Contents

4 ALAN GIBB

The MD of cable experts The Chord Company on designing and listening to wires, and why the manufacturer is expanding into new fields

8 STAN'S SAFARI

Is zero feedback the ideal for amplifier design, or does it bring its own problems? Stan Curtis considers...

10 LINN KLIMAX DSM

The flagship streamer is now revised, refined and fitted with the company's first in-house DAC. With wide-ranging flexibility, could this be the best network player you can buy? Martin Colloms thinks it might be

14 CHORD MOJO 2

The new version of this trendsetting pocket DAC/headphone amp, now packed with more innovative Chord Electronics technology, is more than just an object of desire. In fact, it could just be the only digital converter you'll ever need

17 DAN D'AGOSTINO PROGRESSION INTEGRATED AMPLIFIER

Much more than just a hugely powerful onebox amplifier, the modular design here allows the Progression Integrated to be customised to your needs

22 REGA SYSTEM ONE

Much delayed by pandemic and more, Rega's all-in-one vinyl replay system is a compelling first time buy, with plenty of future upgrade potential

25 WHAT MAKES A GREAT HEADPHONE AMPLIFIER?

The 'head-fi' market is bristling with dedicate amplifiers for your headphones – but, asks Keith Howard, what are the qualities required for optimal personal listening?

30 AUDIO-GD MASTER-19

Direct from China and with massive power on offer, this high-end headphone amplifier piques Kevin Fiske's interest

32 MEZE AUDIO LIRIC

Combining planar magnetic drivers and a closed-back design, are these headphones a compromise? Ed Selley suggests the unusual configuration may actually be ideal

34 NAIM NAP 250 DR

The basic design may be more than 40 years old, but in its latest form Naim's slimline powerhouse well deserves its classic status, says Martin Colloms

40 ARCAM ST60

43

Although it's far from the first network player on the market, Arcam's late arrival at the streaming ball makes quite an impact, thanks to smooth operation – and sound

AUDIO NOTE CD5.1X

Chris Frankland wasn't sure moving back to a one-box CD player was a great idea, but the Audio Note flagship soon put him right

45 NEAT ACOUSTICS MAJISTRA

The latest iteration of Neat's innovative speaker design is an unashamedly expensive – but superb-sounding – standmounter

47 GOLD NOTE PH-10/PSU-10

Sensibly-priced, solidly-built and with all the flexibility to keep vintage vinyl enthusiasts happy, this phono stage is a delight

49 BOENICKE W5

Chris Kelly wasn't prepared for just how small these speakers would be – nor for the superb sound they delivered in his system!

51 ASTELL&KERN ACRO CA1000

It may look like one of the company's players in a dock, but this unusual player/ DAC/headphone amplifier, complete with futuristic styling, has hidden talents

53 ACOUSTIC ENERGY AE320

They may look entirely conventional, but these slender floorstanding speakers are both highly developed and addictive, too

56 Q ACOUSTICS CONCEPT 30

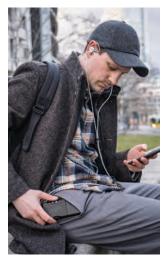
Drawing on the company's flagship models, these new standmount speakers are superb performers – with fiddly stands!

58 MUSIC

Views on releases old and new, from the latest classic arrivals to jazz and more on DSD – and some enticing secondhand stars

64 SOUNDSTAGE

Here's why Andrew Everard won't be giving up his music library anytime soon...



Chord's Mojo 2 is superb – and not just for listening on the move



Meze Audio's Liric: closed-back planar magnetic headphones



Linn: the world's best streamer?