1 W - 40 W
Power amp:	2x EL34
Preamp:	3x ECC83
Rectifier:	Solid-state
Input Controls:	Bright, Volume, Treble, Middle, Bass, Presence, Master Volume
Speaker connectors:	2
Speaker impedance:	4 / 8 / 16 $\Omega$ switchable
Output Power Control:	Continuously variable VARIAC
Colour:	Dyed solid maple
Mains voltage:	120 V~ / 230 V~ 45-60 Hz
Power consumption:	175 VA max.
Weight:	13.1 kg
Dimensions:	WxDxH 47x25x23 cm
Special features:	Master Volume, GLADIVS VARIAC



## Valves



- 1) ECC83
- 2) ECC83
- 3) ECC83
- 4) EL34
- 5) EL34

Important! 4) und 5) must be matched!

## Appendix

### EC/EU Declaration of Conformity

# GLADIUS

**Document:** CE – EXPR

**Manufacturer:** Gladiusamps  
Schloßstraße 12, 86732 Oettingen i. Bay.  
GERMANY

We declare that the designated product(s)

#### **Express**

are in conformity with the European Directives:

**2014/30/EU EMC Directive of 26 February 2014**

**2011/65/EU RoHS Directive of 8 June 2011**

**2014/35/EU Electrical equipment designed for use within certain voltage limits**

This declaration certifies compliance with the indicated directives but implies no warranty of properties. The safety instructions of the accompanying documentation shall be observed. This declaration of conformity is issued under the sole responsibility of the manufacturer.

**Issuer:** Gladiusamps  
Schloßstraße 12  
86732 Oettingen i. Bay.  
GERMANY

**Place, date:** Oettingen, 10.11.2020

**Legally binding  
signature:**



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Sočnik CEO



## **GLADIUSAmps**

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