

HIFI CRITIC

AUDIO REVIEW MAGAZINE £15 Vol8/No4 OCT - DEC 2014



KAOS RULES

Paul Messenger tries out the extraordinary Soundkaos Wave 40, an Anglo-Swiss confection that redefines the full-range driver loudspeaker

MUSIC WITHOUT WIRES (OR STANDARDS)

It's getting easier to stream music wirelessly, but there's no shortage of competing standards to confuse consumers, says Andrew Everard

I'M SPARTACUS

The Thrax Spartacus valve monoblock is the finest amplifier Chris Bryant has ever heard

NAIM NDS PLUS 2x 555PS

Martin Colloms tries out Naim's flagship NDS streamer/DAC with twin 555PS power supplies. Does streamed audio replay get any better than this?

REVIVING THE LS5/9

With assistance from ex-Spendor Derek Hughes, Graham Audio has reincarnated the BBC LS5/9, a compact stand-mount with an illustrious monitoring pedigree

CHEAP BUT VERY CHEERFUL

Dali's Zensor 1 is probably the cheapest speaker HIFICRITIC has ever reviewed, It's also rumoured to be a serious bargain. Paul Messenger checks out the rumour mill

SANDWICH ANYBODY?

60 years on, Martin Colloms re-assesses Leak's famous Sandwich loudspeaker, with surprising results

MUSIC & MORE

REVIEWED THIS ISSUE: SOUNDKAOS WAVE 40, GRAHAM AUDIO BBC LS5/9, DALI ZENSOR 1, NVA BALANCED MAINS UNIT, HENRY AUDIO USB DAC 128 MKII, NDS + 2X555PS, THRAX SPARTACUS, VALVE AUDIO DEVICES DAC-12 DSD, SONUS FABER OLYMPICA II, NEAT MOTIVE SX2, LEAK SANDWICH, VALVE AMPLIFICATION COMPANY SIGNATURE MK IIA, APPLE EARPOD, SENNHEISER HDVA 600, SENNHEISER HDVD 800, TRILOGY 933/900, VERTEX AQ HIREZ SOLFONN, PHILIPS FIDELIO X2, RUSSELL K RED 50