

Roksan Radius 5/Nima

ROKSAN'S RELATIVELY AFFORDABLE TURNTABLE/TONEARM COMBO TURNS OUT TO BE MUCH MORE THAN A VERY PRETTY STYLING EXERCISE, AS PAUL MESSENGER DISCOVERS

Even though it lacks the simple convenience of digital optical disc replay, I've never lost my personal enthusiasm for vinyl replay, so it's rather gratifying to find that what once seemed a rather lonely and isolated place seems to have been enjoying steady growth for the past several years.

I'm neither blind nor deaf to the limitations of vinyl replay, and can fully understand why CD became the most popular music carrier, especially amongst those primarily interested in classical music. But for all CD's convenience and absence of surface or background noise, there's something very relaxing and natural about vinyl replay which CD never seems quite able to match.

I'm not proposing to reiterate all the pro and con arguments here, but the bottom line, as ever, is revealed by one's behaviour: if I settle down for an evening's music listening, I have no problem moving from CDs to vinyl discs, but find it psychologically much harder to follow vinyl with CD.