

Decibel Hi Fi Newsletter No. 62 March 2018

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Dear Brian

The <u>OD11 speaker kit</u> I announced last month can now be ordered online. The price worked out to be a bit higher than I expected at \$350 a pair, but the introductory price is \$290. The prototypes are currently in a domestic situation and the <u>first review</u> has been received.



This month sees the introduction to the Australian market of a product which takes the setting up of a turntable to a whole new level. <u>AnalogMagik</u> promises the ability to optimise Speed, Vertical Tracking Angle (VTA), Azimuth, Anti-Skating, Loading, Gain, Vertical Tracking Force (VTF), Resonant Frequency and Vibrations. A vinyl enthusiast's "Swiss Army Knife". I've written an article below, and the full report is a <u>blog post</u>.

In January I mentioned we had purchased the remaining stock from the importer of a French manufacturer Micromega, but neglected to provide details in last month's newsletter. Discounts are more than 30% from RRP, but there's not a lot left - see below.

Musical regards

Brian Maddern

Turntable setup toolkit for the 21st Century

Setting up a turntable to get the optimum sound from your records takes a fair bit of expertise. The results are usually confirmed by ear. Richard Mak is a Canadian hi fi enthusiast who decided to pursue his dream of perfecting turntable cartridge setup. Through hands-on experience, he discovered that the use of test signals and distortion analyzers can greatly improve the accuracy of cartridge setups. However, setup parameters cannot be optimized in isolation and there is no single product on the market which addresses all the setup parameters so he decided to develop his own software for the task - an "ALL IN ONE" Software - mainly for his own use.

ALL IN ONE CARTRIDGE SETUP

SOFTWARE & TEST LPS

In 2010, Richard Mak partnered up John Solecki to lead an engineering team with backgrounds in Electrical, Computer, Audio and Mechanical Engineering in the automotive, aerospace and sound recording industry. They began to experiment with various laboratory grade tools

and software originally designed to measure minute engine vibrations. After 6 years of Research and Development, the "AnalogMagik All in One Analog Setup Software & Test LPs" is born.

The physical package includes two test LPs (33 &45), a USB key, and a single page of instructions with a serial number. The software needs to be downloaded from the AM website. To use the kit you need to have a Windows laptop and external USB sound card.

At \$989 it is a considerable investment, but when you consider the range of functions it provides there isn't any else like it on the market. I intend to offer a service to clients who would like the tests and adjustments on their turntable, and it might be feasible to hire out a complete kit including a PC so that enthusiasts can assess its functionality and decide whether it is worth owning.

I have set it up with my Origin Live Calypso turntable and become familiar with all the tests. It's a pretty impressive toolkit. The report of my experience is in a <u>blog post</u> on the website.

AnalogMagik have a series of free instructional videos on their website

Micromega clearance

Micromega is a French company that has been manufacturing high fidelity equipment since 1987. In 2012 they introduced their "MY" range, designed and manufactured entirely in France. The aim was to produce compact, high performance units at affordable prices. There are three models available in this clearance sale of surplus stock from the Australian importer.

The MYDAC features a revolutionary power supply, jitter-free performance, and an attractive, innovative design. It won an Absolute Sound "Budget component of the year" award. We have just 4 white units and 9 black available at \$300, which is 33% below retail.



The MYGROOV phono stage caters for both moving magnet and low output moving coil cartridges and we have 6 white ones available at \$250, 32% below RRP.

There's also 1 black and 3 white MYZIC headphone amplifiers at \$250.



New additions to the secondhand category

Some nice units came in during the last month.

Luxman R-341 receiver \$275

NAD C352 stereo amplifier \$275

NAD C542 CD player \$165

Yamaha RX-396 receiver \$220

Yamaha CDC-745 5-disc CD changer \$165

Yamaha NS-120 floorstanding speakers \$110

Malpa - our company's charity

We are very pleased to be a supporter of an



to address the incidence of otitis media (glue ear) in indigenous communities. Please visit their website to find out about their Young Doctors program.





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