

ZACH MARLEY



Zach Marley, musician, instructor, LowBrassU.

What work do you do? I teach (online) sectionals for school or individual lessons. I also teach college so I do occasionally do online teaching for that. And I do a lot of remote recording work.

Why the Switch Back M8RX? What I kind of initially envisioned was I was going to use a wired lavalier microphone and put it on a clip for when I'm recording talking head videos. That didn't work out so well just because a wired lavalier microphone that has a ridiculously long cable, that didn't really go according to plan. I'd had some other Dante stuff that worked OK but really was not necessarily as flexible [...] Where the M8RX slotted in for me, it was exactly what I needed, never really more than I needed, and never too little, either. So it's been really helpful. It's always set up, always ready to go. There's other things [in the Dante network], those things come and go. This is always right next to me. It's really quick for me to be able to make any adjustment, and I don't have to pull up some cell phone app or tab over. That's what makes it so great for me.

Setup & how you use it? For the C channel, usually that's the stereo track that I'm recording on, so if I need to just get more of that it's just a really quick change. [...] Obviously you can do that in software but it's slower, I have to stop, I have to, you know, get the mouse and do all that. So it's really nice to just have a quick way of turning that up or down.

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And then that 3.5mm [input] on the back is kind of a floating thing for me. It's really helpful for teaching, because sometimes I have an idea, "Oh, I want to play this song through Zoom, let me just plug in my phone," or I'll have a metronome on my desk and I can plug that in. So it's really flexible, anything goes - any app I want to use, a tuner, I'll have maybe my keyboard set up and going through that channel - anything where it's maybe just a quick idea and I wasn't planning on it.

Benefits of using the Switch Back M8RX? I don't think there's really anything on the market that compares from a listening side, certainly. The preamps are great... a lot of other devices have great preamps as well, but especially on the listening side, having the configuration options that you can have, it's so powerful for so many different applications. [...] I got it for one thing, and there were so many other things I was able to use it for because it just does more than almost every device in that size. And I even have other things that are bigger that do less.