



# Carmen Ghia Manual

Model: ZA-07

[www.drzamps.com](http://www.drzamps.com)



This symbol warns the user of dangerous voltage levels localized within the enclosure.



This symbol advises the user to read all accompanying literature for safely operating the unit

### **Important Safety Instructions**

- 1) Read these instructions.
  - 2) Keep these instructions.
  - 3) Heed all warnings.
  - 4) Follow all instructions.
  - 5) Do not use this apparatus near water.
  - 6) Clean only with dry cloth.
  - 7) Do not block any ventilation openings. Maintain at least 3 feet of distance around all sides of amplifier. Do not block any ventilation openings with items such as newspapers, tablecloths, curtains, etc.
  - 8) Do not install near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
  - 9) Do not defeat the safety purpose of the polarized or grounding-type plug. A polarized plug has two blades with one wider than the other. A grounding type plug has two blades and a third grounding prong. The wide blade or the third prong are provided for your safety. If the provided plug does not fit into your outlet, consult an electrician for replacement of the obsolete outlet.
  - 10) Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched particularly at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the apparatus.
  - 11) Only use attachments/accessories specified by the manufacturer.
  - 12) Use only with the cart, stand, tripod, bracket, or table specified by the manufacturer, or sold with the apparatus. When a cart is used, use caution when moving the cart/apparatus combination to avoid injury from tip-over.
  - 13) Unplug this apparatus during lightning storms or when unused for long periods of time.
  - 14) Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Servicing is required when the apparatus has been damaged in any way, such as power-supply cord or plug is damaged, liquid has been spilled or objects have fallen into the apparatus, the apparatus has been exposed to rain or moisture, does not operate normally, or has been dropped.
  - 15) Avoid placing any liquids on or near the amplifier that may splash or drip such as those contained in bottles, cans, glasses, etc.
- \*Dr Z amplifiers are capable of producing very high sound pressure levels which can cause temporary or permanent hearing damage.
- \*If any screw that is actually on the amp chassis needs to be replaced contact Dr Z Amps for the proper size. Screw size is critical for inner chassis clearances.

## General Information

At first glance, the Carmen Ghia looks rather, well, modest. Is this why, over the past 35 years, the Ghia leaves so many people floored from the first note? Or is it the notes spilling out with a warmth, complexity, and sustain that one would never expect from such a small amp. Each pluck has a hugeness to it that belies it's 18 watt power section. All this before the amp really starts to sing. As you turn the Volume clockwise, the clean tones resonate even bigger than they were. Sustain rolls out smoothly, as musical as you have ever heard it. Notes seem to hang in the air forever. Rich, harmonic overdrive is easily coaxed just by digging into the strings. Just seconds into playing it, you'll have trouble putting your guitar down as the hours pass like minutes. The Carmen Ghia interacts with your guitar, your touch is in complete control of the amp, it's dynamics, it's distortion, it produces a sound that is as uncanny as you.

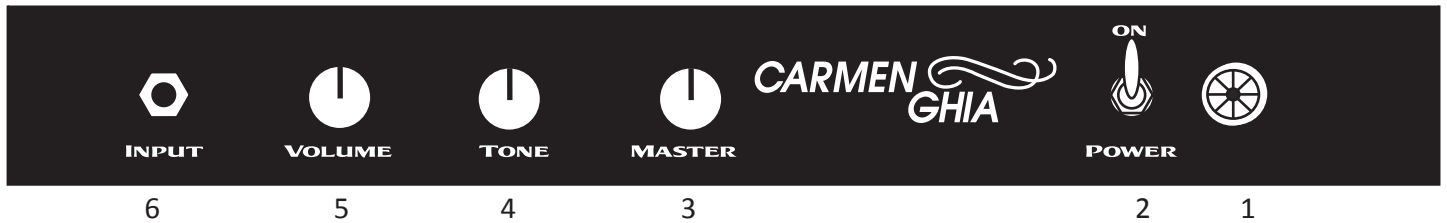
Early in the company's history, Dr. Z would visit Ohio area guitar shows with the Carmen Ghia in tow. A seemingly diminutive 18-watt amp was a curiosity in the 1980s, a musical era marked by the mantra of "more, more, more." More watts, more channels, more knobs, but backbreaking weight, headaches from complex signal routing, and frustration from multiple points of failure. Dr. Z had a unique package with 2 knobs, one channel, all hand-wired; a striking concept. During the hours before these events were open to the public, other vendors would have the opportunity to peruse each other's gear and to his surprise and amusement, the majority of the sales he would make during these shows would be to the guitar shops and luthiers that were exhibiting alongside him! The typically jaded vendors who had thought that had "heard it all" found the Carmen Ghia to be the perfect vessel to exhibit the various guitars they were selling, as it was a no-frills, plug-and-play amp that sounded great and demonstrated the genuine voice of the guitar and player that were plugged into it. This experience birthed Dr. Z's credo: "volume, tone, what more do you need?"

This amp has become a favorite with discerning tone aficionados around the world, from the smallest bar backroom stages, to hit-making recording sessions. The Carmen Ghia turned 35 in 2023 and with this milestone, Dr. Z outfitted it in identical fashion to his personal amp, including a post-phase inverter master volume in this classic circuit. The amp's characteristic voice is now attainable at all volume levels, from bedroom to stage. Turning the control to it's most-clockwise stop effectively removes it from the circuit, allowing the player to experience the Ghia's "vintage" voicing: loud and proud. To top off our 35th birthday with a "cherry," Dr. Z has hand-selected his favorite EL84 variant for this amp, a pair of NOS 6n14n power tubes, matched and tested in our shop, making the amp ready for years of rugged reliability and rich tone.

## Specifications

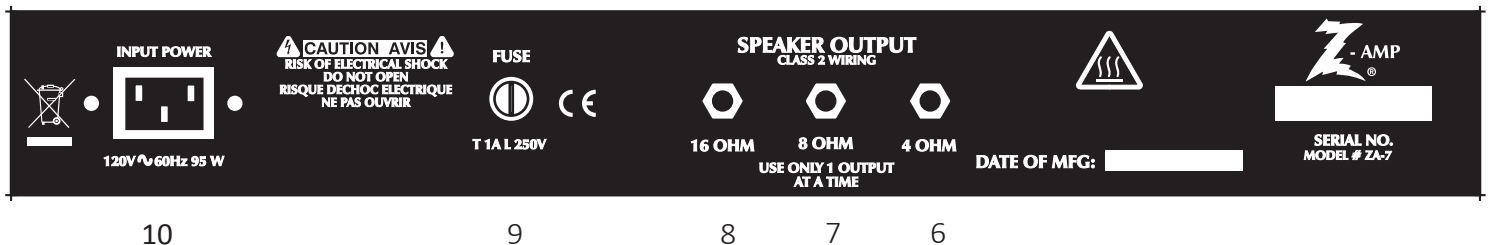
<b>Power Output</b>	18 Watts
<b>Output Tubes</b>	2 - 6n14n (mil-spec EL84 variant)
<b>Preamp Tubes</b>	2 – 12AX7/ECC83
<b>Rectifier</b>	5Y3
<b>Controls</b>	Volume, Tone, Master
<b>Other</b>	4, 8, 16 ohm speaker outs
<b>Configurations</b>	Head, 1×10, 1×12, 2×10 Combos
<b>Dimension &amp; Weight</b>	Head: 17 1/2" W, 9" H, 9 1/2" D; 24 lbs. 1×10 Combo: 17 1/2" W, 17" H, 10" D; 30 lbs. 1×12 Combo: 23" W, 20 1/8" H, 10" D; 39 lbs. 2×10 Combo: 23" W, 20 1/8" H, 10" D; 44 lbs.

## FRONT PANEL



- 1. Power Indicator:** Lights up when power is switched on. If LED fails replace with a 6.3 volt #44 Bayonet Base(BA9S).
- 2. Power:** Switch up to turn on amplifier. Switch down to turn off amplifier.
- 3. Master:** Controls the overall loudness of the amp.
- 4. Tone:** Controls overall tone of guitar. Turn clockwise for lower frequency emphasis, counterclockwise for higher frequency emphasis. Most find a sweet spot between 10:00 and 2:00.
- 5. Volume:** Controls the input level of the guitar. Turn up higher for more overdrive, set lower for clean.
- 6. Input:** Input jack for your guitar.

## REAR PANEL



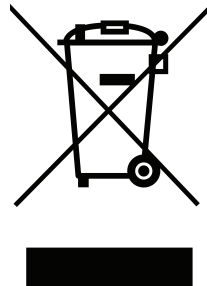
- 6. 4 OHM Speaker Jack:** Plug in 4 ohm speaker here. Always have a speaker plugged into the amp when it is powered on. Always match the speaker impedance to the proper speaker out jack. This will allow the amp to sound its best and avoid damage.
- 7. 8 OHM Speaker Jack:** Plug in 8 ohm speaker here. Always have a speaker plugged into the amp when it is powered on. Always match the speaker impedance to the proper speaker out jack. This will allow the amp to sound its best and avoid damage.
- 8. 16 OHM Speaker Jack:** Plug in 16 ohm speaker here. Always have a speaker plugged into the amp when it is powered on. Always match the speaker impedance to the proper speaker out jack. This will allow the amp to sound its best and avoid damage.
- 9. Fuse:** The fuse protects the amp from electrical faults. Replace only with the same rating and type stated below fuse holder (1A 250v SLO BLO). If the amp repeatedly blows the fuse contact your dealer or Dr Z Amps.
- 10. AC Inlet:** (Class I Wiring). This device is used for disconnection from power mains and must remain readily operable. The power indicator light does not indicate connection to power mains. The power cord must be disconnected to disconnect amplifier from power mains.



MODEL: \_\_\_\_\_

SERIAL NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

INPUT VOLTAGE: \_\_\_\_\_



MADE IN USA



## EC/EU Declaration of Conformity

Document: CE – ZA-7

Manufacturer: Dr. Z Amplification  
17011 Broadway Ave.  
Maple Heights, OH 44137 -3407  
USA

We declare that the designated product (s)  
DR. Z CARMEN GHIA  
is/are in conformity with the European Directives:

2014/30/EU EMC Directive of 26 February 2014

2011/65/EU RoHS Directive of 8 June 2011

2014/35/EU Electrical equipment designed for use within certain voltage limits

This declaration certifies compliance with the indicated directives but implies no warranty of properties. The safety instructions of the accompanying documentation shall be observed. This declaration of conformity is issued under the sole responsibility of the manufacturer.

Issuer: Dr. Z Amplification  
17011 Broadway Ave.  
Maple Heights, OH 44137 -3407  
USA

Place, date: Maple Heights, OH USA , 01.AUGUST.2016

Legally binding signature:

M.D. Zaitte, General Manager, Dr. Z Amps