

Headphone Amp from Lake People

The manufacturer of professional equipment from Lake Constance presents a new headphone amplifier: the G111 takes on the legacy of the G100. With its discrete power amplifiers, it can drive high and low impedance headphones as well as magnetostats. The two large jack sockets can be used to power two headphones simultaneously. Input



signals are supplied via gold-plated cinch or XLR sockets. Inside, there is a power supply unit with toroidal transformer. The volume is adjusted via an Alps potentiometer. The G111 is now available in silver or black for 500 Euro.

www.lake-people.de

TAD: Reference One the third

Technical Audio Devices Laboratories from Japan presents the new RITX, the third generation of its loudspeaker flagship. The cabinet consists of a 21 mm thick frame and



50 mm thick side walls, which are joined to form a kind of monocoque structure using high-frequency hot-pressing. The RITX is equipped with coaxially arranged tweeters and mid-range drivers with beryllium diaphragms, which together cover the wide frequency range from 250 Hz to 100 kHz. The bass is provided by a woofer with „TLCC cone“, a combination of lightweight foamed acrylamide and aramid fibres. The speakers will be available from August in the „Beryl“ and „Smaragd“ colour versions at a pair price of 135,000 euros. Individual cabinet designs are available on request.

www.technicalaudiodevices.com

HiRes porti „all inclusive“

The Chinese manufacturer Cayin is most known for its tube amplifiers, but it is now becoming more and more a specialist for HiRes portable players as well. After the N5iiS and the N8, now comes the MK2 version of the N6. It is called N6ii, costs 1500 Euro, has a 4.2 inch touch screen, an aluminum alloy case, a knurled wheel for the volume and hardware buttons for the playback control. The internal 64GB memory can be expanded with an SDXC card or USB memory. Inside there is an adapted Android 8.1 with full access to the Google Play Store, so that all apps of streaming services etc. can be installed. All audio applications bypass Android's forced resampling and play back at their native sampling rate. A special feature is the exchangeable audio print with the AKM DAC chip AK4497EQ and the analog output stage. It supplies three sockets: 3.5 mm jack line out, 3.5 mm jack for headphones and 4.4 mm Pentaconn socket for balanced headphone connection. An adapter from Pentaconn to 2.5 mm balanced is included. The digital interfaces are USB and S/PDIF - both via the USB-C port - and I2S via Mini-HDMI. The Porti can serve as a DAC for external sources. HiRes playback up to 384 kHz with PCM and 11.3 MHz with DSD is a matter of honor – even via Bluetooth. Thanks to the codecs LDAC and aptX HD music can also be transmitted wirelessly in very good quality. The N6ii is a good 2 cm thick and weighs 290 grams. Its battery should last 14 hours. Those who order the player in the Cayin online shop until September 15th 2019 will receive a 10 percent discount with the voucher code „HR-Player“.



www.cayin.com

Moon: Hardware Upgrades

The Canadian manufacturer Moon offers a hardware upgrade to the current network module „MiND 2“ for its network-compatible devices. The module is Roon ready, can decode MQA, access the streaming services Qobuz, Tidal and Deezer (also Deezer HiFi) and play PCM files up to 384 kHz and DSD files up to 11.3 MHz from the home network. The ACE, 280D, 380D, 780D, 180 MiND and MiND models can be retrofitted – regardless of whether they are already equipped with an older MiND module or not.

www.simaudio.com



New ribbon speaker from **Bohne**

The „Lifestyle“ series from Bohne Audio has been expanded: the BB-10L is now joined by the smaller, but otherwise similarly designed BB-8L two-way floor-standing speaker. As the model name suggests, it is equipped with an 8-inch woofer/midrange driver, two passive diaphragms and Bohne's patented dipole ribbon. As is usual with Bohne Audio, the tweeter and mid-bass drivers are powered by external power amplifiers, which in turn are controlled by the „MiniDSP SHD“, acting as a preamplifier and active crossover with room calibration. Bohne offers the complete system consisting of two BB-8L, the preamplifier MiniDSP SHD and the 4-channel power amplifier BA-200 for 8790 Euro. In addition to the standard colours white and black, there are other RAL colours and even solid wood versions in Oak, Macassar or Zebrano. The power amplifier is available in silver or black.



www.bohne-audio.com

T+A enters Chinese market

T+A, the high-end manufacturer based in Herford, Germany, is now focusing on the Asian market. Just recently, T+A signed a contract with a Korean sales part-



ner – now follows China. The high-end distributor Brighten HiFi AV Equipments Co., Ltd. took over the distribution of the T+A brand there as well as for Hong Kong and Macau on July 1. Brighten HiFi will be led by Robin Cai, a manager with more than 20 years experience in the audio industry and good contacts to the most experienced audio dealers in China. „We are delighted to have found a professional distributor for the Chinese market in Brighten HiFi who meets the high demands of our products“, said Siegfried Amft, Managing Director of T+A elektroakustik GmbH & Co. KG.

www.ta-hifi.de

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CANTON
German loudspeaker tradition

Gauder updates „Berlina“ series

The new generation of „Berlina“ loudspeakers from Gauder Akustik will be called „Black Edition“ – differentiated by the black Accuton chassis. However also on the inside a lot has changed: new circuitry and new components from Mundorf in the crossover as well as bi-wiring terminals with the new Nextgen 0703 WBT as standard. With the help of the bass extension bridge, the impedance in the bass range



can be increased, so that even smaller tube amplifiers can drive the Berlinas. Gauder has nevertheless only moderately increased the prices: they start at 10,000 Euro per pair. Owners of older Berlina versions can update their loudspeakers to the latest version. The „Black Edition“ is also available with white cabinets.

www.gauderakustik.com

Roon Nucleus: now with ripping-option



The two music servers „Nucleus“ and „Nucleus+“ from Roon can now also rip CDs thanks to the latest firmware update. All you need is to connect a standard CD/DVD/Blu-Ray drive via USB. The inserted CDs are automatically read in the background and copied to the optional internal hard disk or connected USB

memory. Roon monitors this folder and automatically adds each imported album – complete with metadata from the Roon database – to the library. The „Nucleus“ with Core i3 processor and 4 GB RAM costs 1500 Euro, while the „Nucleus +“ with Core i7 and 8 GB RAM costs 2600 Euro.

www.roonlabs.com

New flagship: Dragonfly Cobalt

After Dragonfly „Black“ and „Red“, Audioquest now adds the DAC-Stick „Cobalt“ (300 Euro). The new top model is equipped with the ES9038Q2M converter chip and a particularly power-saving and even faster micro-controller than the „Red“. In addition, the supply voltage should be better protected against interference from WLAN, Bluetooth



or mobile radio. The „Cobalt“ is even 5 millimeters shorter than the „Red“. With its 2.1 Volt output voltage, it can power most headphones directly. The volume is set lossless on the digital level. Like the other two models, the DAC can handle resolutions up to 24 bit / 96 kHz and acts as an MQA renderer. The stick can be operated directly on computers with a USB-A port – an adapter for USB-A is included for smartphones or laptops with a USB-C socket. Apple devices with a Lightning port must be connected via Apple's „Lightning to USB Camera Adapter“.

www.audioquest.com

USB-C-DAC for headphones



Hama launches a tiny USB-C-DAC for smartphones, tablets or notebooks without a headphone jack. When playing music, LEDs indicate the current sampling rate (96/48/44kHz). By pressing a button you can choose between three different equalizer profiles, indicated by the flashing LED. After selecting the appropriate EQ profile, the LED returns to the current sampling rate. The integrated microphone means that every headphone can also be used for making phone calls. The adapter is suitable for headphones with 3.5 mm audio jack and costs 30 Euro. System requirement is Windows 7 or newer, Mac OS 10.8 or higher or Android 7 or higher.

www.hama.com



DIN A4 **Power Amp**

Teac expands its mini component series „505 Reference“ with a compact stereo power amplifier. It is called AP-505 and has the layout of a DIN A4 sheet. It draws its power from a toroidal transformer and the „Ncore“ Class D amplifiers from Hypex, which are also in the integrated amplifier of the same series and which, according to the data sheet, deliver 2x115 watts at 4 ohms. The AP-505 is also suitable for bi-amping and can be operated as a mono power amplifier if bridged. The metal cabinet with the aluminum alloy sides stands on three vibration-resistant feet. Two pointer instruments provide information about the current level. The signals – for example from the USB DAC/network player NT-505 – are fed in via XLR or Cinch. The power amplifier is now available for 1500 Euro in black or silver.

www.teac-audio.eu

MQA expands to China

High-resolution music streaming is now also available to customers in China: the streaming service „Xiami Music“ will offer music in MQA format in the future. Xiami – not to be confused with the smartphone manufacturer Xiaomi – belongs to the online retailer Alibaba. Subscribers



to the „SVIP“ version of Xiami Music will be able to try out the MQA format in a free trial phase. Xiami Music is the fifth largest music streaming service in China and provides a platform for independent musicians. The repertoire currently comprises 20 million songs. China's music industry already generates around 90 percent of its sales with streaming and is in 4th place with streaming revenues after the USA, Great Britain and Germany. China is also the fourth largest market for MQA-enabled devices – the best prerequisite for an MQA streaming service.

www.mqa.co.uk



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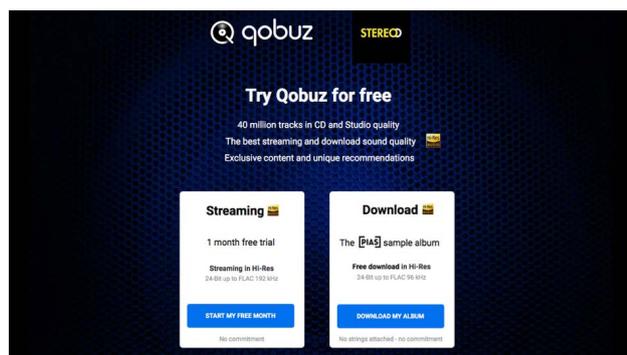
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Naim: Phono-Revival

As a streaming pioneer, Naim had already largely said goodbye to the record. However, the two new integrated amplifiers now come with phono inputs again. They are called Nait XS 3 (2700 Euro) and Supernait 3 (4300 Euro), and they differ essentially in circuit and processing details. While the small model is specified at 2x100 watts at 4 ohms, the Supernait with its larger toroidal transformer provides 2x130 watts. In addition to the phono MM input, both amplifiers offer connections for 5 high level sources, which are accessible via RCA and DIN sockets. The cast aluminum enclosures contain reed relays for input selection, Class A preamps and Alps motor potentiometers for volume control.

www.naimaudio.com



Qobuz: free [PIAS] sampler

In addition to the free trial month, Qobuz also regularly offers promotions with free Hi-Res downloads. This time there is a sampler with 10 tracks of the successful indie label [PIAS] in FLAC 24-Bit, 96 kHz. Amongst others, the album features Melanie De Biasio, Eels, Isabelle Faust, Alt-J and Jowee Omicil.

<http://bit.ly/qobuzstereofree>

CD player with tubes

From Vincent comes the CD-200 CD player – the matching playing partner to the SV-200 amplifier, both in a 21 cm wide midi case. The player works with a Burr-Brown DAC chip and two 6N1 tubes in the analog output stage. Independent secondary windings in the mains transformer supply the digital and analog sections separately. An external D/A converter, can be connected via S/PDIF coax or optically. Complete with aluminum remote control the CD-200 costs around 800 euros in black or silver.

www.vincent-tac.de



Audiolab: affordable Streamer with DTS Play-Fi

Audiolab now offers the 500-Euro network player 6000N Play. The simple device without a front display is operated exclusively via iOS or Android handhelds or Windows PCs. Thanks to DTS Play-Fi technology, the device can access all common music streaming services via LAN or WLAN and of course play music from the home network via DLNA. It is also multiroom compatible. Six preset buttons on the front can be assigned to any web radio station or playlist. Audiolab uses the Sabre32 ES9018K2M as its DAC chip, and the maximum resolution of the network module is 192 kHz and 24 bits. Visually, the 6000N Play fits the 6000A integrated amplifier and the 6000CDT CD drive. It is available in black or silver.

www.audiolab.co.uk