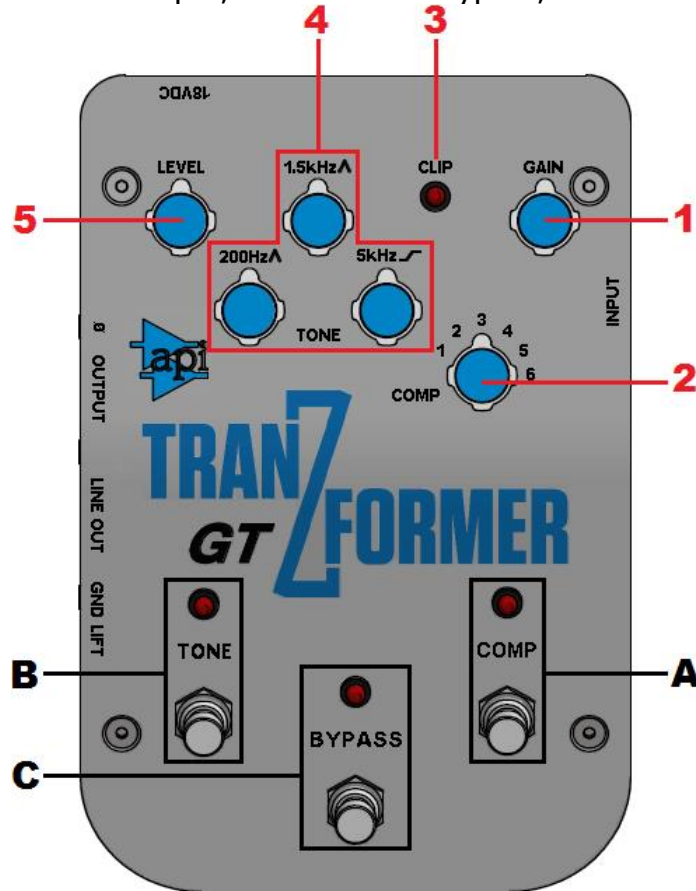


The API TranZformer® *GT* provides unsurpassed sonic sculpting by combining a legendary API 525 “feedback” type compressor circuit with an inductor-based tone control inspired by the vintage API 553 program equalizer in a versatile and robust guitar pedal/direct box with balanced and unbalanced outputs. Features include independent tone and compression in/out footswitches, phase inverters on each output, ground lift, clip indicator, transformer output, true hardware bypass, and of course the classic API sound.



**SIGNAL FLOW (from right to left):** Input > GAIN > COMP > TONE > Transformer Output

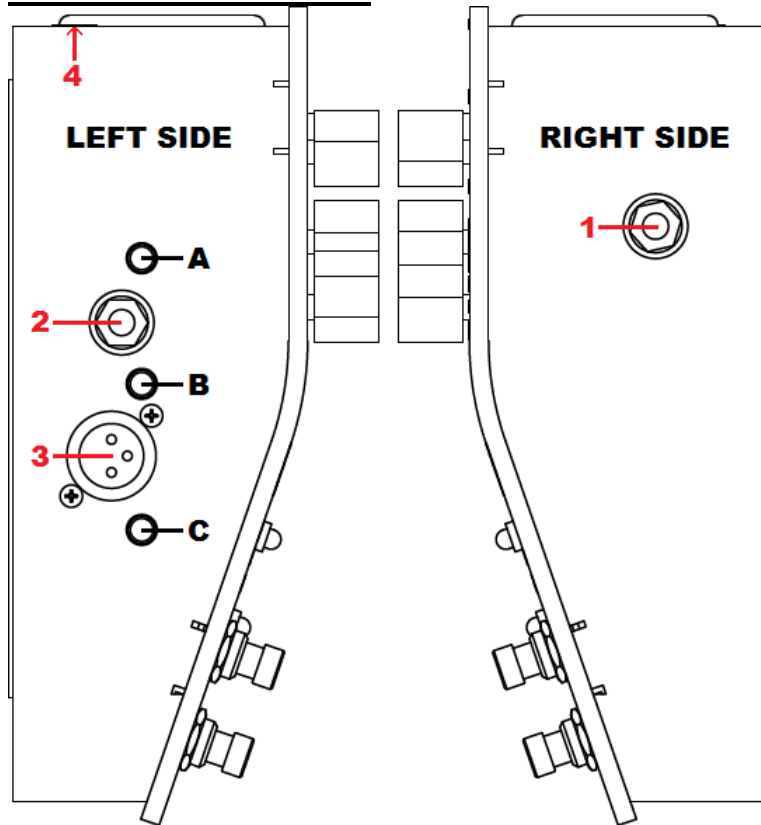
### AUDIO CONTROLS

1. **GAIN:** Input level; +9dB to +30dB; More gain creates more compression
2. **COMP (compression):** Determines amount of compression (gain-reduction); Higher numbers provide more compression (lower threshold)
3. **CLIP LED:** Illuminates to indicate Input Gain or Output stage (pre Level) clipping
4. **TONE (equalizer):** 3-band +/- 15dB EQ (see graph on page 2)
  - 200Hz peaking EQ; low-end (*body, warmth, power...*)
  - 1.5kHz peaking EQ; mid-range (*presence, attack, articulation...*)
  - 5kHz shelving EQ; high-end (*air, brightness, brilliance, edge...*)
5. **Output LEVEL:** -inf. to 0dB attenuator; 0db (no cut) is fully clockwise
  - Sets level for ¼" unbalanced output only (balanced output level is fixed)

### FOOTSWITCHES

- A. **COMP (compressor):** Engage/disengage compressor; lit LED when engaged
- B. **TONE (equalizer):** Engage/disengage equalizer; lit LED when engaged
- C. **BYPASS:** Hardwired unbalanced bypass; lit LED when BYPASSED

## INPUTS & OUTPUTS



## CONNECTIONS

- 1. INSTRUMENT INPUT:**
  - 1/4" hi-Z, unbalanced
- 2. UNBALANCED OUTPUT (to amp):**
  - 1/4" hi-Z
  - Fed directly from INPUT in BYPASS
- 3. BALANCED OUTPUT:**
  - 3-pin XLR male, lo-Z
  - Line level
  - **NOTE** – XLR is muted in BYPASS
- 4. 18 Volt DC power input (on back)**
  - 500mA maximum
  - 2.1mm x 5.5mm barrel connector
  - Tip negative

## OUTPUT CONTROLS

- A. Unbalanced Output PHASE REVERSE**
  - Inverts unbalanced output polarity
- B. Balanced Output PHASE REVERSE**
  - Inverts balanced output polarity
- C. Output GROUND LIFT**
  - Eliminates hum from ground loops

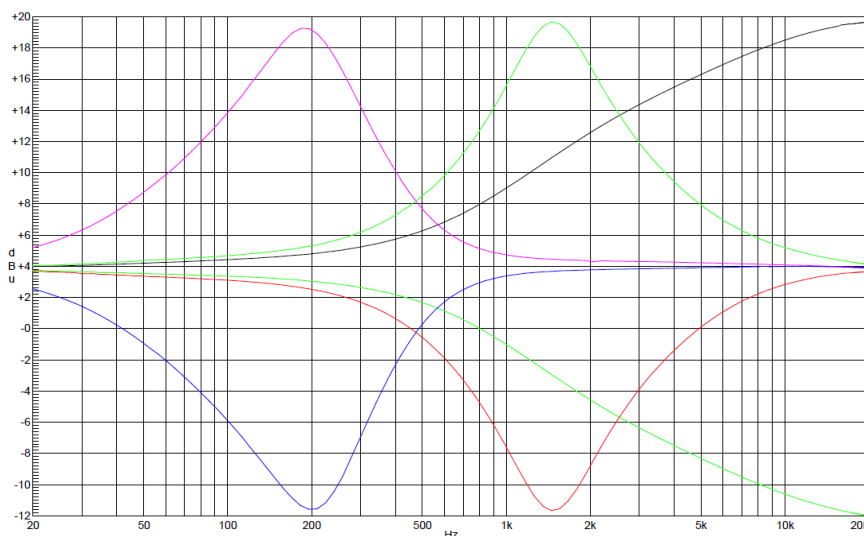
## SETUP

- Plug cable from instrument output into TranZformer **GT INSTRUMENT INPUT**.
- Connect **UNBALANCED OUT** to an amplifier input or the next pedal in your chain.
- The **BALANCED OUT** can be connected to a balanced line-level input for recording or live.

**USE** Starting settings: Disengage **BYPASS**, engage **TONE** & **COMP** footswitches, set all three **TONE** controls to 0dB boost/cut (12 o'clock), and **LEVEL** fully clockwise (0dB).

- Adjust **GAIN** to set input level to the compressor; Higher **GAIN** creates more compression at a given **COMP** setting; Reduce **GAIN** to avoid clipping if needed.
- Set **COMP** as desired for increased sustain, perceived loudness, and punchiness; higher **COMP** numbers provide increased gain reduction and greater compression.
- **SET** the three **TONE** controls to achieve the desired tone. Each band has +/- 15dB of boost & cut (reduce boost if clipping is indicated).
- Adjust the **LEVEL** control to set the level of the 1/4" **UNBALANCED OUTPUT**. (Does not reduce clipping of internal signal.) The level of the **BALANCED OUTPUT** is fixed.
- Engage the **PHASE** inverters and the **GROUND LIFT** as needed.

TranZformer GT  
TONE Control  
Frequency  
Response



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