Subject: Vintage circa 1966 "Frankenstein" amp Posted by Vintage Kustom Employee on Thu, 25 Jul 2019 03:14:37 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

I am working on a vintage 1966 Kustom amplifier ("Frankenstein" style) and need any support documentation anyone may have available.

I have been asked by a friend to see if I could fix the unit. This amp has a special nostalgic value as the owner worked at Kustom as the QC operator doing final test with his guitar. He obtained this unit while working there.

Any help with schematics or hand written diagrams would be appreciated.

Subject: Re: Vintage circa 1966 "Frankenstein" amp Posted by stevem on Thu, 25 Jul 2019 09:51:04 GMT

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Hello and welcome!

First I have 2 questions for you, that being have you repaired solid state audio electronics before and does this amp you have use round shaped output and regulator Transistors on the rear wall of the amp, or are they kinda oval shaped?

I have just finished repairing two of these very early amps and in my 46 years of repairing band gear / audio electronics and playing in about 9 different bands and using only Kustom gear for my Bass these Kustoms I just fixed are the only of this type I have ever come across!

On these 2 amps I have even though they where made in the same year they are different from each other.

One amp has the output coupling cap as a can type mounted to the chassis and the other has a axial type filter mount to the left side of the circuit board.

I have not been able to find a schematic for these early amps so as such I am finishing drawing up a schematic for them this week that I Can share.

Note that these amps use Germsinum type Transistors and some of these of the bigger type used in the amp are getting very expensive!

Also note that these amps are only about 25 watts of clean power and have very little peak wattage to them.

Please feel free to pm me with any questions and Our good buddy Bill on this site can help you also!

Subject: Re: Vintage circa 1966 "Frankenstein" amp Posted by thetragichero on Wed, 04 Sep 2019 02:34:50 GMT

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they don't happen to be 2n555 (not a typo) transistors, do they? i have at least two (and possibly a couple more) that i pulled from organs that i have no use for. worth a couple stamps to get them into something working