



A SOUND EXPERIENCE NEWSLETTER 11 FOR 2008: 27 NOVEMBER 2008

This is the tenth newsletter for 2008, issued each month. Read more about:

- ' Rega P3-24: Turntable of the year... again!
- ' Stockfish order for November / December 2008
- ' Current software stock (CD/SACD/XRCD/DVD)
- ' Rega Mira doing well
- ' Product prices to remain as they are for current stock
- ' Product prices to increase for new stock
- ' Music day, January 2009

REGA P3-24: TURNTABLE OF THE YEAR... AGAIN!

Not too many products make it to the list of finalists for serious hi-fi awards. Only a few are declared winners in their categories. But to be announced “Product of the year” in a specific category two years in a row is rare indeed. Yet this is exactly what has happened to the Rega P3-24 turntable, probably one of the most well known turntables in history.

The P3 is unassuming and on first glance one may wonder what the fuss is all about. It looks less robust than the older Planar 3 but then this is due to improvements in the construction of the plinth, making it thinner, yet more rigid than its predecessor. Probably the biggest plus of this unit is its ability to use an off board power supply that cleans up the mains and ensures the new motor runs perfectly stable. It is also the same power supply used for the much more expensive P5 and P7 turntables. Of course you now have electronic speed control and the days of having to remove the platter to change speed are gone.

The P3-24 is (still) available at only R7500.00 (excluding cartridge and off board power supply). Add the off board power supply for R3099.00 and you have a killer on your hands. The choice of cartridge is up to you but our recommendation is the excellent Ortofon 2M Blue, at R2030.00 (new price and price increase already applies to the Ortofon products). Currently I have only one P3-24 available.

In terms of price, I would like to emphasise that we have not changed the prices of current stock. These are sold at the retail prices before the massive price hikes we have had recently. (See article elsewhere.)

STOCKFISCH ORDER FOR NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2008

A new Stockfish order is Monday 01 December, with all the popular titles available, and in time for your Christmas purchases. These are:

Artist	Title	Format	Price
Chris Jones	Roadhouses and automobiles	CD	230.00
Chris Jones	Moonstruck / No looking back	2CD	290.00
Sara K	Water Falls	CD	230.00
Sara K	Nautilus Tour 2002	DVD	350.00
Mike Silver	Heaven	CD	230.00
Mike Silver	Solid Silver	CD	230.00
Various	Closer to the Music 1	SACD	290.00
Various	Closer to the Music 2	SACD	290.00
Various	Vinyl Collection	Vinyl	380.00

David Roth	Pearl Diver	CD	230.00
David Roth	Pearl Diver	Vinyl	380.00
Bassface Swing Trio	Tribute to Cole Porter	Vinyl	450.00
Paperboys	Live at Stockfisch studio	Vinyl	450.00
Paperboys	Live at Stockfisch studio	SACD	290.00
Allan Taylor	Hotels and dreamers	CD	230.00
Spirit of Gambo	The Galaxy recordings	SACD	290.00
Boganyi	Chopin Nocturne	SACD	290.00

Please contact me to place an order. First come, first served. Numbers are limited.

CURRENT SOFTWARE STOCK

I was most surprised at the recent Sound and Vision Expo at how quickly just about all the Stockfisch items were sold. I ended up not getting a copy of the latest vinyl release, The Bassface Swing Trio's tribute to Cole Porter, for myself. Current items in stock that you may be interested in include the following. In many cases there is only one copy:

Artist	Title	Format	Price
Bach, JS	Weintacht Oratorium	Clearaudio 3LP box set	R850.00
Lightnin' Hopkins	Goin' away	JVC XRCD	R260.00
Holloway, Ter Linden	A London Concert	Naim Label CD	R200.00
Patrick O'Byrne	Ravel: Miroir & Gaspard de la nuit	Stockfisch SACD	R270.00
Sara K	Solo Live: Don't I know you from somewhere?	Stockfisch CD	R200.00
Sara K	Hell or High Water	Stockfisch/JVC XRCD24	R380.00
Sara K	Hell or High Water	Stockfisch SACD	R270.00
Miles Davis All Stars	Walkin'	JVC XRCD	R260.00
Mulligan, Monk	Mulligan meets Monk	JVC XRCD	R260.00
Antonio Forcione	Ghetto Paradise	Naim Label CD	R190.00
Sonny Rollins	Rollins plays for Bird	JVC XRCD	R260.00
Antonio Forcione	Vento del Sud	Naim Label CD	R150.00
Antonio Forcione	Tears of joy	Naim Label CD	R150.00
Havard Gimse	Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven	Naim Label CD	R200.00
David Roth	More Pearls	Stockfisch CD	R200.00
Antonio Forcione	Heartplay	Naim Label CD	150.00
Antonio Forcione	Touch Wood	Naim Label CD	R150.00
Antonio Forcione Quartet	In concert	Naim Label DVD	R300.00

Various vinyl on the Deutsche Grammophon label is available, including Dvorak, Beethoven, Schubert and Tchaikovsky. Call or mail me for details.

REGA MIRA INTEGRATED AMPLIFIER DOING WELL



Rega is well known for their turntables but also design some exceptional amplifiers. The Mira, the manufacturer's 60w per channel stereo amplifier has some remarkable features. It has a great built-in phono stage and in terms of the pre and

power amp the unit is very versatile. It can drive a number of power amplifiers and quite a few components can be added to it. It has loads of current and you should not look at the quoted output levels. Current Rega clients have nothing but praise for the very modest looking unit. The more expensive pre/power combinations build on the strengths of the Mira.

The Mira looks good, no matter from which angle, and will certainly add a touch of class to your existing hi-fi. A stacked combination of CD player, tuner and amplifier looks superb and sounds the part too. The retail price of R14 00.00 is a bargain.

PRODUCT PRICES TO REMAIN AS THEY ARE FOR CURRENT STOCK

Yes, this is true! In an effort to help consumers, our policy towards existing stock is that whatever was purchased prior to the exchange rate taking a nosedive, will remain available at the "old" price. The following examples and figures of some best selling items will give you an idea what I mean:

Item	Current retail price, VAT incl	Adjusted retail price, VAT incl
Apollo CD player (satin coloured)	R10 600.00	R12 720.00
P3-24 turntable (excluding cartridge)	R7 500.00	R9 000.00
Mira integrated amplifier (satin)	R12 500.00	R14 000.00
Stockfisch and Naim Label CDs	R200.00	R240.00
Stockfisch and Naim Label SACDs	R270.00	R324.00
Stockfisch and Naim Label vinyl	R330.00 (average)	R390.00 (starting price)

Products that I have currently in stock will be sold at the old price while new orders will see an increase of almost 20%. Ironically everyone tries to make a quick buck in this situation, not least the shipping agents who have been quick to increase their tariffs as well.

Items that I am particularly concerned about are black coloured units. For some reason these were not popular in the past and so I stopped ordering them. Now suddenly everyone wants black units. To order one item at a time is expensive. Current best selling items that I have in stock are the following:

1. Amplifiers
 - a. Integrated
 - i. Brio (satin)
 - ii. Mira (satin)
 - b. Pre / power combos
 - i. Cursa/Maia pre/power combo (black and satin)
 - ii. Cursa/Exon pre/power/power combo (black and satin)
2. Tuners
 - a. Radio 3 FM/AM tuner (black and satin)
3. CD players
 - a. Apollo (satin, 3 units only)
 - b. Saturn (satin, 1 unit only)
4. Loudspeakers
 - a. R1 (maple, 2 pairs only)
 - b. R5 (maple and cherry, one pair of each colour). See the October 2008 edition of AVSA Magazine for a review on the R5 speakers.
5. Turntables
 - a. P3-24 (black, now without Elys 2 MM, hence price reduction. Two units are available.)

- b. P5 (black, black off board power supplies are running out. The P5 is by far a better value for money option than the P3 below it and the P7 above it. Two units are available.)
- 6. Tone arms
 - a. RB300 (Black only. Still much better than the new RB301 and definitely easier to use, especially on non-Rega turntables. Two only.)
 - b. RB700 (Satin only. A great arm capable of handling the best MC cartridges. One only.)
 - c. RB1000 (Silver only. Top of the line Rega arm. One only.)
- 7. Software
 - a. Stockfisch CD/SACD/XRCD (A few are available from the September order.)
 - b. Naim Label CD (Sufficient stock of certain titles, while others are out of stock.)

PRODUCT PRICES TO INCREASE FOR NEW STOCK

Should a client require a product that I do not have in stock anymore, then the new price will kick in. Dealers and private purchasers are urged to make use of the current stocks' prices and order before these run out. An updated price list will be available on the web site by the end of this week. I suggest you place your order today still.

MUSIC DAY, FEBRUARY 2009

I am planning a music day somewhere in February 2009. While so far all our music days / afternoons / evenings have been held at the Indaba Hotel in Fourways, this one will be held in Pretoria at Pumalani Lodge, *en route* to the Roodeplaat Dam on the Moloto Road. This is done to attract music lovers in Pretoria as well. Those from other areas are obviously more than welcome.

What happens during these sessions? Firstly, the emphasis is on music and having a nice time, rather than the equipment. A few businesses are joining forces here and you are likely to find a range of products supplied by A Sound Experience and Valve Audio. Products are obviously available for sale and "carry away" discounts are available for whatever products we display on the day and do not feel like packing up again. All these products are usually brand new, having been opened for the first time for the event.

More information will be available soon.

Best regards, Andries O
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