

# Contents

- 4 STAN'S SAFARI No23**  
Stan Curtis examines the theoretical and practical issues surrounding the idea of a digital loudspeaker
- 6 THREE DSD DACs**  
Computer-sourced DSD is the new hi-res download. Andrew Harrison tries three relatively inexpensive DSD-capable DACs, the TEAC UD-501, the Benchmark DAC2 HGC and the Mytek STEREO192-DSD



- 10 STREAMING KRELL**  
Krell's first streamer/DAC, the Connect, is scrutinised by Martin Colloms
- 12 FLOATING THE SPEAKERS**  
Speakers and stands need spikes, right? Max Townshend disagrees, preferring to control them with springs. Paul Messenger investigates the Seismic Corners



- 14 CLASSIC BURMESTER**  
Stan Curtis tries out Burmester's latest power amp – the ten-year-old 036
- 16 NAP300 REVISITED**  
Martin Colloms discovers the benefits of running in a Naim NAP300 for an extended period, and is driven to review it again
- 22 AURORASOUND VIDA**  
A radical Japanese high quality phono stage examined by Chris Bryant
- 24 HIGH CLASS INTEGRATION**  
Roksan's Caspian set a quality integrated amp agenda more than a decade ago. This latest M2 variant is well worth a close look

- 26 AVALON COMPÁS**  
Avalon's new Compás floorstander puts the emphasis firmly on dynamic performance

- 31 PANDA FEET!**  
Martin Colloms tries out a unique accessory component for the serious enthusiast

- 32 FOUR DACS (AND MORE!)**  
Chris Bryant gets to grips with four very different D-to-A conversion approaches: the Audiolab M-DAC, Musical Fidelity's V90-DAC and M1CLiC, and the Resolution Audio Cantata Music Centre

- 41 RING A DING**  
Paul Messenger tries out the RingAudio MasterHorn-Jazz, a unique part-active speaker system from Croatia

- 44 LONG TALL SPENDOR**  
Martin Colloms uncovers hidden depths in Spendor's unassuming looking D7 floorstander

- 47 NACA5 REVISITED**  
Given time, Naim's speaker cable proves capable of some surprising results

- 48 STILLPOINTS**  
Martin Colloms tries out these costly – some say controversial – range of US isolators

- 49 THE AMBIENT ODYSSEY**  
The first part of Mark Prendergast's history of Ambient music runs from Mahler to Eno

- 52 FAVOURITE THINGS**  
Jason Kennedy struggles to sort out his favourite ten discs

- 54 JAZZ PICKS**  
Greg Drygala's six interesting Jazz releases

- 56 THE BEST OF CLASSICAL**  
Colin Anderson discovers a new handful of classical releases

- 58 ROCK, POP & OTHER NICE MUSIC**  
Nigel Finn of the Chord Company with six new releases

- 60 SUBJECTIVE SOUNDS**  
Paul Messenger gets stuck into speaker cables



*Avalon's new Compás floorstander - page 26*



*Martin Colloms uncovers hidden depths in Spendor's D7 on page 44*