



# TC 3

## Multipattern Small Capsule Tube Microphone

### INTRODUCTION

Congratulations on choosing the Golden Age Project TC 3 Small Capsule Tube microphone!

The TC 3 is a high quality and very versatile small capsule tube microphone with three exchangeable capsule heads, pad and high-pass filter.

The TC 3 is very well suited for the recording of vocals and most instrument sources like acoustic instruments, strings, horns, orchestras and choral groups and many live sound applications.

In spite of its moderate cost for the performance and facilities it offers, the TC 3 meets the most stringent demands.

To get maximum benefit and trouble free use out of the TC 3, please read this manual carefully.

### FEATURES

- True condenser microphone with 20mm, 3um gold-sputtered low-distorsion capsules.
- Low-noise class-A tube amplifier with a selected high-grade miniature tube that runs in triode mode, resulting in a warm and detailed sound that add new dimension to vocal and instrument recordings.
- Totally discrete electronics with a high-quality transformer balanced output stage.
- Three exchangeable heads with Cardioid, Hyper-Cardioid and Omni polar pattern.
- Switches for 15 dB pad and 75 Hz high-pass filter.
- Heavy duty brass body.
- Metal shock mount included.
- Goldplated XLR connector.
- External power supply and cables.
- De luxe aluminium flight case.

### USE OF THE TC 3

Connect the supplied cable between the TC 3 and the power supply with the power switch off. Then connect a standard balanced XLR microphone cable between the 3-pin XLR connector on power supply to the preamp or mixer. The TC 3 power supply needs 115 or 230V AC power. For optimum performance, let the TC 3 warm up for at least 15 minutes before use.

The three different capsule heads gives you three different polar patterns that not only

change the polar pattern but also the frequency response of the TC 3. The different capsules therefore gives you three different sound palettes. The Omni capsule will pick up more reflexions and room sound but that can effect can be lessened, if needed, by going closer to the source. Experiment with the different heads and microphone placement (position, direction and distance) to find your favourite sound for different applications.

Be aware of the proximity effect (an increase in bass response using the Cardioid and Hyper-Cardioid heads) when the TC 3 is close to the sound source. This can be a good or a bad thing. You can adjust the bass response by changing the distance from the microphone to the sound source for an optimum result in different situations. You can also use the high-pass filter on the TC 3 to lessen the proximity effect but be aware that the proximity effect comes into play a good deal above the 75 Hz cut-off frequency of the high-pass filter. You can also try the Omni capsule that has no proximity effect.

Changing heads: Carefully screw the mounted head anti-clockwise until it is loose from the TC 3 body. Then mount the new head carefully by screwing it clockwise on the microphone body. Tight the head moderately.





### PRECAUTIONS

- Make sure that you select the proper voltage on the voltage selector on the power supply before connecting the unit to 115 or 230V AC power, otherwise the unit will be damaged! This is not covered by the warranty.

In order to ensure a long life for your TC 3, please always follow these guidelines:

1. Do never subject the TC 3 and its parts to hard knocks, such as dropping it or not packing it properly when you move or transport it. Remember that not the least the microphone heads of the TC 3 are sensitive parts!
2. Do never blow into the TC 3 and protect it from any strong blast of air movement. Do never put in inside or close to the front of a kick drum. Use a pop-filter and place it at least 0,5m away.
3. Do always use a pop-filter for close-up vocals to protect the capsule from mouth spray.
4. Do always protect the TC 3 from dirt and moisture.
5. Do never use phantom power with the TC 3.
6. When the TC 3 is not in use, always keep it in its case or in its vinyl pouch.
7. Avoid exposing the TC 3 to direct sunlight or extremes in humidity for extended periods of time.
8. Do never try to service the TC 3 yourself since this will void the warranty.

### WARRANTY

Please check the TC 3 carefully immediately when you receive it and make sure that there are no problems with the microphone. The warranty period is one year (90-days on the tube) and apply to defects in materials and workmanship. It does not cover misuse of the TC 3.

If you ever experience any problem with the TC 3, contact your dealer.

### SPECIFICATIONS

Type: True small capsule condenser microphone.

Polar patterns: Cardioid, Hyper-Cardioid and Omni.

Frequency response: 20 Hz – 20 kHz.

Sensitivity: -34 dB (0 dB = 1V/Pa) @ 1 kHz.

Equivalent Noise Level (A-weighted per IEC 268-4): < 18 dB typical.

Maximum SPL (<1% THD @ 1 kHz): 140 dB.

Output impedance: 200 ohm, balanced.

Recommended load impedance: > 1000 Ohms.

Dimensions: mm.

Weight: 1 500 g.

Please note: Specifications can be changed at any time without notice.

**Many thanks for purchasing the  
Golden Age Project TC 3**

**- We wish you much joy and many wonderful  
recordings with it!**

