

TASCAM's Portacapture X8 used by Aurélien Buiron



Aurélien Buiron, known in the realm of electronic music as Ghost in the Loop, is a composer with a unique approach to his craft. He specializes in creating performances and recordings in the most exquisite natural settings - frequently in challenging, remote locations. These breathtaking landscapes serve as his canvas for crafting immersive musical compositions while being inspired by the surrounding environment. To help bring these efforts to fruition, he relies on the sonic accuracy and versatility of his Portacapture X8 8-channel 32-bit float Portable Audio Field Recorder from TASCAM.

Aurélien's artistic efforts take him to some of the most inspiring and challenging environments that exist. He has had the privilege of recording albums in incredible locations such as at the IRAM Millimeter-Wave Observatory and the Zinal Glacier. Visually, these locations are every bit as exquisite as the sounds he captures while there. He discussed his fondness for the Portacapture X8.

"What sets the TASCAM Portacapture X-8 apart is its 32-bit floating-point recording capability," Aurélien explained. "This feature is a game-changer for me, especially when recording in challenging terrains like glaciers using contact microphones and hydrophones. The signal can undergo significant variations in levels, but with 32-bit floating-point recording, I can rest assured I'll have a usable track - and that's a

genuine comfort in the unpredictable world of field recording.”

The Portacapture X8 combines high-resolution sound quality with intuitive app-like control that makes it quick and easy to set up for recording. Advanced 32-bit floating point recording provides the ability to capture the most dynamic sound sources without worrying about clipping from loud sources, or indistinct audio from quiet sources. It is these very characteristics that enable Aurélien to record wherever his inspiration takes him. With his Portacapture X8, he can capture field recordings with incredible accuracy.

The Portacapture X8’s interface features a 3.5-inch color touch panel display and an icon-based launcher system that puts application specific configurations at one's fingertips. This makes it easy to quickly call up optimum settings for a variety of recording tasks. Equally noteworthy, users can create their own custom setups - either by tweaking one of the presets or simply by creating one’s own configuration preferences. Aurélien commented on this aspect of the Portacapture’s operation.

"I was pleasantly surprised by the simplicity of the X-8's interface," Aurélien reports. "Everything is quickly accessible without menu diving, which is incredibly convenient when recording in demanding environments. The straightforward design allows for swift adjustments, ensuring I can focus on capturing the perfect sound without being hindered by complex settings."

"The factory presets are a fantastic time-saver," Aurélien added, "providing a quick and efficient way to preconfigure the device. Personally, I found the ASMR mode to be a delightful discovery. It allowed me to record incredible sonic textures without even tweaking the device's gain levels. The ability to record my own preferences is a thoughtful feature, offering a personalized touch to my recording setup. It's these small details that make the TASCAM Portacapture X8 an even more valuable tool in my creative arsenal."

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