

ZETA Strados Violin - Owner's Manual

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INTRODUCTION

Congratulations on your purchase of a ZETA Strados Violin. ZETA Performer Series instruments are designed with the active professional musician's needs in mind, and feature robust electronics in a hand-crafted instrument. The Strados Violin is as comfortable to play as a traditional acoustic violin. Made from the finest tonewoods available, the Strados Violin feels and responds like a fine traditional violin. While streamlined and contemporary in design, the Strados Violin maintains the positional cues so important for familiarity of feel and proper intonation. Please familiarize yourself with this owner's manual, as it will instruct you as to the various functions of your ZETA instrument, as well as give tips for maintenance.

Please note:

Keep this manual for future reference.

Warranty registration:

Please mail your completed Warranty Card to ZETA Music Systems within 15 days of purchase, in order to activate your product warranty.

Alternately, you may visit ZETA's website for details about online warranty registration, at: <http://www.ZetaMusic.com>.

PERFORMANCE APPLICATIONS

Performance Series instruments are extremely versatile, and include a wide range of modern features for various performance applications. Performer Series instruments were designed with the active professional musician in mind - hence, each Performer Series instrument enables you to perform at loud stage volumes as well as interface with MIDI and other computer technology when used in conjunction with the Synthony II.

INSTRUMENT AUDIO OUTPUT

For rehearsals or performances, use of the built-in **Instrument Audio Output** is essential. Each Performer Series instrument features a built-in 1/4" output jack, which is used to connect to an amplification system, such as a ZETA AP-12 amplifier or a PA system.

All ZETA pickup systems feature our patented pickup technology. (Please refer to the section, Pickup System, for details).

Using the Instrument Audio Output:

Simply plug a standard 1/4" shielded phone cable into the 1/4" jack on the side of the instrument; connect this cable to a ZETA AP-12, or other amplification system.

MIDI CAPABILITY

This powerful feature is unleashed when your Strados Violin is used in conjunction with ZETA's Synthony II MIDI Processor. Access the world of MIDI inside of the Synthony II - which features 480 MIDI sounds, 64 digital effects, on-board drum sequencer and arpeggiator; as well as a wide range of user-programmable features.

MIDI stands for Musical Instrument Digital Interface. Once plugged into the Synthony II, your Strados Violin can communicate with other MIDI devices - including other tone generators, sequencers, and samplers. You can also interface with your home computer, and access notation software, music tutorials, and the World Wide Web - where you'll find interactive recording studios and jam sessions.

Using MIDI Capability:

All ZETA instruments require the ZETA Synthony II MIDI Processor to access MIDI. A special 13-pin DIN cable, included with each Synthony II, plugs into the multi-pin output on the Strados Violin (located next to the 1/4" output on the side of the instrument). Detailed instructions regarding MIDI and related MIDI technologies are included with each Synthony II processor.

CONTROL FUNCTIONS

VOLUME KNOB

The volume knob is located on the top of the Strados Violin, just to the right of the bridge when viewing the top of the instrument.

Instrument Audio Output:

When using your Strados Violin with an external amplifier, such as the ZETA AP-12, the volume knob acts to increase or decrease the

overall audio output signal of the instrument to the amplifier. Clockwise rotation increases output; counter-clockwise rotation decreases output.

MIDI Capability:

When using your Strados Violin with the Synthony II MIDI Processor, the volume knob acts as a blend knob, and can be used to achieve a balanced volume between the audio output and the MIDI output. Clockwise rotation increases volume of both the instrument and the Synthony II; counter-clockwise rotation decreases volume of each. If you wish to further increase or decrease volume of the Synthony II, this can be done using the volume knob located on the front panel of the Synthony II.

INSTRUMENT AUDIO OUTPUT JACK

The Instrument Audio Output Jack carries the signal from the pickup system of the Strados Violin to an amplification system, such as the ZETA AP-12 amplifier.

MULTI-PIN OUTPUT JACK

This 13-pin DIN connector jack is for use with the Synthony II MIDI Processor. A special cable, included with each Synthony II, connects to the Multi-Pin Output Jack.

Important Note Regarding Battery Life:

Performer Series instruments use active electronics - an internal battery powers the sound of the instrument. The internal battery is activated whenever a cable is plugged into the instrument. Be sure to unplug any and all cables when not using your instrument, in order to preserve battery life.

PICKUP SYSTEM

The Strados Violin features ZETA's patented **Strados pickup system**. The Strados pickup system is made of a space-age composite material, which is extremely durable. Dual patented piezo crystals *per string* are utilized, for a full-frequency response. It is the dual piezo crystals, which allow the violin to be amplified.

ZETA's piezo crystals have been designed in coordination with Stanford University's Music Technology Department, specifically for use with stringed

instruments. These piezo crystals differ greatly from the ribbon transducers commonly found in other types of electric violins, and are exclusive to ZETA instruments.

The Strados pickup system is best known for its true acoustic-electric tone, as well as resistance to feedback.

INTERNAL PREAMP AND MIXING BOARD

The Strados Violin features a powerful internal preamp system. This 9-volt active preamp also features an on-board mixer, which allows you to adjust volume for each string on the Strados Violin, as well as master gain.

The internal preamp and mixing board features separate potentiometers, which control string volume and overall gain. This is a 6-channel mixing board; however, as the Strados Violin has only 4 or 5 strings, 1 or 2 of these channels will not be used.

You may access the internal preamp and mixing board through the back electronics plate. You will need a small phillips screwdriver, as well as a small flathead screwdriver. Simply remove the phillips screws from the back plate. Potentiometers can be adjusted using the small flathead screwdriver. Please note that clockwise rotation *decreases* volume, whereas counter-clockwise rotation *increases* volume.

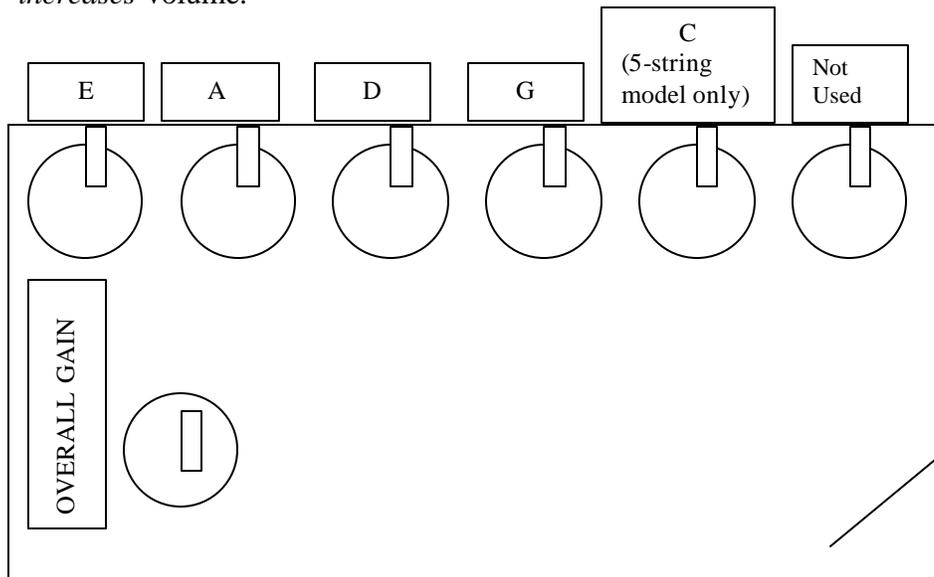


Diagram - Internal Preamp and Trim Pot Controls

SHOULDER REST

Your ZETA Strados Violin can be used with any shoulder rest - feel free to experiment with different models to find the best fit and most comfortable shoulder rest for your playing style.

TUNING PEGS

The ebony tuning pegs are designed to hold the strings at pitch for long periods of time without needing adjustment. The fine tuners behind the bridge provide control for normal daily tuning. The pegs are tightened by the same procedure as on a traditional acoustic violin. For best results, push the peg inward toward the peg box while tuning.

STRINGS

Your ZETA Strados Violin comes equipped with a fresh set of ZETA's Strados violin strings. These strings have been specifically designed to optimize tonal output of the Strados Pickup System (which is a feature of the Strados Violin). **For very best results, we recommend using the ZETA Strados violin strings.**

INSTRUMENT CARE

CLEANING:

Wipe only with a clean, dry cloth or use a high quality, non-abrasive instrument polish.

BATTERY REPLACEMENT:

One internal 9-volt battery powers the active electronics of your Strados Violin. A fresh 9-volt battery should last approximately 1,000 hours of normal playing time (usually 1 to 3 months' worth of playing).

To replace the internal 9-volt battery, you will need a small phillips screwdriver, as well as a fresh 9-volt battery. Using the small phillips screwdriver, simply remove the screws from the back electronics plate. Next, remove the drained 9-volt battery. Replace this battery with the fresh 9-volt battery. Finally, replace the back electronics plate and each of the screws.

TROUBLESHOOTING TIPS

No Audio Output When Using the Instrument Audio Output Jack

1. Raise instrument volume, using the volume knob.
2. Raise volume of your amplification system.
3. Be sure that the 1/4" cable is securely inserted into the instrument.
4. Replace the internal 9-volt batteries.

No Audio Output When Using the Multi-Pin Output Jack and Synthony II

1. Raise instrument volume, using the volume knob.
2. Raise Synthony II volume, using the front-panel volume knob.
3. Raise volume of the amplification system.
4. Be sure that all cable from the instrument, Synthony II, and amplification system are securely connected

Ebony Tuning Pegs Are Slipping and/or Not Turning

1. Apply peg dope to each tuning peg (in the case of Not Turning).
2. Apply plain white chalk to each peg (in the case of Slipping).
3. Replace the tuning pegs.

Humming, Hissing, or Other Types of Distortion Through Any/All Outputs

1. Be sure that all cables are securely connected.
2. Replace the internal 9-volt battery.
3. Be sure you are using perlon core strings, make sure the tailpiece and strings are properly grounded.
4. Be sure you are using a shielded cable. (Not a speaker cable)

INFORMATION FOR CONTACTING ZETA TECHNICAL SUPPORT

If the above techniques for resolving your technical support issue with your Strados Violin have proved unsuccessful, there are a number of resources for additional information and support at your disposal.

First, contact your local Authorized ZETA Dealer, or the dealer where you purchased your ZETA violin. Your dealer will have information regarding

troubleshooting and/or technical support information for your ZETA product.

Second, please visit ZETA's website, <http://www.ZetaMusic.com>. ZetaMusic.com provides a wide range of technical information, from FAQ's (Frequently Asked Questions) to a live user's Forum, where your technical questions can be answered by other ZETA users. You may also contact ZETA's Technical Support Staff via the online Customer Service Center.

Lastly, please feel free to contact ZETA's Technical Support Hotline, at 1-510-261-1702 , ex. 301. Technical Support is available Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Pacific Std. time.

IMPORTANT NOTE: DO NOT RETURN YOUR ZETA PRODUCT TO YOUR DEALER!

Although this may be your first reaction should you run into any technical difficulty (which is extremely rare), please do not be discouraged. **ZETA Music is more than happy to provide you with any service you require - up to and including full repair or replacement of any defective ZETA parts or product*.**

The very best thing to do in case of any technical troubles is to follow the aforementioned steps - chances are extremely good that these valuable sources of information will allow you to solve the issue. If not, please do contact us at 1-510-261-1702 ex. 301 for personal assistance from a ZETA Product Specialist.

*Repair and replacement of ZETA products is determined by level of warranty service and coverage - please refer to the warranty documentation for terms and duration of your ZETA warranty.

RETURNING ZETA PRODUCTS FOR SERVICE

If you have determined through communication with ZETA Technical Support that your ZETA product requires factory service, please follow these steps (Note: additional information may be issued by ZETA Technical Support regarding repair of your ZETA product):

1. Contact ZETA Customer Service at 1-510-261-1702 ext. 205, in order to receive a Return Authorization Number. Please note that all ZETA products are repaired at ZETA's factory, and require the issuance of a Return Authorization Number (RA#). ZETA products which have not received a RA#

will not be repaired, and will be returned to the sender upon receipt, at the sender's cost.

2. Pack the product in its original carton with packing materials. In lieu of the original carton, pack the product in an appropriate carton with packing materials.
3. Please include the following information with your ZETA product (preferably typed - if hand written, please be sure this information is legible):
 - Full Name
 - Mailing Address (No PO BOX Address accepted)
 - City, State, Zip/Postal Code
 - Country (if other than USA)
 - Phone Number(s)
 - Email Address
 - A photocopy of your original purchase receipt
 - Please also include a brief description of what you believe to be the technical difficulty you are experiencing with your ZETA product - include details regarding usage, symptoms, etc.
4. Write the RA number on the outside of the shipping container. Shipments sent to ZETA without a RA number are refused at the sender's cost. The address to send the product to is:

ZETA Music Systems, Inc.
Attn: RA# ----- (write your RA# here)
2230 Livingston St.
Oakland, CA 94606
USA
5. ZETA recommends shipping via UPS, FedEx, or US Post. Be sure to keep your tracking number. We also highly recommend insuring the package for its full purchase price, and/or manufacturer's suggested retail price.
6. If your ZETA product is under warranty, ZETA will perform any repairs or replacements at no charge. Please note that sender is responsible for charges incurred in shipment of ZETA products both to and from ZETA's factory.
7. If your ZETA product is no longer covered by the warranty, ZETA will bill you for the servicing and return shipping charges. Please be sure to discuss any and all repair charges with ZETA Technical Support. ZETA requires payment in advance via personal check or credit card for repairs and shipping charges.

LIMITED LIFETIME WARRANTY

All ZETA instruments are backed by ZETA's Limited Lifetime Warranty for parts and labor; please note that this includes a separate 2-Year Limited Warranty, which applies to all electronics, such as the pickup system and internal preamp. This warranty does not cover expendable items, such as strings, tuners, tailpiece, batteries and finishes. This warranty does not cover damage due to misuse, accident, neglect or Act of God. ZETA retains the exclusive right to make such determination on the basis of factory inspection. ZETA shall not be liable, under any circumstances, for damage based upon inconvenience, loss of the unit, loss of time, interrupted operation or commercial loss, or any other damages, whether incidental, consequential or otherwise, except damages which may not be excluded under applicable law.

ZETA products returned to the factory must first receive authorization from ZETA and must be shipped prepaid. The Return Authorization (RA) number must be printed on the outside of the container or shipment will not be accepted by ZETA. The RA number will be valid for 30 days. This warranty remains valid only if repairs are performed by ZETA, and provided that the serial number on the unit has not been defaced or removed.

This warranty is expressly in lieu of all other warranties either expressed or implied.

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