

# Contents

## 2 EDITORIAL

The evolution of hi-fi magazines

## 4 STAN'S SAFARI 7

Stan Curtis provides some tantalising glimpses into the early years of CD player and filter development

## 7 MILIND KUNCHUR

George Foster uncovers some fascinating research that explains why what we hear has more to do with our brains than the condition of our ears

## 10 HI-FI MYTHS: PART 5

PMC's Peter Thomas describes how stereo sound experiments actually began in the 1880s

## 12 DIGITAL ACTIVITY

The combination of active drive and digital signal processing gives Meridian's DSP 7200 speaker some remarkable properties. Martin Colloms explains

## 17 COMPUTER HI-FI FOR DUMMIES

The very computer literate Malcolm Steward pre-empt questions about hi-fi and computers



## 20 BLADERUNNER

Paul Messenger describes KEF's exciting new 'advanced technology demonstrator' Project Blade

## 22 THE GENTLE GIANT

Martin Colloms gets to grips with the Wilson Audio MAXX Series 3

## 27 SIX DACS

Computer audio has made DACs fashionable again. Chris Bryant checks out half a dozen

## 36 ONE SYSTEM; MANY ROOMS

Moving house and hi-fi system many times has given David Topliss a rare insight into the role of the listening room and the importance of careful set-up



## 40 FOUR INTEGRATED AMPS

Chris Bryant probes deep into the performance of amplifiers from Arcam, Creek, PS Audio and Sugden

## 49 THE AKTIMATE MINI

An interesting budget amp/speaker combo from the Creek/Epos team

## 51 MAINS MATTERS

Martin Colloms tries some PS Audio's mains accessories

## 52 THE BEST OF CLASSICAL

Colin Anderson's latest classical picks

## 55 ROCK, POP AND OTHER NICE MUSIC

Nigel Finn's regular trawl through the new releases

## 59 INDEX

A belated guide to finding your way round Vol 2

## 60 SUBJECTIVE SOUNDS

Mains accessories including the sublimely ridiculous



*Meridian's DSP 7200 speaker  
page 12*



*Wilson Audio MAXX Series 3 on page 22*