



# Better analogue via digital control

THE LATEST INCARNATION OF VERTERE'S SG-1 TURNTABLE IS POWERED BY THE NEW TEMPO SYNTHESISED 'MOTOR DRIVE' POWER SUPPLY AND FITTED WITH VERTERE'S MYSTIC MOVING COIL CARTRIDGE. MARTIN COLLOMS TAKES A LISTEN

**Is this a review of a complete record player? Yes it is – Vertere doesn't just make turntables, arms, cartridges and more, but complete record player solutions. For example, this latest version of the SG1 turntable came fitted with an SG1 tonearm and a Vertere Mystic moving coil cartridge, plus a new 'motor drive' – as Vertere calls it, in the form of the recently-announced Tempo. Together the SG1 and Tempo cost £16,000, with the arm adding £3500, the Mystic £2200, and the Pulse R tonearm cable £2600. Vertere also supplied its £130 Techno Mat turntable mat, of which more later, and an Iso Shelf to support the turntable, adding another £895. The grand total for the complete 'record player' system? £25,325.**

The SG-1 may look complex, but its set-up is logical: there are no chassis adjustments required as the four-stage design employs long life elastic silicone rubber cord suspensions which are largely self-aligning. Our review model came with a further isolating base – the Iso Shelf – on Vertere feet, this being supplied as an appropriate interface with the marginally smaller footprint offered by my Naim FRAIM equipment stands. There is an exquisite two axis acrylic alignment protractor, another of card for tonearm base fitting a VTA and azimuth alignment block and comprehensive instructions for the turntable as a whole.

Founded by chief engineer Touraj Moghaddam, Vertere is based in the Park Royal area of West

London. Moghaddam previously co-founded Roksan in 1985, designing and producing a range of audio products including the well known and very popular Xerxes turntable and also several Roksan loudspeakers which were distinguished by decoupled tweeters to reduce the modulation jitter from enclosure vibration. Xerxes was distinguished by a self-damped sub-chassis construction using proprietary resilient mountings. These partially isolated the inner chassis carrying the platter and arm, and thus control acoustic feedback and vibration emanating from the room structure and acoustic. In contrast to most spring-suspended designs this cost-effective design did not require precision adjustment and became very successful.