

Loewe Articos 32" TV



The Germans have done it again and made yet another fantastic TV. The **Articos** is their latest top of the range television featuring all their usual gadgets such as picture-in-picture and 100hz, as well as a tinted anti-glare screen, 3000 page teletext memory and even an infra red link to control equipment hidden out of sight. Two different base stands are available featuring a silent running electric motor to glide the TV left and right if you are sitting off-centre. The set is available in either platinum at £2,300 or high-gloss black at £2,600. The stands retail at £1,200 in silver and £1,400 in high-gloss black.

Philips 32" plasma



Philips have unleashed their new 32" plasma screen (£4,950) featuring a host of picture enhancement technologies, including digital natural motion, digital crystal clear and active control. The screen is just 9cm deep and is supplied with an e-box which sports a tuner and houses all the connections for the set which avoids a messy tangle of cables. The plasma also features picture-in-picture, stereo integrated speakers and wall bracket as standard. It is available in a number of different finishes.

Panasonic LCD

LCD technology has got a lot better over the past year and Panasonic are leading the way in this field. These great little screens come in two sizes, 15" at £1,500 and 22" at £2,500 and look fantastic. They are the first LCD screens in the UK that have a 16:9 aspect ratio and have a host of connections on the back for plugging in your DVD, satellite and VCR etc. The screen has a built-in tuner and stereo speakers can be wall-mounted with an optional bracket if needed.

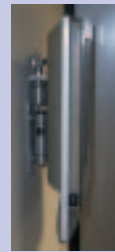
Sim2 HT300HD

SIM2 has expanded its **Grand Cinema** series with the **HT300HD**. It includes a new high-resolution 16:9 DLP (Digital Light Processing) chip, together with built-in video processing by Faroudja for really enhancing image quality. The result is stunning pictures with beautifully rendered colours and superb contrast. Its long-throw lens enables the projector to be sited behind the viewers. As with all SIM2 video projectors, the HT300HD (£9,000) features sealed optics for protection against damaging dust and smoke.

Panasonic plasmas

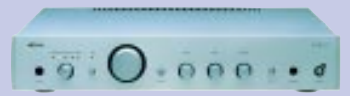
After a lot of comparisons with other plasma screens we have now added Panasonic to our range. They are available in three sizes 37", 42" and 50" - all wide screen and extremely slim at only just over 8cm deep. All sizes benefit from Panasonic's new TAU plasma panels giving a more natural distortion free image. They are also silent running and can be viewed from a very wide angle. The biggest problem we have always found in the past is that most plasma screens don't perform well with normal terrestrial television. Panasonic have overcome this by designing an optional tuner box that produces normal television pictures. As a result the picture quality is close to that on a conventional cathode ray tube TV by having a built-in progressive scan board. The tuner box (£500) is available with all models and also has a host of inputs on the back for connecting all your other bits of equipment such as DVD players and VCRs.

NEW PRODUCTS



FUTURE AUTOMATION WALL BRACKETS

We now carry a range of beautifully engineered wall brackets for plasmas and LCD TVs. The plasma version allows the display to be pulled out from the wall and tilted to the required viewing angle.



ARCAM DIVA "PLUS" RANGE

As part of Arcam's continuous aim to improve existing products, they have developed the "Plus" range. These new amplifiers benefit from improvements to both the output stage circuitry and the input coupling.

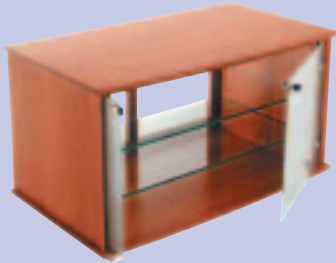
LINN ADIKT

The Adikt is Linn's newest moving magnet cartridge (approx. £195) giving the audiophile a cost-effective entry into the world of faithful and accurate vinyl reproduction. It is easily mounted on a wide range of tone-arms and forms the front end of any quality vinyl-based system.

LINN KLIMAX PRE-AMPLIFIER

The Linn Klimax pre-amplifier is a high performance audio component designed to complement the Klimax amplification and the reference CD12 both sonically and aesthetically. As with the other components in the range, the Klimax Pre will be machined from solid aluminium. Inputs will consist of three line level and one balanced, and the ability to integrate into a Knekt system will come as standard. This will be available from September with a price of around £6,000.

NEW PRODUCTS

QUADRASPIRE
QKAV CABINET

Quadraspire now produce an audio-visual cabinet that will comfortably support all sizes of TV or plasma screens and should also accommodate most centre speakers. The shelves are fully adjustable and deep enough to house the largest of AV amps. The doors (fitted with a child-proof lock) open up to 90° then slide down the inside of the cabinet allowing full width access. It is available in several different finishes.

WHAT THE
PAPERS SAY

Don't just take our word for it, this is what the media has to say...

'Grahams Hi-Fi is one of the stalwarts of the UK hi-fi industry',
Hi-Fi Choice, May 2002

'Grahams Hi-Fi – one of the five best hi-fi shops in the world. Tucked away in a quiet yard, it's more Harley Street consultancy than stereo store. THE BEST.'

Arena, April 2002

'Grahams Hi-Fi is one of the oldest, most well established hi-fi and home cinema dealers in London, with an enviable reputation built on 'word-of-mouth',

T3, January 2002

'This is the best audio store in London. Superb collection of hi-fi, fab demonstration rooms and patient staff.'

Evening Standard, 20 November 2001

TO HAVE IT ALL

There are some customers that just can't get enough, and in this case it was taken to the ultimate extreme. Having bought the house from another Graham's customer, he took advantage of the multi-room wiring already in place with few additions. However, the large games room at the top of the house had been left undeveloped in terms of wiring. His ideas for this room were as big as the house itself; the ultimate no-compromise home cinema system installed without any major building works and disruption, and yes of course he added 'I don't want to see any wires' thrown in for good measure.

The first problem the room presented was all the windows, six in all including one in the ceiling in front of the projector. This is a recipe for disaster when considering a projector and screen for the display device. The only solution was to fit a series of motorised black-out blinds with a custom made relay box so control over them would be easy from the Crestron remote control system.

The second problem was the solid wood floor fitted by the previous owner at great expense and the new owner wanted to keep it. With the "no wires" phrase fresh in our minds, it was time for some serious work and co-ordination with the contractors. We had to route the cables under the floor to emerge in the exact location just behind the speaker.

The system comprises seven Meridian digital active speakers, the three at the front positioned in the middle of the floor. A Sony D50 CRT projector hangs from the ceiling, projecting onto a motorised six-foot screen. The DVD player and processor were upgraded recently to the new Meridian 800.3 DVD and 861.3 processor, to give the benefit of DVD audio in all its glory.

Initially the sound was very muddled due to all the hard acoustics. The sheer size of this room meant we had to get our friends at Absolute Audio to measure the reverb time at all frequencies and build a series of bass traps and acoustic dampeners. With the addition of a Meridian digital sub woofer and some extra drapes around the edges, the sound was totally transformed into the hard hitting, gut wrenching, 'I'm really there' experience that the speakers were always capable of. Yet when listening to music, the absolute precision, clarity and subtlety were not lost - a total joy to experience.

The icing on the cake for both the customer – but particularly his wife, is the Crestron control system. A one touch button press to close the blinds, turn the lights down, drop the screen and turn on the projector means they can really enjoy watching the film and not worry about how to operate it all!

If you would like your installation to be featured in our next newsletter, please let us know.

