

# The Sonic Oscillator

The "Sonic Oscillator" is a device referenced prior to the introduction of Rocky. It is suggested that this is the machine that enables Frank to bring his creation to life. For this production, we had a number of on-stage audience members. I felt this was a prime opportunity to create a participatory, immersive experience between "Sweet Transvestite" and "Sword of Damocles". The device consists of a Teensy microcontroller and several input devices (buttons, knobs, part of a rotary dial telephone) that each trigger different MIDI commands. The MIDI was then fed to a computer running an emulator of the "Swaratron" synthesizer developed by Brian and Leon Dewan (Dewanatron). Each control was mapped to a different parameter on the synthesizer, and Riff-Raff and Magenta took turns giving audience members an opportunity to experiment with the device.

