

I can not tell from your schematics and description the complete input circuit.
Try the following:

No global negative feedback.

The Sowter 3575 center tap and transformer shield: connect Both to X2-1 and X3-1.

One 3575 secondary lead connects to X2-2

The other 3575 secondary lead connects to X3-2.

Use a jumper to short across R1 and C3.

Disconnect the global negative feedback from the output transformer secondary tap to X3-2
(Instead the 3575 connects directly to R2 and R4, which are shorted across).

Change R2 to 47k Ohms (same as R6 47k)

Try with no ground connection of the signal source to the amplifier.

Then try with a ground connection of the signal source to the amplifier.

Try those, and please report the results.