

THE **hi-fi** SHOW

The ultimate high-end hi-fi experience *Live*

Souvenir Show Guide
2018

NAGRA



"Nagra's HD PREAMP places it in the uppermost echelon of the high-end. The characteristically Swiss construction is peerless, the functionality comprehensive, the ergonomics faultless, but – above all – the sound is simply phenomenal."
- Ken Kessler

Nagra HD PREAMP Review
Hi-Fi News November 2018



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The sound and vision of Scandinavia



The EISA Amplifier 2018–2019 is... Primare I15 Prisma

"Primare's industrial design speaks volumes in this stylish, slimline amplifier. Despite being just three-quarters the size of conventional separates, it punches way above its weight in sound and features. Alongside conventional analogue inputs, there's a hi-res PCM/DSD DAC plus Prisma connectivity and control technology that includes Bluetooth®, AirPlay, Spotify Connect and Chromecast (with Roon) functionality. It sounds surprisingly good for its size – super-smooth and creamy with detail aplenty and satisfying stage depth. The proven Class D power amplifier is meaty enough to drive most loudspeakers, while the fascia's crisp OLED display keeps track of source and volume settings. Factor in the svelte alloy casework and the I15 Prisma makes great sense for those seeking something out of the ordinary."

EISA award citation

► For more on all our new Primare models go to primare.net



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audio • visual

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EXHIBITORS

Exhibitors by Brand (correct at time of press)

Accusound
accusoundcablecompany.com Lancaster 4
AKG
akg.com Sandringham Main
Alchemy
elac.com White House Hastings
Alpha Design Labs
adl-av.com Windsor 2
Analysis Plus
analysis-plus.com White House Remenham
Artesania
artesianiaaudio.com Windsor 5/Lounge
Atlas Cables
atlas-cables.com Lancaster Lounge
Audio Analogue
audioanalogue.com Buckingham 1/Sandringham 2
Audio Note
audionote.co.uk Lancaster 5
AudioQuest
audioquest.com Sandringham 6
Audio Research Corp
audioresearch.com Windsor 4/5
Aurender
aurender.com White House Remenham
Avalon Acoustics
avalonacoustics.com Lancaster 6
Avantgarde Acoustic
avantgarde-acoustic.de White House Remenham
Ayre Acoustics
ayre.com Buckingham 1
Bel Canto
belcantodesign.com White House Remenham
Benchmark Media Systems
benchmarkmedia.com White House Roxburghe
Blue Horizon
bluehorizonideas.com Windsor 2
Boulder Amplifiers
boulderamp.com White House Remenham
Bowers & Wilkins
bowers-wilkins.co.uk Windsor 1
Brinkmann
brinkmann-audio.de Windsor 3
Chasing The Dragon
chasingthedragon.co.uk Windsor 3
Chesky Records
chesky.com Kensington Foyer
Chord Company
chord.co.uk Kensington Main
Chord Electronics
chordelectronics.co.uk Kensington Main
CH Precision
ch-precision.com/en/ Lancaster 1
Clearaudio
clearaudio.de Windsor 2
Computer Audio Design
computeraudiodesign.com Lancaster 1
Constellation Audio
constellationaudio.com Windsor Lounge
Continuum Audio Labs
continuumaudiolabs.com Windsor 4
Copland
copland.dk Windsor 4
Crystal Cable
crystalcable.com White House Remenham
D'Agostino Master Systems
dagostinoinc.com Windsor 5
DALI
dali-uk.co.uk Buckingham 5
darTZeel
dartzeel.com Windsor 4
dCS
dcsLtd.co.uk Windsor 5
Dekoni Audio
dekoninaudio.com Sandringham 4
DS Audio
ds-audio-w.biz Windsor 2
Dual
dual-plattenspieler.eu/en Sandringham 2
EAT
euroaudioteam.com Windsor 4
Eclipse
dekoninaudio.com Sandringham 2
ELAC
elac.com White House Hastings
Electromod
electromod.co.uk Sandringham 4
EMT
emt-international.ch/e/home.php WH Remenham
Esoteric
esoteric.jp White House Morley
Estelon
estelon.com Lancaster 6

Exposure
exposurehifi.com Sandringham 5
Falcon Acoustics
www.falconacoustics.co.uk White House Griffith
Focal-JMLab
focal.com White House Roxburghe
Fostex
fostexinternational.com White House Roxburghe
Furutech
furutech.com Windsor 2
GamuT Audio
gamutaudio.com Windsor 2
Glanz
glanztonearms.co.uk Sandringham Foyer
GoldenEar Technologies
goldeneear.com Buckingham 3
Graham Audio
grahamaudio.co.uk Sandringham 5
Harman/Kardon
uk.harman-kardon.com Sandringham Main
Harmonic Resolution Systems
avisolation.com Windsor 3
Hi-Fi Racks
hifiracks.co.uk Sandringham 6
Highresaudio
highresaudio.com Buckingham Lounge
Icon Audio
iconaudio.com Lancaster 2
ICSM Records
icsmrecords.com Kensington Foyer
Innuos
innuos.com/en Kensington Main
IsoAcoustics
isoacoustics.com White House Roxburghe
IsoTek
isoteksystems.com Windsor 2
Jadis
jadis-electronics.com Windsor 4
JBL
jblsynthesis.com Sandringham 1
KEF
kef.com Kensington Main
Kii Audio
kiaudio.com Lancaster 4
KirmussAudio
kirmussaudio.net Kensington Foyer
Kiseki
kiseki-eu.com Windsor 3
KL Audio
klaudio.com Windsor 4
Koetsu
absolutesounds.com Windsor 4
Krell Industries
krellonline.com Windsor 4
Kronos Audio Products
kronosaudio.com Buckingham 1/Sandringham 2
Kubla-Sosna
kscables.com White House Remenham
Kudos Audio
kudosaudio.com Sandringham 6
Larson Loudspeakers
larsenhifi.com/en Windsor 2
Linn Products
linn.co.uk Sandringham 6
Luxman
luxman.com Buckingham 5
Lyra
lyraaudio.com Windsor 3
Magico
magico.net Windsor Lounge
Magnepan Inc
magnepan.com Sandringham 2/Windsor 3
Mark Levinson
marklevinson.com Sandringham 1
MartinLogan
martinlogan.com Windsor 4
Melco
melco-audio.com Buckingham Lounge
Métronome Technologie
metronome-technologie.com Windsor Lounge
Meze Audio
mezeaudio.com White House Roxburghe
Miyajima
miyajima-lab.com Sandringham Foyer
MrSpeakers
mrspeakers.com Sandringham 4
Music On Vinyl
musiconvinyl.com Kensington Foyer
Nagra
nagraaudio.com White House Remenham
Nordost
nordost.com White House Morley
Novafidelity
novatron.co.kr White House Roxburghe

oBravo
obravoaudio.com Windsor 4
Planalogue
planalogue.com Sandringham 5
Plinius Audio
pliniusaudio.com White House Remenham
PrimaLuna
primaluna.nl Windsor 4
Primare
primare.net Buckingham 3
PS Audio
psaudio.com Kensington 1
Puritan Audio Labs
puritanaudiolabs.com Buckingham Reception
Quadraspire
quadraspire.co.uk White House Morley/Lancaster 1
Questyle
questyle.com White House Roxburghe
Raidho
raidho.dk Buckingham 1
ReQuest Audio
request.com Windsor 4
Revel
revelspeakers.com Buckingham 3/Buckingham 4
Rotel
rotel.com/en-gb Windsor 1
Scansonic
scansonic.dk Buckingham 1
Shelter
shelter-audio.co.jp White House Remenham
Schiit Audio
schiit.eu.com Sandringham 4
Siltech
siltechcables.com White House Remenham
SME
sme.co.uk White House Remenham
Sonoma
warwickacoustics.com White House Remenham
Sonus faber
sonusfaber.com Windsor 4
Soulines
soulines.com Sandringham Foyer
Stax
stax.co.jp Windsor 3
Stillpoints
stillpoints.us Lancaster 6
Straightwire Cables
straightwire.com Buckingham 3/Buckingham 4
Studio Connections
studioconnections.co.uk White House Hastings
Sumiko
sumikoaudio.net Windsor 3
Synergistic Research
synergisticresearch.com Sandringham 4
T+A
ta-hifi.de/en/ Lancaster 6
TechDAS
techdas.jp Windsor 4/Lounge
Tellurium Q
telluriumq.com Lancaster 6
Theme One Records
themonerecords@gmail.com Kensington Foyer
Theoretica
theoretica.us Kensington 1
Theta Digital
thetadigital.com Windsor 4
TimeStep
time-step.com Sandringham Foyer
Torus Power
toruspowers.com Buckingham 3/Buckingham 4
Transfiguration
transfigurationcartridges.co.uk Sandringham 2
Transparent Cable
transparentcable.com Windsor Lounge
Trilogy Audio Systems
trilogyaudio.com Windsor 3
Van den Hul
vanden-hul.com Buckingham 1/Sandringham 2
Vandersteen
vandersteen.com Kensington 1
Vitus Audio
vitusaudio.com Lancaster 6
Wadia
wadia.com Windsor 4
Weiss
weiss.ch White House Remenham
Wilson Audio
wilsonaudio.com Windsor 5
Wilson Benesch
wilson-benesch.com Lancaster 1
YG Acoustics
yg-acoustics.com White House Remenham
Yter
laboratorium-yter.com Windsor 4



Welcome

Listening to music is one of life's great pleasures and the very best hi-fi equipment aspires to make that experience as real and compelling as possible. The Hi-Fi Show Live 2018, the UK's largest speciality high-end audio event, is organised by the expert team behind *Hi-Fi News & Record Review* magazine and aims to combine as many of these experiences together under one (OK... several) roofs. The world's finest separates are on demonstration at The Hi-Fi Show Live 2018, so whether you prefer your music streamed from a server or spun from a vinyl LP, we aim to tempt every enthusiast with the cream of all product genres.

In between the exclusive listening sessions, interactive workshops and special guest presentations, don't forget to walk across to the Sandringham and Kensington buildings where the music plays all day and the parties last even longer... Meanwhile, the venue's 1705 Restaurant & Bar will be open for you to take a break and compare notes with fellow enthusiasts, including *Hi-Fi News* contributors!

Paul Miller – Hi-Fi Show Live 2018 Organiser

International media supporters of The Hi-Fi Show Live 2018



EXHIBITORS Windsor Suites

Windsor 1

UK EXCLUSIVE
Bowers & Wilkins

In the expansive **Windsor 1 Suite**, **Bowers & Wilkins** will be focusing on the recently launched **800 Series Diamond Prestige Edition**. Since its unveiling in September 2015, the **Bowers & Wilkins 800 Series Diamond** has re-written the rules of high-end loudspeaker performance.

The result of an exhaustive three-year development project to make the best better, the **800 Series Diamond** owes its excellence to a combination of tireless research, advanced engineering and countless hours of listening by the very best ears in the business. Imagined, designed and produced in the UK, each and every loudspeaker in the **800 Series Diamond** represents the pinnacle of UK acoustic engineering achievement.



And now, three years after its launch, **Bowers & Wilkins** is proud to elevate the **800 Series Diamond** still further. The new **800 Series Prestige Edition** is designed for connoisseurs of high-performance audio and fine woodwork.

The **800 Series Prestige Edition** models are technically unchanged from their equivalents in the **800 Series Diamond** range, thanks to the same specification including the Diamond tweeter, Turbine head, Continuum and Aerofoil drivers and Matrix cabinet construction.

Available in floorstanding **802** and standmount **805** models, each loudspeaker in the **800 Series Prestige Edition** is manufactured to the most exacting standards in the UK, with each unit featuring a unique numbered identification plate to highlight its exclusivity.

Bowers & Wilkins highlights the distinctive **Santos Rosewood** veneer on each loudspeaker, which sees no fewer than 13 coats of lacquer used to deliver a supremely rich and desirable finish, with a deep, luxurious colour and distinctive grain pattern. This finish ensures that each loudspeaker is a unique piece of art.

Windsor 2

UK EXCLUSIVE
Sound Fowndations

Clearaudio's stunningly engineered turntables and tonearms will form the centrepiece of yet another incredible-sounding system in the **Sound Fowndations** room, with **Stefan Kmuch** and **Marco Borovac** on hand

to talk you through their inventive technologies and to present the brand new, limited edition, **Reference Jubilee** turntable.

At the sharp end will be **DS Audio's** new **DS W2** optical phono cartridge. The Japanese company pioneered the world's only optical cartridge design and, thanks to its ground-breaking performance, the range has gone from strength to strength.

Exclusive to the **Hi-Fi Show Live** will be the UK launch of the brand new range-topping **Larsen 9** loudspeakers from Sweden. Designed to stand flush against the wall, **Larsen** loudspeakers use surface sound reflections to enrich the listening experience instead of degrading it, so turning the apparent limitation of a smaller sized modern living room to your musical benefit.

Blue Horizon's **PRS** (Professional Rack System) reveals the benefits of proper support, while **IsoTek's**



Stephen Oakes will leave you in no doubt about the importance of clean power as he demonstrates the audible improvements from the company's range of mains power conditioners.

Finally, prepare for a very big reaction to some rather small accessories! New additions to **Furutech's** range of performance-enhancing gadgets include the **ASB-1** anti-static brush, and the already-legendary **NCF Boosters & Booster-Signals**. Come and discover why the rave reviews just keep on coming.

EXHIBITORS Windsor Suites

Windsor 3

UK EXCLUSIVE
Symmetry

Symmetry is the sole UK distributor for **Brinkmann**, **Harmonic Resolution Systems**, **Kiseki**, **Lyra**, **Stax**, **Sumiko** and **Trilogy** and will be demonstrating a number of components from this portfolio at the show.

Brinkmann vinyl replay will be based around the new **Final Edition Oasis** turntable. Limited to 100 pieces, it comes with a 10.5in arm and performance power supply. Meanwhile, the **Brinkmann Edison** phono preamp has been upgraded to MK II spec, revised circuitry lowering noise and improving low-level detail and dynamics. **Brinkmann** has also revamped its **Nyquist** DAC with



upgrades to the digital section. The **Nyquist** is **MQA** compatible and works with **Roon** while streaming support is offered for **Deezer**, **Qobuz** and **Tidal**.

A range of **Harmonic Resolution Systems**

equipment supports will be on show. **HRS** is the industry leader in broadband isolation and vibration control and its products are

covered by numerous patents. A variety of component accessories will be demonstrated.

After three years of research the **Trilogy 915R** and **995R** will be shown in final production form. The

915R is a fully balanced vacuum tube preamp offering full remote control while the **915R** utilises transformer-coupled inputs and **Trilogy's**



proprietary **TAS** link communication system. The **995R** is a balanced hybrid monaural power amp offering 200W Class AB, or 40W in pure Class A. All **Trilogy** components are designed and hand assembled in the UK.

Symmetry is delighted to share its room with **Chasing The Dragon** recordings. **Mike Valentine** and his team have been busy this year. Four new recordings will be on show, in particular a direct-cut album *Forgotten Dreams* by **Eleanor McEvoy**. Playback will be via open-reel tape, high-res digital files and vinyl. There will be two presentations a day with tickets available from the **Windsor 3** room.

Windsor 4

UK EXCLUSIVE
Absolute Sounds Ltd

Absolute Sounds' furthest room is an open, non-ticketed space – a place to drop by and relax among the latest creations from some of the audio world's most distinguished brands, including **Copland**, **darTZeel**, **dCS**, **Crystal Cable**, **EAT**, **Krell**, **MartinLogan**, **PrimaLuna**, **Sonus faber** and **Transparent Audio**.

New product highlights include the **Prelude** – **EAT's** most affordable turntable yet – and **E-Glo Petit** phono stage. Also keep an eye out for the company's new MC cartridge, the **Jo N°5**. Dressed to impress in a mint green body shell made using



an industrial 3D printing process, it features a nude fine-line stylus and alloy cantilever. **Sonus faber's** latest loudspeaker collection, **Sonetto**, will also be on display, fusing Italian craftsmanship and

contemporary design to make an exquisite 'affordable high-end' range.

Demonstrations in this room also include the **dCS Bartók** network DAC/headphone amp. Borrowing technical features from the company's **Rossini** range, it can be heard alongside a



variety of headphones. **Sonus faber's** **Sonetto VIII** [HFN Nov '18], the flagship floorstander in the **Sonetto** range, will also be on demo.

Absolute Sounds' crack squad of high-end audio experts will be on hand to answer questions and offer advice, alongside VIPs from the brands themselves including **EAT's** own **Jozefina Lichtenegger**.



Windsor 5

UK EXCLUSIVE
Absolute Sounds Ltd

Whether you're a lover of valve amps or you prefer solid-state designs, **Absolute Sounds'** second room offers the best of both from two giants of the high-end audio scene. Valves are represented by **Audio Research's** Reference components, including the magnificent **Reference 10** preamp, [HFN Mar '13] while solid-state



amplification of the highest calibre is supplied by **Dan D'Agostino's** prodigious **Momentum M400** monoblocks [HFN Oct '16].

An incredible performance is guaranteed, especially as these amps are driving the latest masterpiece from Wilson Audio – **Sasha DAW** – its UK debut at the show. Replacing the **Sasha 2** [HFN Jun '14], which traces its lineage back to the legendary **WATT/Puppy**, the new model features technologies trickled down from the **WAMM Master Chronosonic**.

When it comes to the source, there's

no greater refinement of digital audio than that offered by **dCS**. The British digital audio pioneer's new **Bartók** upsampling network DAC will be on demonstration, along with the **Rossini CD/SACD** transport and **Vivaldi One** [HFN Feb '18] single-box digital audio player.



Renowned recording engineer and **Wilson Audio** ambassador **Peter McGrath** returns to the UK to conduct proceedings, alongside other brand representatives including **Raveen Bawa** from **dCS** and **Bill McKiegan** from **Dan D'Agostino**. Free tickets are available from the desk outside the entrance to the **Windsor Lounge**.

Windsor Lounge

UK EXCLUSIVE
Absolute Sounds Ltd

Don't miss this special opportunity to hear an extraordinary high-end system, carefully curated to deliver the best of both digital and analogue audio. The new **Kalista DreamPlay ONE** CD player [HFN Oct '18] by **Métronome**



Technologie shows just how good the ol' silver disc can sound, while **ReQuest Audio's** **The Beast** music server showcases the latest hi-res digital audio formats. Vinyl fans are in for a treat too, courtesy of the most affordable turntable tour de force from **TechDAS** – the new **Air Force V**. Able to take up to four tonearms, this deck is guaranteed to extract every last drop of musical detail from a record's grooves.

Amplification is provided by the high-end dream team at **Constellation Audio**, including the **Virgo III** preamp, **Perseus** phono stage and **Centaur II 500** power amp from the company's **Performance Series**. These amps deliver extraordinary sonic clarity, so it's just as well that they're driving some of the crispest, cleanest, most revealing loudspeakers



on the planet from **Magico** – the astonishing **M6** and also the **A3**, **Magico's** least costly design to date. And we're not skimping on cables, either, with **Transparent** ensuring optimal signal transmission.

Constellation's **Irv Gross** and **Magico's** **Peter Mackay** are set to fly in from the US to conduct timed demonstrations. Free tickets for these events can be obtained from the desk outside the **Windsor Lounge**.

EXHIBITORS Buckingham Suites

The new 800 Series Diamond didn't get better by chance. It got better by change. 868 changes to be precise.

Bowers & Wilkins

bowers-wilkins.com



Buckingham Reception

UK EXCLUSIVE
Puritan Audio Labs

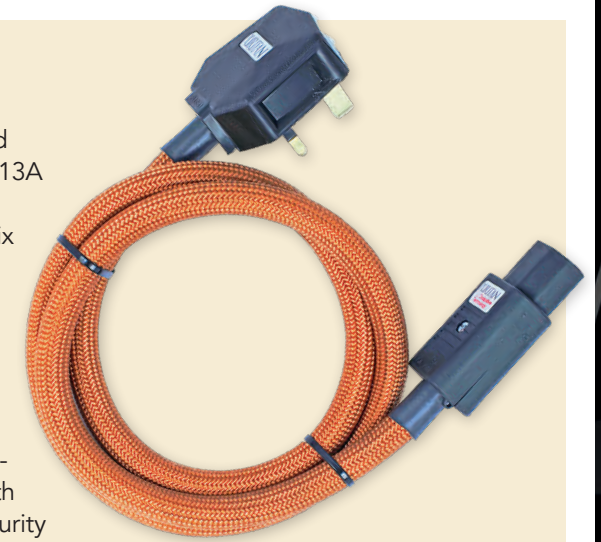
Paying attention to the quality of the AC mains can pay sonic dividends, and **Puritan Audio Laboratories** is waiting to tempt you with its sophisticated, yet cost-effective, mains-cleaning solutions.

Visitors have a treat in store as the Oxfordshire-based company

demonstrates the technology behind its proprietary range of mains-purifying conditioners and dissipative 'Interference Eating' 13A power cables. For example, the **PSM136** strip purifier features six independently-conditioned 8A outlets with optimised power routing, 'cleansed star earthing' and DC filtering to enhance clarity, detail and definition and expand perceived dynamics.

Then there's the **Hi-Fi Choice**-recommended power cables with

their 20A high-purity copper conductors and optimised dielectric insulation to rid your reproduction chain of hash. The result is a system able to resolve minute and subtle information with greater accuracy.



So linger awhile in the **Buckingham Reception**, on your way through to the other brands featured on these pages, and meet **Puritan's** guiding light **Mike Lester**. He will reveal how AC mains conditioning can improve the performance of your hi-fi system, ridding it of the fizz, hash and spikes that may unsettle your separates.



Buckingham 1

UK EXCLUSIVE
Decent Audio

A J van den Hul is one of the world's most renowned phono cartridge designers, and a new edition of his top-of-range model is something to celebrate. With the new **Colibri XGW Signature Stradivarius**, A J has aimed for his personal best, incorporating all of his 40+ years' experience. Visitors to **The Hi-Fi Show Live** will be treated to its UK unveiling, where it will be partnered with the highly original **The Wand** unipivot tonearm from New Zealand-based **DBL (Design Build Listen)**. An evolution in tonearm design, it is cleverly crafted to deliver superb sound at a considerably more modest price than might be expected, and even the top **Master** model demonstrated in **Buckingham 1** is within reach of many budgets.



Clearly the accompanying turntable needs to be something special too, and it is: the masterfully engineered and justifiably celebrated **Kronos Sparta**, with its unique – and eye-catching – counter-rotating platters. Amplification will be delivered by American brand **Ayre Acoustics' QX-5** and **KX-5/VX-5** [HFN Nov '16] while Ayre's **Brent Hefley** will be on hand to demonstrate, chat and answer questions.

And for devotees of Denmark's 'royal family' of loudspeaker brands, **Raidho's** superb **C2.2** 2.5-way floorstander will be in residence, along with the new **Scansonic MB5'B'**. The latter 'B' stands for prized designer **Benno Baun Meldgaard** of **GamuT**, who joined the **Raidho** family last year and who has further developed the already excellent – and remarkably affordable – **Scansonic MB** range.

EXHIBITORS Buckingham Suites

Buckingham 3

UK EXCLUSIVE
Karma Audio Visual

Having been recognised for its seductive blend of looks, connectivity and audio performance by the world's **EISA** community of specialist magazines, the beautifully chic, award-winning **Primare Prisma** range makes a triumphant return. The app-driven

CD35 Prisma CD player/streaming DAC features a balanced analogue output and packs an **ESS Sabre DAC** compatible with 384kHz/ DSD128 music files.



Meanwhile, the **I35 Prisma** integrated amp is the first to use the company's new **UFPD 2** power system, a refinement of its award-winning UFPD all-analogue Class D technology. The 150W **I35 Prisma** amplifier also includes digital inputs supporting 768kHz LPCM and DSD128 music files. Hear the pairing supported by **Falcon Acoustics** speakers.

The **Falcon** range includes authentic **LS3/5a** mini-monitors, hand-built exclusively to the original 1976 **BBC** spec. The result of nearly two years' R&D, the **Falcon LS3/5a** features the company's own **B110** drive unit and **T27** tweeter along with a matched 15ohm **FL6/23** filter network. Meanwhile, the cabinets are made from a selected grade of Baltic Ply and



come in a variety of wood veneers, all finished with a Tygan cloth front grille.

Also on show will be **Falcon's** new and acclaimed **Reference Audio Monitor (RAM)** range, comprising the two-way ported **Studio 10** and **Studio 20** standmount speakers and three-way **Studio 30** floorstander. Their pristine 25mm MDF cabinets, finished in real wood veneers, feature faux-leather baffles, and interchangeable side panels to coordinate with a wide variety of domestic surroundings.

Buckingham 4

UK EXCLUSIVE
Karma Audio Visual

Karma AV is back at **The Hi-Fi Show Live** on a mission to prove that genuine fidelity needn't come with megabucks price tags. Its larger demonstration room is the stage for a partnership of two acclaimed global champions of 'budget' audiophilia, uniting the democratically-priced **Emotiva** and **GoldenEar** brands in a truly inspiring chemistry of high-end performance and value. **Hi-Fi News'** 'Outstanding' pre/power pairing of **Emotiva XSP-1** and **XPA-DR2** [HFN Oct '18] will fill the space with 'firecracker dynamics' through **GoldenEar's Triton 5**



Tower loudspeakers. These feature a proprietary driver configuration of twin midrange drivers astride a ribbon tweeter, supported by no fewer than four side-firing bass radiators.

Karma's other demos include dynamic pairings of **Emotiva's** entry-



level **TA100** and **PT100/A300** pre/power ensembles. Part of **Emotiva's** BasX series, the **A300** is a stereo power amp rated at 150W/8ohm that promises true audiophile sound quality at an affordable price. Come and experience it for yourself.

Meanwhile, visitors will also be able hear **Primare's** new range of separates, with **SVS 'Ultra'** bookshelf speakers, **JBL 4306** monitors and, due imminently in the UK, the iconic **JBL L100 'Century'** monitors. Reprised and comprehensively upgraded, this classic three-way speaker (with 12in bass) retains its **Quadrex** foam grilles that were used for the original early-1970s design.

Buckingham 5

UK EXCLUSIVE
Luxman (IAG)/DALI

This spacious suite will give you the opportunity to experience a lavish feast of international audio delicacies. **Luxman**, the venerable Japanese high-end audio brand now in its 94th year, joins forces with revered Danish loudspeaker manufacturer **DALI** to form a system representing the very best that Asian and European design and engineering have to offer.

A fabulous mix of CD and vinyl is promised with **Luxman's D-06u** SACD/CD player/DAC and **PD-171A** turntable. The deck boasts a high-torque AC synchronous motor, newly developed by the company, a 5kg platter, and arm with a detachable headshell. The **PD-171A** will be joined by **Luxman's** new **EQ-500** tube-based phono stage, which uses

valves manufactured by JJ Electronic in Slovakia. As for the **D-06u**, as well as being a superlative disc player, it also offers an asynchronous USB input compatible with 384kHz/32-bit and DSD128 files, using the supplied **Luxman Audio Player** software for PC and Mac.

These feed **Luxman's** flagship **C-900u** preamp and **M-900u** stereo/mono power amp [HFN Jan '17] – a mighty combination that delivers power and poise in equal measure. Also on display will be a selection of exciting **Luxman** products – including tube/solid-state hybrid designs.

If **Luxman** is the emperor of Japanese high-end audio, then **DALI**, celebrating its 35th year, is surely the high king of Danish loudspeakers. Its flagship **Epicon** series combines



luscious looks with sensational sound, representing the ultimate insight into **DALI's** core values. Visitors will see all three superb **Epicon** models on display – the standmount **Epicon 2**, the floorstanding **Epicon 6** and larger floorstanding **Epicon 8** – with both the 8s and 2s available for demonstration with the **Luxman** components. The end result? Magical-sounding hi-fi brought together to deliver an unforgettable musical performance.

Buckingham Lounge

UK EXCLUSIVE
Melco

With a hi-fi legacy stretching back 43 years, the world's leading high-performance digital music storage solutions manufacturer, **Melco** (the hi-fi division of the Japanese IT giant **Buffalo Technology**), has the ability and scale to deliver truly bespoke audiophile storage and server solutions, regardless of budget.

Melco's quest for a genuine 'audiophile-quality' digital music storage device, able to deliver high-resolution audio files (both **LPCM** and **DSD**) and unrivaled-quality CD rips via USB or Ethernet, takes many forms. The company's very latest offerings,



announced in September, will be unveiled at **The Hi-Fi Show Live**.

Officially launching to music lovers at the show, the **N100** is a great value, high-performance music library with a space-saving half-width chassis but still

promising offering astonishing sound quality. Priced at just £1800, the **N100** breaks fresh ground for the Japanese giant and provides a new, affordable entry point into **Melco** ownership, with the versatility the brand has become known for.

In addition, **Melco** will also preview the new 'extreme performance' **N10** music library, an uncompromising two-box solution which separates signal processing electronics and power supplies for the optimum performance. Bolstered by a 3TB drive, USB DAC and full

app control, the **N10** builds upon the position held by the **N12** series [HFN Jun '16] – seen at **The Hi-Fi Show Live**, 2017 – as the best digital music source available and continues to improve audio performance.

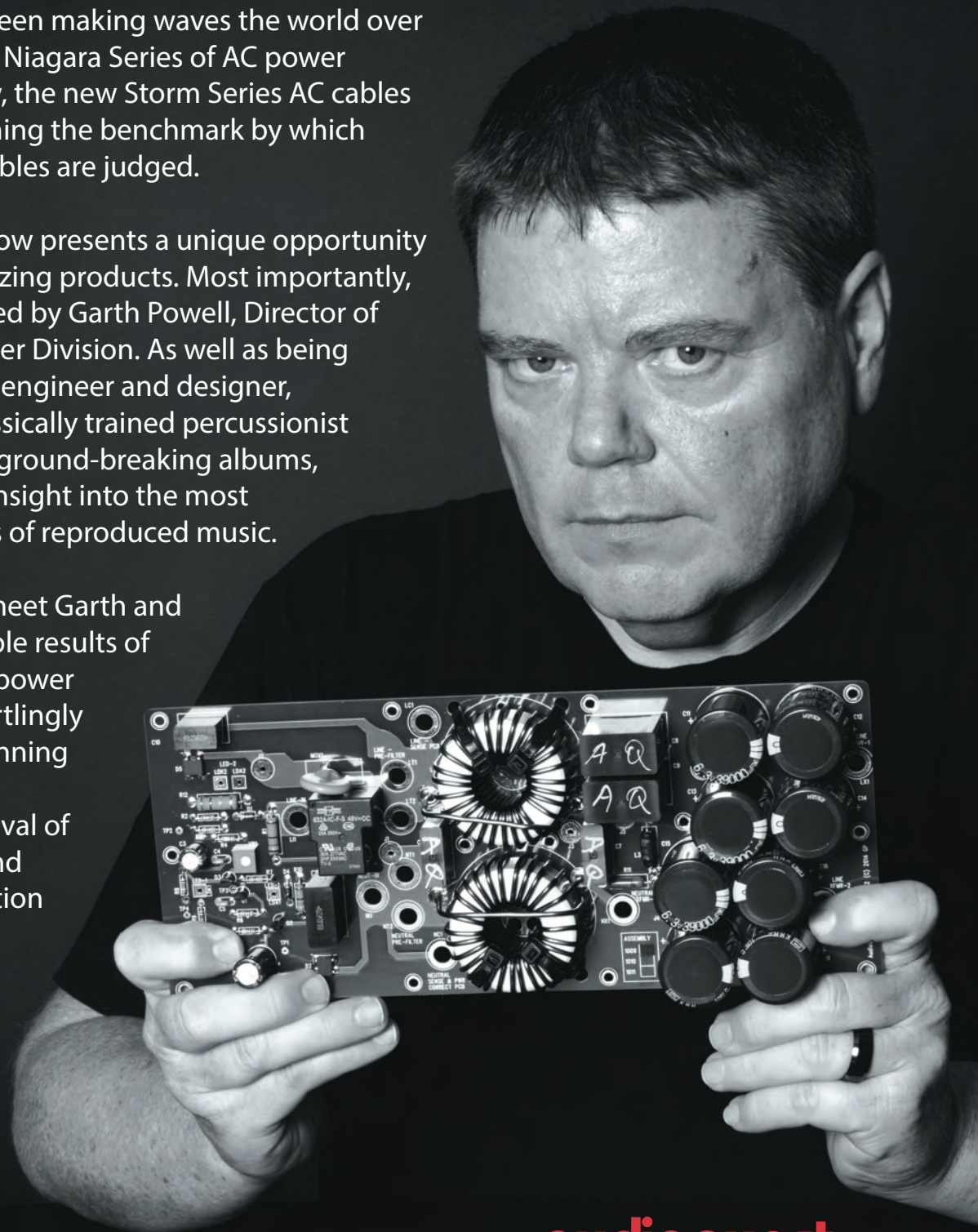
Redefining the Science of Power Conditioning

Visit AudioQuest in *Sandringham 6* to hear what all the fuss is about...

AudioQuest has been making waves the world over with the stunning Niagara Series of AC power conditioners. Now, the new Storm Series AC cables are quickly becoming the benchmark by which all other power cables are judged.

The Hi Fi News Show presents a unique opportunity to hear these amazing products. Most importantly, they'll be presented by Garth Powell, Director of AudioQuest's Power Division. As well as being a highly regarded engineer and designer, Garth is also a classically trained percussionist with a number of ground-breaking albums, giving him deep insight into the most important aspects of reproduced music.

We invite you to meet Garth and hear the remarkable results of highly optimized power management: startlingly deep silences, stunning dynamic contrast, outstanding retrieval of ambience cues, and gorgeous delineation of musicians and instruments.



audioquest

EXHIBITORS Lancaster Suites

Lancaster 1

UK EXCLUSIVE

Computer Audio Design with Wilson Benesch, CH Precision and Quadraspire

Just how good can digital audio sound? **Computer Audio Design's (CAD) 1543 MkII** DAC employs a raft of intelligent innovations to deliver an astonishingly natural sound. At the **Hi-Fi Show Live** it will be paired with a prototype of CAD's updated **CAT** Audio Transport. This smart, single-chassis unit is a combined CD-ripper, music storage device, streamer



and integrated NAS drive.

Also discover CAD's remarkable **USB cables I and II**, expertly developed to eliminate the unwanted noise generated by digital source components before it reaches the DAC, and the superb and unique **Ground Control** units, **CG1** and **CG3**, which tackle noise reduction on a whole different level with results that will astonish.

Partnering with CAD this year is **Wilson Benesch**, which is showing its **Endeavour** standmount loudspeaker. Described as a 'super monitor' by some, the **Endeavour** stands boldly in a class of



its own. This multi-award winning design features entirely bespoke, hand-built driver technology and advanced composite cabinet construction. The result is a superlative high-end audio experience, with an immediacy to the sound and integration across the bandwidth that sets the **Endeavour** apart from its peers. Also making its UK premiere at the show are the **M1** power amplifier and **L1** line preamp from **CH Precision**.

Based in Switzerland, **CH Precision** can now lay claim to being a world player

when it comes to high-end audio. With both its **M1** power amp and **L1** line preamplifier having scooped a number of prestigious audio awards Stateside, they make up a system front-end that's not to be missed.

Lancaster 2

UK EXCLUSIVE

Icon Audio

Able to boast what is arguably the most comprehensive range of award-winning valve amplifiers in the UK, **Icon Audio** has models to suit all budgets and tastes, right up to innovative 250W tube designs for the serious enthusiast. **Icon Audio** is a small, bespoke UK company formed in 2000 by **David Shaw** and strives hard to maintain its four cornerstones of 'Value, Performance, Reliability and Service' while instilling confidence in product purchases that give excellent

service for many years. It offers a fabulous series of designs that honour the audio innovators of the past while embracing a sound that is warm, pure and non-fatiguing.

New for 2019 is our fabulous **300B** integrated amplifier. With 2x25W of low distortion triode power it is designed to put a smile on your face! We have also upgraded our popular **Stereo 40 EL34/KT88** integrated amplifier. **Icon Audio** uses tried and tested 'point-to-point' construction techniques in its amplifiers plus in-house manufactured output transformers.

While this gives **Icon Audio** complete control over the sonic signature of its products it also enables a wide range



of different tube designs to be offered, including push-pull, single-ended, triode and ultralinear. Don't know what these terms mean? Come to **Lancaster 2** and find out!

In addition to showing its ranges of award-winning preamps, power amps, headphone preamps and matching loudspeakers, **Icon Audio's** lively demonstrations will also include its superb phono stages, new **Stereo 30SE** integrated amp and new **MFV15** horn speaker with 15in bass driver.



EXHIBITORS Lancaster Suites**Lancaster Lounge****UK EXCLUSIVE**
Atlas Cables

Atlas Cables, the engineering-led cable specialist based in Kilmarnock, will be showcasing a wide range of its products at **The Hi-Fi Show Live**, from its latest flagship **Asimi Luxe** speaker cables through to the ever convincing **Grun** coherent grounding system. Utilising its proprietary cold-weld



termination technique for both the signal and return conductors, **Atlas** will be demonstrating its hierarchy of analogue interconnects taking you through materials, configurations and connection topologies to enable you to hear what makes a difference.

Headphone users are invited to audition the **Atlas Zeno**, which offers a significant upgrade over the standard leads that come with many high-end headphones. Offering solutions for both headphones and in-ear monitors, the **Zeno** series covers a wide range of connectivity options and caters for the world's favourite headphone brands.

Visitors will be able to try A/B tests via a high-end headphone system to experience the improved performance for themselves.

All discerning audiophiles know that system performance is



influenced by the quality of the AC mains and that a clean power supply benefits from a cable's rejection of external interference. **Atlas** will also be showcasing its full range of screened **Eos** mains cables along with its latest **Eos Superior** dual drain screened OCC power cables.

Atlas design engineers will be on hand throughout the weekend of **The Hi-Fi Show Live**, explaining the technical details that go into the manufacture of every **Atlas** cable, while representatives will happily talk you through the whole cable and accessory range based on your individual system requirements.

Lancaster 4**UK EXCLUSIVE**
Sound Design Distribution

Sound Design Distribution returns to **The Hi-Fi Show Live** with the radical, size-defying **Kii THREE** DSP-controlled active audio playback system [HFN Aug '18], designed to eliminate the negative effect of the listening room, 'the world's largest sound processor', on audio quality.

Using proprietary **Active Wave Focusing** technology, each **Kii THREE**'s six-driver configuration, which is actively driven by six 250W **Ncore** amplifiers, can be made to produce a completely coherent, time-aligned wave front that is emitted only forward and behaves as though it came from the midrange driver.

This ingenious **DSP** operates using cardioid principles, eliminating all backward radiation from the

driver system. Rather than delayed reflections, the listener hears all the sound at the same time, in any space.

SDD's Kii dem this year features the first UK outing of the **BXT** low frequency extension modules, which transform the **Kii THREE** system into a floorstanding, line-source design, deploying 16 additional drivers (eight per side) and a further 4000W, lifting total system power to 7000W.

The modules are easy to attach/detach and are auto-detected by the **Kii THREE**, which then adjusts the software automatically. The **BXT** makes full use of the **Kii THREE**'s technology, extending the frequency range and SPL of the system for the most extraordinary ultra-wide fidelity.

Liberated from the effects of the room, this completely integrated, leading-edge playback system points the way forward for audio design and development. You'll remember where you heard it first...

**Lancaster 5****UK EXCLUSIVE**
Audio Note (UK)

This year, **Audio Note (UK)** will be presenting the kind of affordable 'maximum music' system that its loyal customers have been enjoying for over a quarter of a century. Vinyl will be heard played on the **TT-One Deluxe** turntable, the single-motor version of the company's classic three-point suspended design with its real-wood veneered, birch ply plinth hand built in the same Austrian factory as the firm's classic line of loudspeakers. Combined with the copper-wired **ARM-One/II** tonearm and **IQ3** moving-magnet cartridge, the result is a vinyl front-end guaranteed to transport listeners to the heart of the musical message.

Digital music is handled by the **CDT-One/II** CD transport and **DAC1.1x/II**



digital-to-analogue converter. **Audio Note (UK)** firmly believes that the best domestic digital audio source is still 'Red Book' CD, so prepare to have your preconceptions challenged by this involving and beguiling combination, as it proves just how impressive the not-so-humble silver disc can sound.

Meanwhile, amplification is provided by the **OTO Phono PP** amplifier. Built completely in the UK and featuring an

on-board valve MM phono stage, this 9W Class A push-pull design has been in production for over 25 years and the latest iteration sounds more impressive than ever.

Last but not least, filling the room with rich, colourful sound are **Audio Note (UK)**'s **AN-K**, the smallest model in its classic line of speakers. The updated version of this sealed-box design is now equipped with a newly developed un-doped paper cone for an even more natural and tonally realistic performance.

**Lancaster 6****UK EXCLUSIVE**
Kog Audio

Visit the large **Lancaster 6 Suite** where **Kog Audio** is presenting the latest products from its portfolio. We have the **RI-101** integrated amp from **Vitus Audio**, a renewed and reinvigorated update to the longstanding **RI-100**, in conjunction with its new **RD-101** DAC/streamer. We also plan to present **Alluxity** for



the first time at a UK show, the brand being a member of the **Vitus** family, along with the **Vitus** team to assist with your technical questions.

You can also hear the brand new **Avalon Acoustics PM1** floorstander, the first we've seen from the **Precision**

Monitor series, which will be an exceptionally popular product based on what we've heard so far. In addition, we hope to play the **Estelon YB** – a sonic sculpture that will provide

an interesting contrast to the **Avalon** – at a similar price.

Our systems will be completed with **Stillpoints** isolation, **Tellurium Q** cabling (including the recently released **Statement**), and **Melco** digital servers, which will be serving up hi-res music in the highest quality.



THEORETICA APPLIED PHYSICS

UK LAUNCH
EXCLUSIVE TO
THE HI-FI SHOW

Introducing the BACCH-SP by Theoretica. Creating a new category of hifi product.

Dr Edgar Choueiri is the president of Theoretica and the inventor of this incredible technology. He will be giving regular presentations during The Hi-Fi show in the Kensington suite. You won't want to miss this demonstration, it will open your mind to what can be achieved with stereo.

"Prepare to be amazed" Herb Reichert - Stereophile



"Ground breaking technology" Michael Lavorgna - Stereo Stream

"Truly a breakthrough in technology" Robert Harley - The Absolute Sound

"Without question, the most lifelike and compelling presentation of stereo I have ever heard" Brent Butterworth - Soundstage Global

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THE **hi-fi** SHOW *Live*

The Hi-Fi Show *Live* Special Events

hi-finews Special Events

Visitors to the **Hi-Fi Show Live** will have the very rare opportunity to meet some of high-end audio's most experienced industry insiders and personalities. At the time of going to press, confirmed presenters include **Irv Gross** [Constellation Audio], **Peter Mackay** [Magico], **Peter McGrath** [Wilson Audio], **Todd Eichenbaum** [Mark Levinson], **Stefan Kmuch** [Clearaudio], **Dominique Mafrand** [Nagra], **Brent Hefley** [Ayre Acoustics], **John Larson** [Larson Audio], **Bob McConnell** [Transparent Audio], **Hidetoshi Watanabe** [Eclipse TD], **Bill McKiegan** [D'Agostino], **Mattia Donnola** [Sonus faber], **Michael McCormick** [Bel Canto], **Stephen Oakes** [Isotek], **Kerry St James** [YG Acoustics], **Peter Gabriel** [Avantgarde Acoustic], **Raveen Bawa** [dCS], **Rich Meaz** [Boulder], **Terry Field** [SME], **Martin Roberts** [Sonoma], **Antoine Furbur** [Audio Research], **Gabi van der Kleij** [Crystal Cable] and **Jozefina Lichtenegger** [EAT].

And the excitement doesn't stop there as **Mike Valentine** [top right] of **Chasing The Dragon**

(the world's leading producer of direct cut albums) joins **Symmetry** in **Windsor 3**. Details of Mike's twice a day presentation can be found on p6.

Keen to hear the 'real thing'? Then visitors are invited to a uniquely 'Live' event in **White House Remenham** as the whirlwind guitarist **Joncan Kavlakoglu** [right] accompanies his own recordings played through a very high-end **Nagra/YG Acoustics** system! Also, acclaimed cellist **Vincent**



Matthias is guaranteed to inject his unique humour into hi-fi!

Finally, show-goers will also have the chance to hear **Paul Miller** [below] discuss the future of music and hi-fi before joining

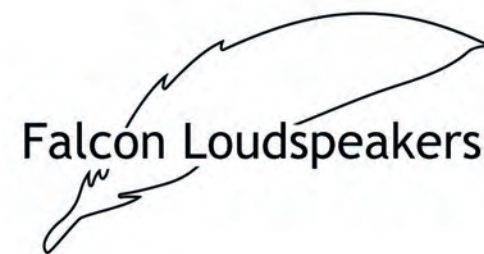
Ken Kessler as he spins some choice vinyl to round off the day [see Show Reception for times and locations].



Bélanger [above] will again be gracing **The Hi-Fi Show Live** with his spell-binding solo performances.

Returning to **The Hi-Fi Show Live**, **Matthias Böde** [left] from Germany's premier hi-fi magazine, **Stereo**, will be presenting a special series of **Hi-Fi News Workshops**. Can you hear the difference between WAV and FLAC files? Wondered how loudspeaker time alignment affects imaging? Want to hear the difference between alternative MC pick-ups, the 'sound' of audiophile USB cables or experience a super-rare €100-a-pop pure glass CD?





THE FALCON RAM STUDIO 30

FALCON IS BACK

"The RAM Studio 30 is a potent, wide-bandwidth speaker system that balances its dynamic reach and ability to go loud with grace, warmth, terrific resolving power and a feeling of spatial coherence that ranks with the very best. No need to rest on its laurels now, Falcon is back."



Hi-Fi Choice
November 2018



WWW.FALCONLOUDSPEAKERS.CO.UK

EXHIBITORS White House

Remenham

UK EXCLUSIVE

SME, Nagra and Bel Canto

Padood will be leaving show visitors spellbound again this year with a stunning vinyl replay system featuring a carefully curated combination of the new **SME Synergy** integrated turntable (heard for the first time in the UK) and the **Carmel 2** speakers from Denver-based **YG Acoustics**.

The **Synergy** turntable is a unique, precision-engineered integrated package featuring a magnesium tonearm based on the company's



highly acclaimed **Series IV** with mono crystal silver internal wiring by **Crystal Cable**. It also boasts a specially designed built-in phono stage by **Nagra** and **Ortofon's** 'exclusive series' **Windfeld Ti** moving-coil cartridge. With **Bel Canto's** award-winning **Ref600M** power amps in the driving seat, capable of 300W per channel, you will be enchanted by the exceptionally detailed and insightful sound this system will bring to your listening experience.

In addition, we are delighted to be joined at the **Hi-Fi Show Live** by guitarist **Joncan Kavlakoglu** – back again by popular demand following his hugely popular appearance last year. Playing an



infectious and highly visual style of flamenco-funk fusion, there will be live performances from this renowned **British musician** on the hour, with the set powered by award-winning **Nagra** amplification from the company's HD range, including the £62.5k a pair **HD AMP** monoblock [HFN Jul '18] and £49.5k **HD PREAMP** [HFN Nov '18].

And there's more! At 12 noon each day, **Matthias Bode** from **Stereo** magazine will be presenting a workshop (see p17). Featuring the very best of analogue and digital audio, **Padood** looks forward to welcoming you.



Morley

UK EXCLUSIVE

Esoteric, Nordost and Quadraspire

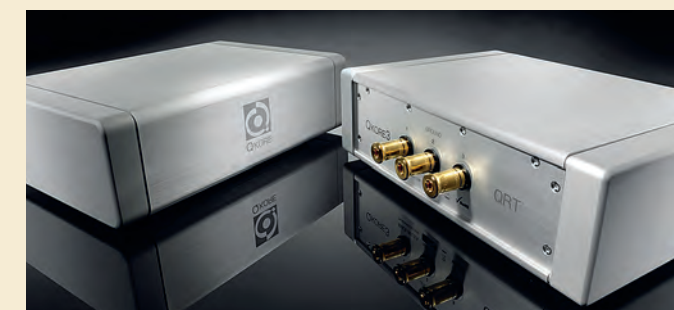
Esoteric, **Nordost** and **Quadraspire** will be looking to impress in the **Morley Suite**. At the heart of the system will be the latest separates from **Esoteric**, the legendary audiophile arm of **TEAC** and **Tascam**. These will comprise the **N-03T**

network audio transport, the **K-03Xs** SACD/CD player/DAC and the **F-03A** integrated amplifier (with ES-Link). All will be supported by **Quadraspire's**

SVT Bamboo hi-fi rack system.

The network transport can handle both locally-stored music libraries and streaming services including **Tidal** and **Qobuz**, is **Roon**-ready, and compatible with file formats up to DSD256 and 384kHz/32-bit. It has an asynchronous USB input for direct connection to a PC/Mac, and can be directly controlled using the **Esoteric Sound Stream** smartphone app.

The **F-03A** integrated amplifier combines a fully balanced preamp and Class A



power amp, and is derived directly from Esoteric's flagship Grandioso line.

Helping the **Esoteric** system sing will be **Reference 5** speakers supplied by **KEF** and **Nordost's QKore** range of parallel grounding devices. Without an effective ground point, the entire foundation of a system can be jeopardised, but neither is it practical for enthusiasts to run a thick conductor from their hi-fi to a ground rod buried deep in their garden. Come and visit **Nordost** and hear how the **QKore** can help you unlock the potential of your audio components.



EXHIBITORS White House

Griffith

UK EXCLUSIVE

Karma AV/Falcon Acoustics

One of three **Karma AV** demo spaces at the show, the **Griffith Suite** hosts the world premiere of **Primare's** new **PRE35/A35.2** pre/power amp combo, featuring a fully modular architecture and **Primare's Prisma** connectivity platform, lately enhanced by **Roon** and **Chromecast built-in**. The **Primare** ensemble will be driving a further UK show exclusive: **Falcon's** flagship **GC6500R Reference** loudspeaker.

This new three-way floorstander incorporates a number of proprietary technical advances, including the **Falcon's** proprietary 'Sonaweave Graphene Enhanced Nano-Platelet Cone' deployed in the bass driver. Graphene allows the diaphragm to be up to 60% lighter and thinner than one composed of more conventional

materials, with significantly improved rigidity, better damping and a natural, well-controlled roll-off.

The speaker's elegant cabinet is hand-made in Italy using laminated MDF with extra damping throughout. The Alcantara-covered baffle is computer profiled for minimal diffraction while the reinforced rear panel features **Falcon**-profiled heatsinks within a precision tooled back plate. Finishes include a choice of Walnut and Mahogany real wood veneers and, at a premium, exotic wood veneers or any customer-specified high gloss RAL colour.

The **GC6500R's** smoked glass top is complemented by precision-ground alloy metalwork. Fresh from its world debut at the Rocky Mountain Audio Fest, and making its first UK show appearance, the **Falcon Reference** speaker proves that a small British company can make a big technological statement in speaker development.



Roxburghe

UK EXCLUSIVE

SCV Distribution

A newcomer to the show, **SCV** is rising to the challenge with an impressive array of UK products shown for the first time. The room will comprise several headphone-based systems showcasing the latest amps and DACs from **Benchmark Media Systems** and **Questyle Audio Engineering**, with headphones from **Focal** and **Meze**, all sourced by **Novafidelity's** latest range of streamers. On static display will be **IsoAcoustics'** renowned speaker and equipment range.

Exclusives include **Benchmark's** new **HPA4** headphone amp [HFN

Nov '18] and **LA4** preamp, fed by the latest addition to the DAC3 range, the **DAC3 B**.

Questyle's latest offerings, the **CMA Twelve** DAC/

headphone amp and **SHB2** docking station, will also be on hand as the first examples from the company's new 'Loss Less Audio' system concept. Combining the highly regarded **QP2R** Digital Audio Player [HFN Feb '18] as a high-end source with patented 'Air Moment' 5.8GHz wireless technology, audio can be sent to receiving components via the **SHB2** 'Super Hub' preamp.

Focal will make two debuts in the form of the **Elegia**, its new closed-back headphone, and the **Utopia/ QP2R bundle**, featuring a specially impedance-matched



QP2R boxed with a pair of **Utopia** headphones [HFN Feb '17]. The combo offers unprecedented sound quality from a portable system and at the price is an absolute steal!

Meanwhile, **Novafidelity's** **X50Pro** digital streamer joins the recently announced **X45Pro** in its new high-end range. Both include **Crystek's** **CCHD-575** noise oscillator for super-low phase and a quad core **ARM Cortex A9** main processor.

And don't miss **Meze Audio's** hotly awaited flagship headphone, the **Empyrean** – the first Isodynamic Hybrid Array design, which targets sound around the shape of the ear.

EXHIBITORS White House/Kensington

Hastings

UK EXCLUSIVE

ELAC

Join **ELAC** as it unveils its new **Vela 400** range of speakers, featuring the **BS 403** standmounts and **FS 407** floorstanders, which build upon the success of its best-selling **400** series with improvements to the drivers. The new waveguide for the **JET 5** tweeter increases the definition of both stereo and multichannel audio while the optimised mid and bass drivers are able to reproduce



high-energy transients more precisely. But the most striking change is in the stunning new cabinets. The reclined trapezoidal shape and curved front baffle improves stiffness, while the die-cast aluminium base incorporates a downward-firing bass port that makes positioning simple even in smaller living areas.

The speakers will be run with **Alchemy** amplification and served by the **ELAC Discovery System**, with the award-winning **Miracord 90** [HFN Jul '17] turntable satisfying vinyl lovers' demands.

Once again **Studio Connections** will be providing the cabling from its **Reference** and **Blackstar** ranges. **Michael Whiteside**, the cable's designer, will be available to answer your cable questions and give advice.

Isotek EVO3 **Aquarius** power conditioning, **Blue Horizon** equipment supports and **Artnovion Sahara** acoustic panels will complete the set-up.



Kensington Foyer

UK EXCLUSIVE

Theme One Records, ICSM Records and KirmussAudio

The very best new and used vinyl is here courtesy of **Theme One Records** including the company's speciality **Music On Vinyl** titles. **Music On Vinyl** is a vinyl-only music label that releases 180g LP and 7in vinyl pressings of titles from a range of record companies and artists who control their own musical repertoire. These include reissues of classic titles, or a simultaneous vinyl release to complement a CD/DVD/BD offering, all of which are marketed under the **Music On Vinyl** brand.

If you are a classical buff then the expertly-recorded LPs,

CDs and hi-res downloads on sale from artisan label **Independent Creative Sound and Music (ICSM) Records** will prove a revelation to show-goers. ICSM will be offering five musical series: 'Dialogue' for chamber music programmes, 'Omnia', for composers' integral works; 'Solo', for recital-style programmes by a single artist; 'Concerto', for orchestral works; and 'Kosmos', for non-classical projects.



If your vinyl is less than pristine then **KirmussAudio** has the answer in the form of its **KA-RC-1** Ultrasonic Record Restoration System. Three years in development, this ultrasonic/anti-bacterial/anti-static cleaner is winning plaudits the world over. By removing mould and dirt from LP grooves, the **KA-RC-1** restores treasured records to their former glory. **KirmussAudio** will be performing record cleaning demos in the **Kensington Foyer** and you are welcome to bring along a record you know well to be restored.

400 Series Redefined.
Vela.



For further information visit ELAC.com

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EXHIBITORS Kensington Suites

Kensington Main

UK EXCLUSIVE

KEF, Chord Electronics, The Chord Company and Innuos

KEF will be showcasing its **R Series** of speakers. Completely re-engineered and featuring brand new bespoke technologies, the lineup also draws on innovations from the legendary **KEF Reference**. The flagship **KEF R11** floorstander will also be on demonstration, partnered with the **Innuos ZENith Mk3** media server – the ideal digital storage device for high-end separates and hi-fi systems. And don't miss the iconic **KEF Muon** [HFN May '08] – a masterpiece



of engineering expertise, this speaker combines **KEF's** state-of-the-art technology with world-class industrial design from **Ross Lovegrove**.

Paired with the **Innuos Statement** music server – a two-box digital source for high-end audiophiles – this system will also be matched with components from Chord Electronics in the form of the **Blu MkII** digital/CD transport and award-winning **DAVE** DAC/preamp/headphone amp [HFN Apr '16]. The Kent-based company is also hoping to host the world debut of some very special amplifiers. This is one room

that's not to be missed! Meanwhile, **Chord Company** will be giving visitors the chance to hear its flagship **ChordMusic** cable range, featuring its proprietary **Taylon**



insulation and **Super ARAY** geometry and will install a **ChordMusic** loom in the **Chord Electronics/KEF** system, for a 'Best of British' high-end experience.

Kensington 1

UK EXCLUSIVE

Signature Audio Systems

The **Kensington 1 Suite** will feature a **UK exclusive** demonstration of **Theoretica's BACCH-SP dio** digital 'stereo purifier' – a digital processor, DAC and streamer all in one. The system sees the listener fitted with **binaural** microphones before it computes an individual crosstalk cancellation filter that is applied, via DSP, to music playback.

'3D sound' localisation is assured via an IR camera that tracks the head position. **Dr Edgar Choueiri** will demonstrate the technology using stereo source material and we can guarantee that you will not have heard



a 3D soundstage like this from a two-channel set-up.

The system itself will be powered from **PS Audio's** latest and greatest mains regenerator and power conditioner, the **P20**, producing 2kW of newly regenerated 240V mains power. Also on show from **PS Audio** is its reference **Signature** preamplifier, with its vacuum tube input stage and single-ended and balanced ins/outs, plus the company's **Signature** monoblock power amps, good for 300W into 8ohm.

The **PS Audio** electronics will drive a pair of **Vandersteen's Treo CT** loudspeakers featuring the US company's patented carbon fibre 'Perfect-Piston' drivers. If you want to hear the linearity of metal drivers without their inherently unnatural



sonic colorations then make your way to the **Signature Audio Systems** room and listen as the **Vandersteen** speakers strut their stuff.



EXHIBITORS Sandringham Suites

Sandringham Foyer

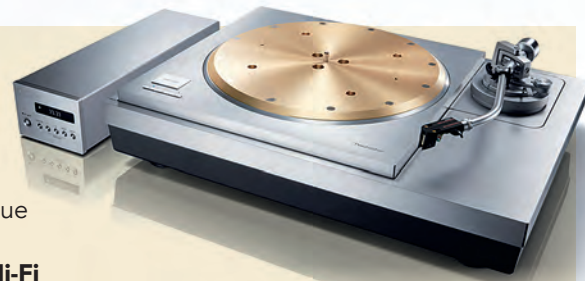
UK EXCLUSIVE
Timestep

Devon-based company **Timestep** distributes high-end audio brands ranging from **Technics** – with its range of iconic decks – to the meticulously crafted turntables, tonearms and cartridges of **Soulines**, **Glanz** and **Miyajima** respectively.



And as a manufacturer, **Timestep's** creator **Dave Cawley** is quietly gaining a raft of admirers for his intelligently engineered analogue designs and modifications.

Taking centre stage at **The Hi-Fi Show Live** will be a world first: the 'giant-killing' **Technics SL-1000R** turntable [HFN Jun '18], fitted exclusively with the exquisite **Glanz MH-104S** tonearm, thanks to a new stainless steel armboard custom-made by **Glanz** for the **Technics** deck.



Soulines' innovative **Kubrick DCX** turntable [HFN Jul '18] will also be on display, partnered with **Timestep's** own **T-609** tonearm [HFN Jul '18]. And if you haven't yet discovered **Miyajima's** superb range of artisan cartridges, now's your chance.

Sandringham 1

UK EXCLUSIVE
Mark Levinson/JBL

Sandringham 1 will see a combination of power and grace from legendary marques **Mark Levinson** and **JBL Synthesis**. Driving the first of the room's two demonstration systems is **Mark Levinson's** finest preamplifier, the **N°52** [HFN May '14] alongside the **N°536** monaural amplifier [HFN Sep '15]. The amplifiers will be teamed with the **N°515** [HFN Oct '17] – ML's first



ever turntable – and the network-ready and CD-equipped **N°519** audio player [HFN Jul '17] to create a stunning set of electronics. **JBL's** most advanced and sophisticated **K2 S9900** floorstander [HFN Aug '10] will handle speaker duties to deliver the purest and most powerful audio performance.

A second demonstration will see the UK debut of the **Mark Levinson 5000 series** once again complemented by the **N°515** and **N°519**. These new integrated amplifiers will be paired with the legendary **JBL L100 Classics** loudspeakers to deliver a truly remarkable sound.



Sandringham 2

UK EXCLUSIVE
Decent Audio

In its second **Hi-Fi Show Live** room (see **Buckingham 1**), **Decent Audio** will showcase a high-end system that's big on performance yet perfect for the small to medium-sized room. Making a welcome return to the UK is German turntable brand **Dual**. Its **CS-600** turntable, topped with **van den Hul's DDT II Special** cartridge, will feed **Audio Analogue's AAphono**



while amplification will be ably demonstrated with two integrated amps: **Ayre Acoustics' EX-8** and **Audio Analogue's** new valve-based **Pegaso**. Completing the system will be **Eclipse TD's** amazing **TD510Z Mk2** loudspeaker with **TD520SW** subwoofer.

Paul Burnip and **Hideto Watanabe** from **Eclipse** will be on hand to explain their unique technology while **van den Hul's** expertly crafted cabling will feature throughout.



Sandringham 4

UK EXCLUSIVE
Electromod UK

No stranger to **The Hi-Fi Show Live**, family-run distribution company **Electromod UK** will be presenting new headphone models from US company **MrSpeakers** in the form of the **Voce** – an electrostatic design – and the **Ether 2**. The latter is billed as its best planar magnetic



headphone to date and features a new driver, motor, baffle and headband.

Dekoni Audio, the premier provider of replacement headphone earpads for upmarket brands such as **Audeze**, **Focal** and **Beyerdynamic**, has also released a new headphone onto the UK market – the **Blue**. A planar-magnetic design, it uses **Fostex** drivers to create a custom variant of the **Fostex T50RP MkIII** headphone.



Finally, **Schiit Audio** offers small form factor products to suit all pockets! These begin with its elegant, two-input passive **Sys** preamp for just £60 to its reference **Yggdrasil** multibit DAC – remarkable value at £2200.

Sandringham 5

UK EXCLUSIVE
Planalogue/Exposure

Sandringham 5 is hosting three manufacturers this year. **Planalogue** will show its new **Prelude** turntables, starting with the **Prelude 2.1**. Both plinth and base use new materials while a redesigned motor supply

brings a sound full of vibrancy and attack. Three models will soon be available, supplied with the **Sorane (Abis) SA 1.2** tonearm [HFN Apr '17] and new **Hana ML** cartridge.

Complementing the **Planalogue Prelude 2.1** will be British brand **Exposure's** award-winning range of amplifiers, featuring models such as the **XM3** phono stage [HFN May '17] from the compact **XM series** to

the top-of-range, **5010** system, including the pre/power amplifiers [HFN Nov '18].



Graham Audio is demonstrating the latest **LS6f** floorstander, **LS3/5** and **LS6** standmounts from **Chartwell** plus the new **LS3** budget version of the **LS3/5a**, which retails at under £1000.

Sandringham 6

UK EXCLUSIVE
AudioQuest

Last year **AudioQuest** introduced visitors to the beneficial effects of its range of **Niagara** power conditioners and this year will add to the story with its new power cables, from the entry level **NRG-Y** to the range-topping **Storm** series and new **Dragon** model. There will also be a chance to hear the forthcoming **Mythical Creatures** range of speaker cables. Inspired by the success of



the **Storm Series** power cables, these will be presented by **Garth Powell**, **AudioQuest's** director of power products, who is visiting **The Hi-Fi Show Live** from the USA.

Joining **AudioQuest** is British company **Kudos Audio**, whose team will be showing the new **Titan 505** loudspeaker. Completing the company's flagship **Titan** series, the **505** is crafted to deliver top-of-



range performance in a compact standmount. Featuring world class drive units created for **Kudos** by renowned Norwegian specialists **SEAS**, the **Titan 505** sports a cleverly-engineered crossover that can be bypassed to enable active operation with selected systems including the **Linn Exakt** and **Devialet Expert**.

EXHIBITORS Sandringham Suites

Sandringham Main

UK EXCLUSIVE
Harman Kardon

For over 65 years **Harman Kardon** has been dedicated to delivering luxurious audio experiences that allow the listener to feel the music, and immerse themselves in the moment. This year the company returns to **The Hi-Fi Show Live** with its all new **Citation** range of entertainment systems, which are the ultimate expression of design and voice-activated control. The **Google Assistant** brings convenient voice

control to your **Citation** wireless sound system. Get answers, play music, organise your day, control your smart home and enjoy your **Chromecast** entertainment system. Just start with 'OK Google...'.
The **Citation** series delivers a dynamic listening experience, with options to use the speakers individually, or to build different configurations around the home. The **Citation** lineup consists of multiple countertop speaker options, a soundbar, powered subwoofer, surround speakers and tower speakers. And of course, you can also play the same music or different music in different rooms



to give a superior multi-room/zone sound experience.

Meanwhile, the **Citation's** industrial Scandinavian design and the materials used, such as the premium blended wool fabric made by **Kvadrat**, combine perfectly with the innovative technology to offer the discerning listener the best in home audio and voice-controlled entertainment systems. Meet the future!

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- Ken Kessler

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