

# USER INSTRUCTIONS



## VP100L

### HIGH END LINE PREAMPLIFIER



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## **WARNING: POTENTIAL SHOCK HAZARD!**



This symbol is intended to alert the user of the presence of important operating and maintenance (servicing) instructions in the literature accompanying the appliance



This symbol is intended to alert the user of the presence of uninsulated "dangerous voltage" within the product's enclosure that may be of sufficient magnitude to constitute a risk of electric shock to persons

**TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE OR ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT EXPOSE THIS APPLIANCE TO RAIN OR MOISTURE.**

**This product uses high voltage. There are no operator serviceable parts inside. Refer servicing to qualified personnel only. Observe all warnings and instructions marked on the product. Use only a grounded outlet.**

**Do not install or use this product near water or when you are wet. Install the product securely on a stable surface.**

**During operation the heat dissipators and some other parts become hot: do not touch.**

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### **Information:**

**Marking by the "CE" symbol indicates compliance of this device with the EMC (Electromagnetic Compatibility) and LVD (Low Voltage Directive) standards of the European Community.**

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# I. FOREWORD

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## 1. CONGRATULATIONS!

You just purchased the **VP100L** preamplifier. VENTURE AUDIO first wants to thank you for your trust and support.

**VP100L** is the result of VENTURE's many years of studies and research and extensive experience in designing High Performance Audio systems.

All components are selected based on their best sound quality and hand selected for its realization with extremely care. These attentions will permit to reach true musical quality heights.

Used in conjunction with very high quality components – as the mono Class A amplifiers **V100A+**, you can feel confident that all the recorded musical emotion will be played back to you.

## 2. VP100L

**VP100L**'s design is based on a Solid State Single Ended Type offering 4 single ended inputs (RCA) and 4 balanced (XLR) inputs.

Its commuted resistors and its fully Single-End discrete buffer allow obtaining a real and more natural restitution through a transparency and dynamic never reached before.

The **VP100L** operates without any feedback. This provides and preserves the maximum of dynamics and transparency.

Volume adjustment is insured by resistors commutation (switching), which are driven digitally. The signal path is as straight as possible, and the connection with satellite boards is handled through opto-coupling.

Its remote control allows putting the power amplifier **V100A+** in stand-by mode. This way you will reach its highest level of musicality within minutes of warm up time.

**VP100L** amazing musicality will sublime your imagination.

## II. SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

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**Before operating your VENTURE appliance, please read all instructions and cautions carefully and completely.**

- ✓ ALWAYS disconnect your entire system from the AC mains before connecting or disconnecting any cables, or when cleaning any component.
- ✓ ALWAYS use a three-conductor AC mains power cord which includes an earth ground connection. To prevent shock hazard, all three connections must be used.
- ✓ Original AC mains power cord is recommended for use with this product.
- ✓ NEVER use flammable or combustible chemicals for cleaning.
- ✓ NEVER operate this product with removed cover.
- ✓ NEVER wet the inside of this product with any kind of liquid.
- ✓ NEVER pour or spill liquids directly onto this unit.
- ✓ NEVER block air flow through ventilation slots or heat-sinks.
- ✓ NEVER bypass any fuse.
- ✓ NEVER replace any fuse with a value or type other than those specified.
- ✓ NEVER attempt to repair this product: contact your retailer.
- ✓ NEVER expose this product to extremely high or low temperatures.
- ✓ ALWAYS unplug sensitive electronic equipment during lightning

## III. OVERVIEW

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### 1. UNPACKING

Your package contains:

- ☞ VP100L preamplifier.
- ☞ Rc5 remote control, delivered with two Lr03 batteries (type AAA).
- ☞ External power-supply unit
- ☞ 10-pins power cord to plug between the preamplifier and the power-supply unit
- ☞ Mains power cord
- ☞ This user manual.

### 2. POSITIONING

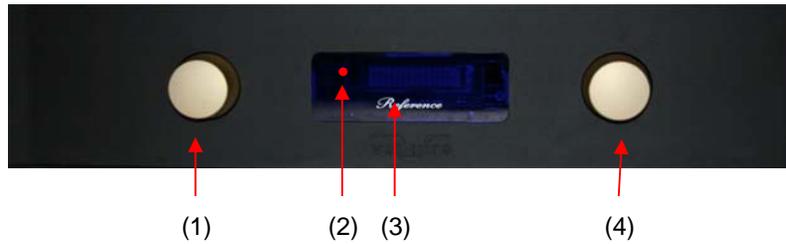
The **VP100L** preamplifier must be installed in a place far from about 10cm from the other appliances. This will guarantee the best signal-to-noise ratio. In the same manner, please allow at least 50 cm between the power-supply unit and the preamplifier. The plugged cord is 1m long.

Keep about 10cm of free space above VP100L chassis, to allow proper heat dissipation.

Height and positioning within your furniture must be thought in a manner, where the angle with the remote control will not exceed 40° in both horizontal and vertical axis.

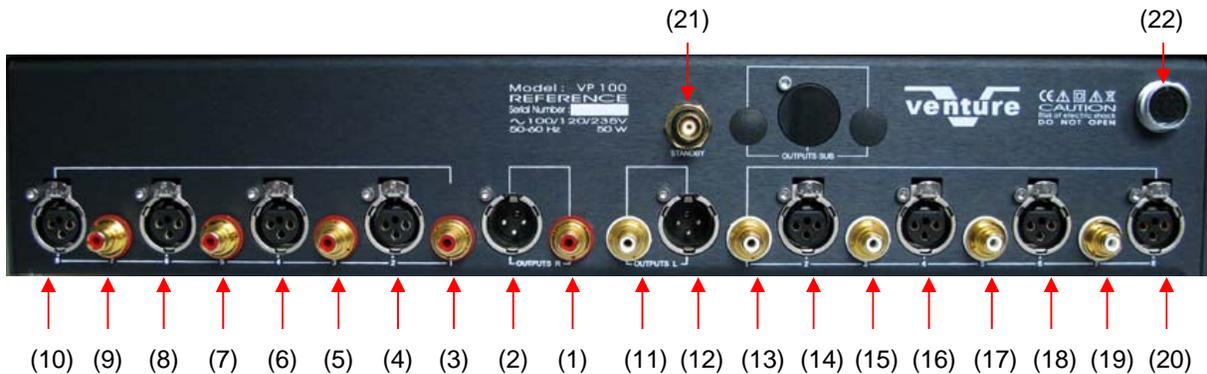
## IV. DESCRIPTION OF APPLIANCE ELEMENTS

### 1. FRONT PANEL



- ① Selector knob to exit Set-up
- ② Pre-amplifier offset security LED (default off)
- ③ Digital display
- ④ Volume knob to access Set-up

### 2. REAR PANEL



#### RIGHT CHANNEL

- (1) RCA Right output
- (2) XLR Right output
- (3) RCA 1 Right Input
- (4) XLR 2 Right Input
- (5) RCA 3 Right Input
- (6) XLR 4 Right Input
- (7) RCA 5 Right Input
- (8) XLR 6 Right Input
- (9) RCA 7 Right Input
- (10) XLR 8 Right Input

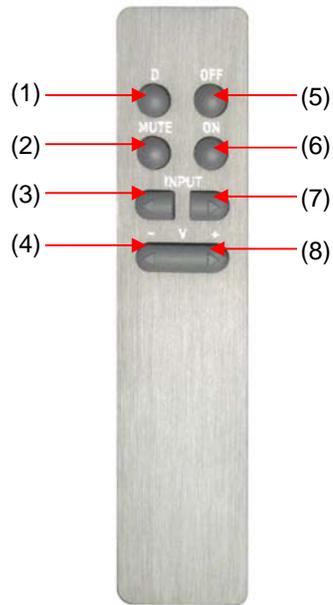
#### LEFT CHANNEL

- (11) RCA Left output
- (12) XLR Left output
- (13) RCA 1 Left Input
- (14) XLR 2 Left Input
- (15) RCA 3 Left Input
- (16) XLR 4 Left Input
- (17) RCA 5 Left Input
- (18) XLR 6 Left Input
- (19) RCA 7 Left Input
- (20) XLR 8 Left Input

- (21) BNC Stand-By mode output
- (22) Power-supply cord plug (10-pins)

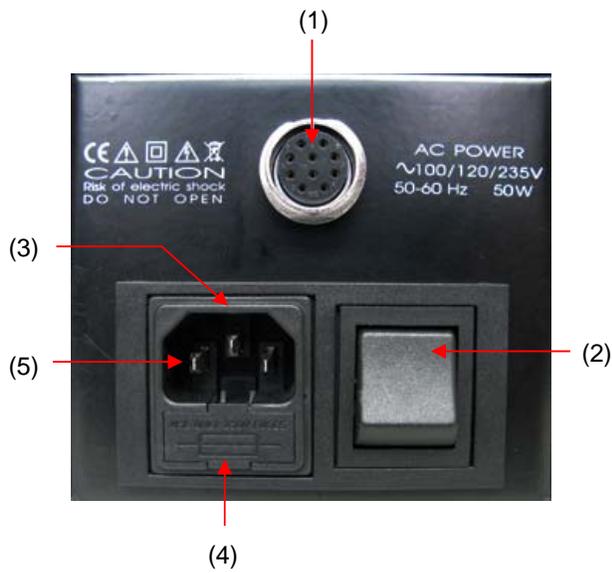
### 3. REMOTE CONTROL

Infrared LED emitter



- (1) Switch on/off the digital display.
- (2) Mutes the sound or back to previous volume.
- (3) Selects inputs (-).
- (4) Lowers sound volume (-).
- (5) Sets the amplifiers in Stand-By mode
- (6) Wakes up the amplifiers (Stand-by off)
- (7) Selects inputs (+).
- (8) Rises sound volume (+).

### 4. POWER SUPPLY UNIT



- (1) 10-Pins Power-supply plug to connect to the VP100 preamplifier
- (2) On/Off switch
- (3) Mains plug inlet.
- (4) 500mA mains fuse
- (5) Mains phase input pin.

## V. OPERATION INSTRUCTIONS

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### 1. POWER SWITCH

After having connected the inputs to the corresponding appliances (CD player, Phono preamp, tape, tuner...) and the outputs to the dedicated appliances (amplifiers, active crossovers...), the **VP100L** preamplifier can be switched on using the power switch located on the rear panel of the power supply chassis.

It is advised to put the **VP100L** on standby instead of switching off to fully and instantly benefit from its maximum musical quality. However, if meant to keep away for a long time (as for holidays for instance), or in the case of any storm risk, it is considered safe to switch the appliance off, with the rest of the Hi-Fi elements.

### 2. OPERATIONS

**Stand-By mode** is accessible from the remote control. It allows reducing dramatically the energy consumption of the appliance. Once awoken (disabling the stand-by mode), the preamplifier will provide its optimum musical quality after only 15 minutes, whereas the first operation will require more than 4 hours of warm-up (as will require any main switch-on) to reach this same level.

**VP100L** offers 8 inputs (4 single ended "RCA", and 4 balanced "XLR"). At start-up, it initializes itself to the RCA1 input and the -66 db volume level (max attenuation). Use the Volume knob (right knob) or the remote control to adjust the volume. Use the Selector knob (left knob) to select other inputs.

**Mute function** from remote control permits to lower instantly the volume to its minimum (being -90 dB). A new push on the Mute key will bring the volume level back to its previous state.

**Display function** from the remote control permits to switch the digital display on or off.

**Set-up** is accessed through a light push on the Volume knob. Using the Selector knob it allows to tune some parameters at initial set-up of your preamplifier, such as the channel balance between left & right and the output level of each input.

To adjust the **channel balance**, turn the Selector knob to Channel balance. The balance level between left and right channels can be adjusted by turning the Volume knob. The inter-channels balance is limited to 9dB maximum.

**Level of the inputs**, RCA1.....XLR8, can be adjusted limited to -10 dB. If the appliances connected to the VP100L should have the same output level, then use the level of the appliance with the lowest sensitivity as reference and adjust by lowering the output level of the other appliances with the Volume knob until all have the same output level. Now the Vp100L can be switched from one appliance input to the other with the same output level.

Push lightly on the Selector knob to exit the set-up program. All parameters are then stored within the preamplifier.

### 3. DISPLAYS DESCRIPTIONS

VENTURE  
PREAMP VP100

Standard display at start-up will show VP100 or VP100L accordingly

VOLUME = -66dB  
INPUT = RCA 1

After start-up, the display shows the volume (attenuation level) of -66dB, and the first input RCA1 is activated.

VOLUME = -0dB  
INPUT = RCA 1

The volume can be adjusted through remote control or the Volume knob on the right, from -65dB (low volume) to 0dB (loud).

VOLUME = -40dB  
INPUT = XLR 2

By using the remote control or selection knob, the different inputs can be selected: RCA1, XLR2, RCA3, XLR4, RCA5, XLR6, RCA7, XLR8.

SETUP  
Vol L = -0dB

By a slight push on the Volume knob the setup is activated. By turning the Selector knob to the right, the left channel balance is accessed. The balance is limited to 9dB difference between channels. Use the Volume knob to adjust the balance level.

SETUP  
Vol R = -0dB

Turn the Selector knob further to the right to access the right channel balance setting.

VOLUME = -8dB  
INPUT = RCA 1

By further turning the Selector knob, the level of the input of each appliance can be adjusted accordingly up to -10 dB.

VOLUME = -40dB  
INPUT = XLR 2

Push lightly on the Selection knob to exit at any step from the set-up program. Parameters are now stored within the preamplifier.

LEARN RC5  
OFF

Last in the set-up program, we can teach the preamplifier some new remote control codes. This functionality is only to be used when using a new remote control.

LEARN RC5  
ON

This option is defaulted to OFF (disabled). Turn the volume knob right to enable it. Turning left sets it back to OFF.

LEARN RC5  
ERROR

To use this functionality, select ON then exit the set-up. The screen displays LEARN RC5 ERROR. Now press any key from the remote control. The operation is complete. The preamplifier displays back its welcome screen.

[EXIT]

Push lightly on the Selection knob to exit at any step from the set-up program. Parameters are now stored within the preamplifier.

STANDBY

In normal mode (outside set-up) the stand-by mode can be activated from the remote control. It will put the mono power amplifier blocks (V100A+) in stand-by mode (to lower the current consumption when the appliances are not in use).

## 4. SECURITY

VENTURE AUDIO appliances are designed to operate in a perfect reliable and durable condition. This operation can however be influenced by external events. Some of them will require the action of the inner **VP100L** security system.

This security system aims at protect the appliance from any over-voltage, for instance, as they also act to protect the whole appliances under the preamplifier « responsibility ». Speakers for instance are this way protected from DC offset (at input or output of the preamplifier), often issued by source components such as CD players; once amplified, they can cause irreversible damages.

An activated security (front red LED is ON) will block the preamplifier operation until the problem or cause is fixed. In case of mains over-voltage for instance, the fuse within the external power-supply unit may have been blown. Please, only replace the fuse with the same one, as described below. In case of difficulties to find these fuses, please contact us.

For more information on the reasons of security system calls, please refer to the associated table within the « questions and answers » chapter.

At last, it is important to underline that these are exceptional cases, which never occur under normal conditions and good quality Hi-Fi elements (this implies that normal conditions do not call the security system and consequently do not require fuse changes).

### **External:**

A 500 mA (slow-blow) fuse is used on the mains socket base, within the external power-supply unit (for 230V)

A 1 A (slow-blow) fast fuse is used on the mains socket base, within the external power-supply unit (for 100-120V)

### **Internal:**

No fuse here, but a relay-based security system.

## 5. CLEANING

VP100L preamplifier was designed to operate perfectly with no specific setting or maintenance for a large number of years.

In case of dust removal, plainly process using a clean dry rag. In case of a dirty mark, DO NOT use any detergent or solvent, but use a clean wet rag.

### **Caution:**

**NEVER clean any appliance while in operation.**

## VI. SPECIFICATIONS

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### Main section:

Type:	Preamplifier
Volume:	-66dB to 0dB
Unbalanced Gain:	0dB
Balanced Gain:	6dB
Harmonic Distortion:	<0.01% / 600 Ohms / 2Volts
Noise:	<2.8 $\mu$ V (Typ.1,9 $\mu$ V)
Signal-to-Noise ratio:	> 120dB
Offset:	<0.1mV
Max input level:	4.5Veff / 600 Ohms
Inputs:	4 XLR inputs 4 RCA inputs
Output 1: XLR	Max level: 9Veff / 600 Ohms
Output 2: RCA	Max level: 4.5Veff / 600 Ohms
Inter-channel balance:	+/- 9dB ; 2 channels
Dimensions:	483 x 110 x 330 mm
Weight:	9 Kgs / 19.8 lbs

## VII. WARRANTY

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### 1. DURATION

VENTURE AUDIO products have limited warranty to be free of defects for a period of two (2) years from the date of purchase.

### 2. CONDITIONS

This warranty is subject to the following conditions and limitations. The warranty is void and inapplicable if the product has been used or handled other than in accordance with the instructions in the owner's manual, abused or misused, damaged by accident or neglect or in being transported, or if the defect is due to the product being repaired or tampered with or modified by anyone other than VENTURE AUDIO or an authorized repair center, or in case of removal, defacing or falsifying of the serial numbers.

### 3. MISCELLANEOUS

Any implied warranties relating to the above product shall be limited to the duration of this warranty. The warranty does not extend to any incidental or consequential costs or damages to the purchaser.

<b>DATE OF PURCHASE:</b>	
<b>SERIAL NUMBER:</b>	
<b>DEALER:</b>	

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### ☞ What difference between VENTURE and standard stand-by mode?

**VENTURE** stand-by mode does not switch off fully the appliance. Only the power stages are shut-off. They are the main current consumers. The heart of the amplifier stays warm and operational. This allows getting the full musical quality back in about 10 to 15 minutes after waking the appliance back up. A standard switch-on of the amplifier requires about 8 hours getting that same level back. The current consumption is divided by about 10 in stand-by mode. **VENTURE** however recommends switching the appliance fully off when leaving it unused for long periods (holidays...).

### ☞ Can the provided mains cable be changed?

The provided mains cable answers to standard norms. It can however be replaced by a higher quality **VENTURE** or other high end mains cable, if it answers to the same norms. A very sensitive musical gain can be heard, depending on the chosen cable. Caution: when changing this cable, please follow the polarity conditions of your country. Phase location is different for instance between US, British and French norms. While it would not prevent the appliance to operate, a sensitive loss could be heard (sound laid back).

### ☞ Is there any specific order to switch my Hi-Fi equipments on?

Always switch on the source equipment **first**: they sometimes emit a spark at switch on, and this must not be amplified and pushed to the speakers. Then follow down the equipments. An example of a switch-on chain: CD player, decoder (DAC), preamplifier, active crossovers (if any) and then amplifiers.

To switch off, please follow the reverse order.

### ☞ Is there any specific order to switch my Hi-Fi equipments off?

Always switch off the source equipments **last**: they sometimes emit a spark at switch off, and this must not be amplified and pushed to the speakers. Start from the bottom and then follow up to the source equipments. An example of a switch-off chain: amplifiers, active crossovers (if any), preamplifier, decoder (DAC), CD player.

To switch on, please follow the reverse order.

### ☞ The heat sinks are very hot? Is it dangerous?

**VENTURE** products aim at get the maximum from all internal components. The heat sinks are pushed to their optimum to guarantee a maximal class A operation, as it means excellence in musical quality. However, **VENTURE** products follow security norms and do not push the heat beyond the allowed limits. There is consequently no excessive heat: contact is hot, but do not get warmer with time (once appliance is considered warm). Also, heat regulators are used to prevent any thermal runaway and this way protect the appliance. This inevitably limits the level of class A at high volumes.

### ☞ What specific handling instructions for VENTURE appliances?

See "Operation instructions" of appliance.

Please note however, that it is always safe to switch off and unplug all mains cables before handling any cable from the system, being interconnects mains, speakers, or digital. This caution is not specific to **VENTURE** products.

Allow 30 seconds (mainly to the power supply of the appliances) before unplugging the cables. This will let the capacitors empty themselves smoothly (no spark effect).

These cautions are not simply an instruction manual chapter. Many problems and failures can really this easy be avoided (ground short-cuts, sparks on appliances...).

**☞ The appliance does not switch on. No sound comes out. What can I do?**

We can only provide some clues to help you check the main issues. Please check this list before contacting us.

- ✓ Check your house mains distribution
- ✓ Check that your mains cable is connected to a wall-outlet (AC alimented)
- ✓ Check that your mains cable is connected to the V100A+ power inlet
- ✓ Check that your equipments voltage are compliant with your domestic one
- ✓ Check that the rear switch is set to ON
- ✓ Check that your amplifiers and other appliances are ON
- ✓ Check that the preamplifier/amplifier are not in stand-by mode
- ✓ Check that the remote control is operating (with right AAA batteries) to have your appliance waken up from the stand-by mode (if it was)
- ✓ Check that source equipments are ON (CD player...)
- ✓ Check that source equipments are connected to an INPUT plug of your preamplifier.
- ✓ Check that you selected the ACTIVE input
- ✓ Check that your preamplifier and amplifiers are correctly connected (eventually through active crossovers)
- ✓ Check that your active crossovers (if any) are ON
- ✓ Check that your speakers are connected to the amplifier. This check concerns every pair if you use multi-wiring. Also check the cables on your speaker and crossover ports.
- ✓ Check that the appliance is not OFF due to the security-system. Unplug all, and switch it back ON once you have changed the faulty fuse.

☞ **What are the security system-call causes ?**

See security chapter for more explanations.

Cause	External fuse	Internal relay	Comment / solution
Over-tension (mains provider)	X		Rare. Change the fuse. Unplug and switch back on.
DC offset		X (front LED : Red/ON)	Generally comes out from source equipments such as CD players. Unplug all. Switch the appliance back on. It must operate perfectly alone. In that case, have the faulty equipment fixed/repared accordingly.
Appliance internal failure (internal DC Offset)		X (front LED : Red/ON)	The appliance alone does not operate. Contact us

☞ **How to diagnose the security system-call cause before plugging back all my Hi-Fi system?**

See above.

☞ **Another question?**

Do not hesitate to contact us: we will provide you an accurate and custom answer.