

Keeping you up to date with the best in music

Grahams recommended music list.

This selection of music is available for collection or by mail order. Contact us by phone, e-mail, fax or post, our contact details are on the front page of this newsletter. Postage & Packing for up to 3 CDs is £1.50 & 1 LP is £2.00. For larger orders there is a maximum charge of £4.00.



1. Cornershop *Handcream For A Generation*

This excellent album is quite different from Cornershop's last album in 1997, "When I Was Born For The 7th Time". The singer Tjinder Singh, who wrote, produced & played guitar on all the tracks, mixes things up with a variety of different styles of music. The band even include a 14 minute track called "Spectral Mornings" featuring Noel Gallagher. A challenging, rhythmic album that deserves to succeed.

CD £14.00 2 LPs £11.00



2. Leonard Cohen *Ten New Songs*

This is Leonard Cohen's first studio album since "The Future" in 1992. Since then he spent over five years in a Zen Buddhist monastery at Mount Baldy in California, where these songs started to take shape. Cohen's gravelly lived-in voice is contrasted with that of Sharon Robinson, whose gentle voice acts as a counterpoint. Robinson also co-wrote, produced, arranged & played virtually all the instruments. He describes it as "deceptively spare, like a Sade record, with an agreeable groove from beginning to end".

CD £14.00 LP £15.00



3. Dusty Springfield *Dusty in Memphis*

Known primarily for her pop songs in the swinging sixties, Dusty went to America in 1969, where she signed to Atlantic Records and recorded this masterpiece. Always a wonderful interpreter of other people's songs, she is served well here with material from Randy Newman, Bacharach & David & Goffin & King. Here also is *the* definitive version of Hurley & Williams's "Son of a Preacher Man", a song written for Aretha Franklin, but not recorded until after she heard Dusty sing it.

CD £9.50



4. Manu Chao *Proxima Estacion: Esperanza*

Manu Chao was born in Paris in 1961 to Spanish parents. He formed Mano Negra who played latin alternative music. When the group split up in 1995 he drifted round South & Central America with his guitar & tape recorder. From all this travelling came the songs on the ground-breaking *Clandestino*, & the new one, translated as *Next Station: Hope*, which are sung in Spanish, French & English. Manu Chao won the Innovator award at this year's Radio 3 Awards for World Music for this multi-cultural album.

CD £14.00 2 LPs £17.00



5. Tony Bennett *Playin' With My Friends: Bennett Sings The Blues*

This album is a fitting celebration of Tony Bennett reaching the age of 75. Supported, as usual, by the excellent Ralph Sharon Quartet, he is joined by the cream of the jazz, blues and pop world, both young and old. He duets with everyone from BB King & Ray Charles, through Stevie Wonder & Bonnie Raitt to Diana Krall & Sheryl Crow. A thoroughly enjoyable CD that everyone obviously had fun making.

CD £14.00



6. Tiny Island *Tiny Island*

This beautiful HDCD recording, on Opus 3, is all acoustic. In fact, the acoustics of the venue, a 13th century stone church in Sweden, play a large part in the feel of this album. Described by the band as "visions, influences and our own heritage blended together. Beautiful ambience and peaceful atmosphere, one microphone and our instruments". All the tracks are self-penned except for one by Taj Mahal. Also available on multi-channel SACD.

CD £14.00 SACD £25.00



7. Wild Child Butler *Sho' Nuff*

This is just the sort of blues album that we thought was extinct. George "Wild Child" Butler, sings and plays the harmonica on 13 of his own songs, backed by Jimmy D. Lane (electric & acoustic guitars), Robert Stroger (bass) & Sam Lay (drums). He has played the blues all his life with legends such as Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf & Willie Dixon. *Sho' Nuff* was recorded at the Blue Heavens Studios, a state-of-the-art analogue recording studio created in an old church.

CD £15.00 2 LPs (45 rpm) £29.00 SACD £25.00



8. Beethoven *The Late String Quartets*

Philips are marking their 50 years in the recording industry by re-issuing a few choice albums using the latest 96khz 24-bit technology. The Quartetto Italiano were founded in 1945 and reached the pinnacle of their careers with the recording of Beethoven's complete string quartets in the 1960s. They were famous for playing the cycle from memory. *The Late String Quartets* were recorded from 1967 to 1969 and include the "Grosse Fuge".

3 CDs £28.00

GRAHAMS NEWS

SOAP TELEVISION

We have just taken delivery of a revolutionary new product, TileVision – a television for wet areas. Designed to complement the room décor the screen can be built-in to blend with existing tiles or mounted into solid marble surrounds.

Available as a 'slave' to the main TV or with a built-in tuner, TileVision can be used almost anywhere. Built into a Sauna, in the bathroom or above the work-top in the kitchen – it is suitable for all wet areas.

Available in either a 6.4" or a 10.4" (15" due soon) TFT LCD screen in 4:3 (standard) format there is a model to suit all environments and requirements. Prices start at £1,050.

REFURBISHMENT

Having started on a refurbishment programme some two years ago when we redesigned our basement home cinema room, followed by the creation of a home cinema/listening room in Studio 3, we are now embarking on the rest of our sales area.

With the introduction of TileVision (see above), it was an opportune time to completely refurbish our 'smallest rooms' in the organisation. Up until now TileVision has only been available and installed in hotel bathrooms. Our cloakrooms have now been completed and TileVision is on display in the men's room.

With our ever increasing staff numbers, we now need to accommodate more workstations in our sales area. Our designer James Balston has produced some spectacular designs and we expect the building work to commence shortly.

Some more exciting developments are in the pipeline so be prepared for some major changes in the future.

GRAHAMS NEWS

ANSWER...

David Graham – 40 yeats on...

Who better qualified to pay tribute to David on his 40th birthday than me – his sister!

I have of course known David for all his 40 years and yes, he was quite cute once upon a time. Since he was a young boy David has had a keen interest in electronics. As a child his bedroom was littered with little circuit boards, bulbs and batteries.

I recall a particular day as he lay in bed and asked me to open his curtains. I replied by saying: "If you could press a button to open them, you'd just lay in bed all day pushing buttons to carry out the tasks for you!" Little did I know at that time that this remark would become a reality.

Today David doesn't have time to lay in bed but works extremely hard so that our clients can now open their curtains by pushing a button in bed if they so desire! His tireless work for the company has made Gramams Hi-Fi what it is today and for that he should be applauded. Throughout his 40 years he has seen illness from which I am very pleased to say he has recovered. He is married to Caronne who is both supportive and caring and they have three wonderful children. (His son Louis looks just like the picture on the front page of his father!) He is a great father, brother, son, uncle, husband, friend, colleague and boss.

Sue Hollamby

BARGAIN BASEMENT

As part of our refurbishment programme, we are planning a clear out of all our second-hand, ex-demonstration and discontinued stock. If you are looking for a bargain or just fancy a browse, come along to our massive clear out. Pop in during our normal opening hours between Tuesday 25th and Saturday 29th June. Any reasonable offer will be considered. This is also The Wimbledon Season so why not come and watch some tennis at the same time on our large screen systems.

MERIDIAN 800 SERIES VERSION 3



Version 3 significantly raises the performance of the 800 series in nearly every area of sound and picture quality. Both the 800 CD/DVD audio player and the 861 Reference Surround Controller benefit from more powerful DSP engines to enable ultra-high precision processing on up to 8 channels running at 96KHz. This additional computing power is used to add facilities, extreme transparency and exciting new sound-field options for all media. The Meridian 800 now provides high-resolution, multi-channel outputs and a unique way of presenting movie sound.



ARCAM AV8 PRE-AMP PROCESSOR

This is Arcam's entry into "higher" end cinema processing/amplification. It offers excellent levels of Dolby Digital, Dolby Pro Logic 2 and DTS decoding – with THX post processing – from twin Crystal Semiconductor DSPs, operating in 24-bit double-precision mode. There are numerous inputs and outputs to connect virtually any combination of equipment, even a fully shielded MM/MC phono stage. The pre amp comes with a back-lit learning remote and will allow RS232 and RC5 remote control. Another interesting feature allows a movie to be watched in two rooms or a movie to be watched in the main room while music is being listened to in the second room. Build quality is up to Arcam's usual FMJ quality level and is available in black or silver at £2,995.



ARCAM P7 POWER AMPLIFIER

Arcam's new P7 compliments the AV8 perfectly, or indeed any high quality pre-amp processor. It is designed to be the optimum choice for any application that requires multi-channel power amplification. It produces 7 channels of 150w into an 8 ohm load and has been fitted with a 12v trigger, which allows its use in remote or hidden installations. Like the AV8 it is THX Ultra 2 certified and comes in silver or black at £2,495.