

Vin Wilson

8 PAGE VINYL SECTION SEE PAGE 84

HI-FI WORLD

JANUARY 2014

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2013 AWARDS ISSUE

THE YEAR'S TOP PRODUCTS THAT YOU SIMPLY MUST HEAR



USHER DANGER MINI-X
DIAMOND
loudspeaker **EXCLUSIVE!**



AUDIOLAB Q-DAC & M-PWR
dac & amplifier

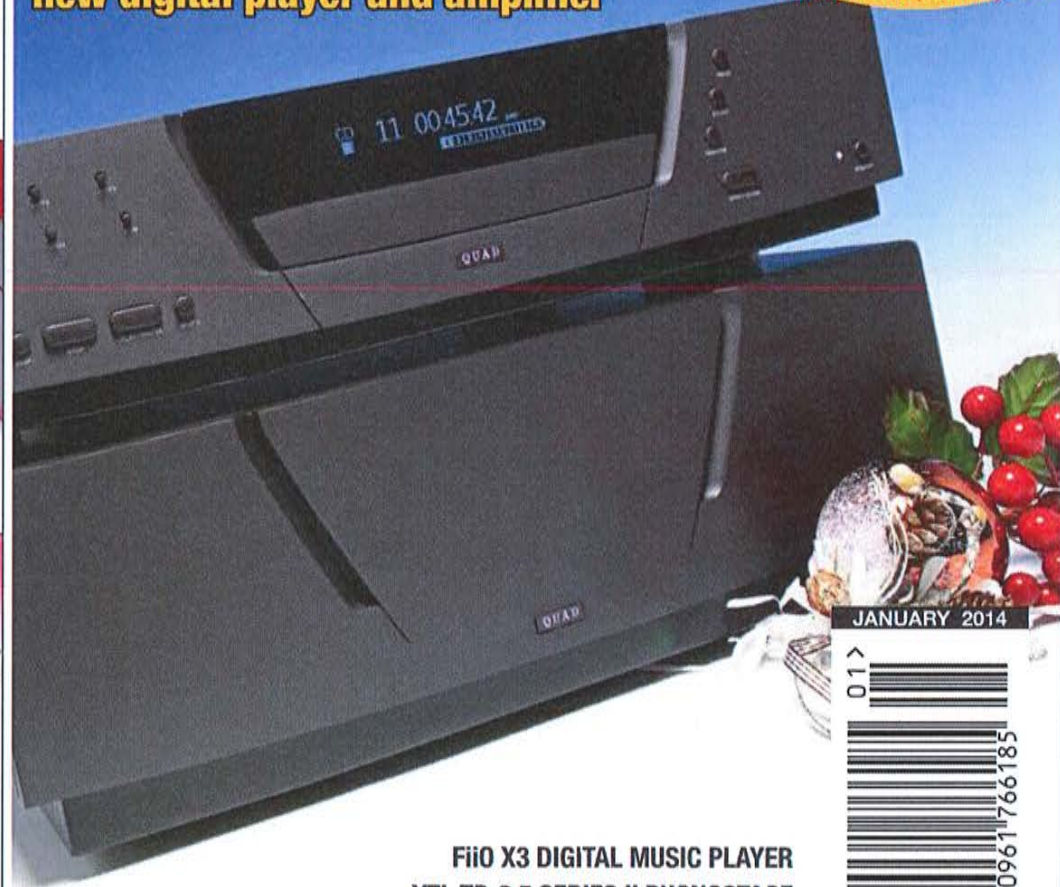


EXCLUSIVE!
TIMESTEP RA POWER SUPPLY
with Technics SL-1200 MK2 RA version

QUAD PLATINUM SERIES

EXCLUSIVE!

new digital player and amplifier



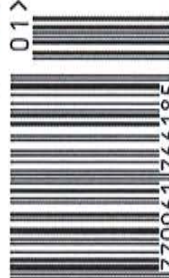
FiiO X3 DIGITAL MUSIC PLAYER
VTL TP-2.5 SERIES II PHONOSTAGE
TELLURIUM Q CLAYMORE AMPLIFIER
MASS FIDELITY RELAY BLUETOOTH RECEIVER

COMPETITION



WIN A PAIR OF ACOUSTIC
ENERGY 301 LOUDSPEAKERS
WORTH £425 (UK ONLY)

JANUARY 2014



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ROHDE & SCHWARZ
MEASUREMENT

8 PAGES OF LETTERS - THE BEST WINS A PAIR
OF KEF Q100 LOUDSPEAKERS! (UK ONLY)



★ HI-FI WORLD AWARDS 2013 ★



Welcome to Hi-Fi World's 2013 Awards. Every year our dedicated review team tests hundreds of products - but some stand out more than others. So here is our pick of the best components we've heard over the past 12 months - whether it be for sheer sound quality, innovation or fabulous value for money.

AWARDS 2013	WINNER
BEST AMPLIFIER	Pg 16
BEST VALVE AMPLIFIER	Pg 17
BEST LOUDSPEAKER	Pg 18
BEST BOOKSHELF SPEAKER	Pg 19
BEST DAC	Pg 20
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BEST TURNTABLE	Pg 22
BEST PHONOSTAGE	Pg 23
BEST HEADPHONES	Pg 24
BEST DIGITAL SOURCE	Pg 25



BEST LOUDSPEAKER

Quadral
Platinum M50

Reviewed: August 2013

£3,150

www.quadralgb-ie.co.uk

Sitting at the top of German manufacturer Quadral's Platinum range, the M50 is a full three-way, five-driver floorstander. Quadral designed the M50 to be exceptionally clean and accurate.

And that's exactly how they sound – reproducing music with a confident, unforced ease and plenty of dynamic thrust.

"The textures and delicate sonic touches of Radiohead's 'Kid A' were finely etched and easy to follow" we said, while "the beginning of Bach's 'Passaglia in C Minor' spirals down with real power until its final organ note hits you with the required sub-sonic punch".

Quadral's ring dome tweeter extends lower than more conventional designs ensuring seamless integration with the mid-range drivers, while the twin bass cones produce good, clean bass.

As we concluded: "Some speakers impress with clean treble, low-end power, mid-range detail or out-of-the-box imaging. Only a special few manage to put it all together in one elegant, eminently enjoyable package. But that's exactly what the Platinum M50 does".