contents 01.18

Equipment Reports





START ME UP

88

NAD C 368 Integrated Amplifier

NAD extends its long legacy of building terrific-sounding and affordable integrated amplifiers, now with cutting-edge digital capabilities. Vade Forrester puts this \$899 integrated through its

PEASE SEND

96 IIVFUEIV Van den Hul Crimson XGW Stradivarius and Colibri XGW Signature Stradivarius Phono Cartridges

Andre Jennings is mightily impressed by these two new cartridges from legendary cartridge designer A.J. van den Hul.



EQUIPMENT REPORTS

102

Manger Audio p1 Loudspeaker

Neil Gader auditions this unusual speaker based on a contemporary realization of a decades-old wideband driver.

136

Berkeley Audio Design Alpha DAC Reference Series 2 MQA

Berkeley adds MQA capability to its stateof-the-art DAC—and also manages to significantly improve the sound of goodold PCM. Robert Harley has the details.

106 Audionet PRAG2 and MAX/Monoblode THE CUTTING FOFF Hower Implifiers WALL FOFF Greg Weaver discovers some well-

delighted and extraordinary squading Magnepar MO3 7/

118 Playback Designs Syrah

Playback Designs Syrah Music Server and Merlot DAC

Based on completely original technology designed by DSD guru Andreas Koch, the Syrah and Merlot offer intoxicating sound, says Neil Gader.

126

YG Acoustics Sonja 2.2 Loudspeaker

YG has reinvented its Sonja speaker, incorporating highly innovative new tweeter technology. Kirk Midtskog has a full assessment.

Maggie has introduced a new, two-panel flagship loudspeaker, replete with the company's latest ribbon/quasi-ribbon technology and at a price that should make other speaker makers blush. Jonathan Valin assesses the 30.7s' deliriously wonderful sound, with commentary by Jacob Heilbrunn and Julie Mullins.