BANC D'ESSAI PREAMPLI & BLOCS MONO



If these is one manufacturer that represents the delicacy of the French craftsmanship, Jadis would be the one with their sumptuous tubes electronics. The JPL preamplifier and the JA30 mono bloc power amplifier are amongst the most notorious units of the brand and they have been updated to the MkII version.

First of all, Jadis is a unique look an aesthetic recognizable amongst many with polished brass and inox.

JPL MKII PREAMPLIFIER:

We won't talk much about the JPL MkII chassis as we all know its origine. All the components are installed on a large printed board, the latest protected by a large black cage to protect them. The cage holds on the

JADIS

JA30MkH

& JPLMkI

As the JPL MkII is a LINE preamplifier, on the back of the unit are only high level inputs and output. The casted power transformer supplies the JPL MkII with currents and high currents feeding the new tube regulated power supply designed with EL84 and EF86 tubes. The purpose

chassis with 4 long screws.

of this new power supply is to clean up the currents before feeding the audio stages that were designed by André Calmettes. This stages works with 3 x 12AX7 (ECC83) and 1 x 12AU7 (ECC82). The "CD" input is slightly different with one more gain stage with one 12AU7, this also allows to increase the input impedance that is seen by the CD player. The other inputs are placed toward a first triode in cascade configuration with a second one, then, the signal crosses a catholic output stage with low impedance. On the top of the JPL we can see a large amount of "snap-in" capacitors and new plastic-films link and decoupling capacitors. When the power switch is activated, a red LED will light up on the

front of the JPL MkII, this LED will turn green after about 10 minutes when all the tensions have been stabilized. Then, a switch muting is also available on the front plate along with a source selector, the balance and the volume control.

MONOBLOCK JA30MkII: The JA30 MkII takes place in the same chassis as the

former JA30. The MkII version now works with the new

KT150 pentode allowing

progression of the power output from 30W with EL34 or KT90 to 45W with the KT150 (in pure class A). Note: The previous pentodes (EL34/6CA7/KT88/KT120) will still work on the JA30MkII with a small internal modification. As for the first version of the JA30, we still find the large

transformers with its polished cap and the configuration. Also two double triodes: 1 x casted output transformer with the gold 12AU7 (ECC82) and 1 x 12AX7 (ECC83) plate on the top. The filtering is made by that handle the gain stage and the phase the two huge capacitors sitting between shifting stage. A light negative counter the two transformers. All the tubes are reaction is applied and the screen grid of placed on the back of the unit and the KT150 a polarized by intermediate protected by a removable cage. There are output on the output transformer. The 4 tubes per bloc, two KT150 pentodes filament power supply is filtered and working in pure class A and push-pull regulated.

Manufacturing and listening:

Building: The realization of these two products is of really high standards; this is the rule at Jadis. The quality and thickness of the selected material (stainless steel and brass)

as well as their finish is outstanding. The quality of the assembling is as well perfect.

The schematic of these being perfectly units mastered by Jadis is implemented using high quality passive and active 103 components.

Jadis from today

With one quick glance inside we can guess easily that Jadis didn't make any compromise on the selection of the components: Huge quantity of filtering capacitors on the preamplifier, homewiring on the power amplifiers etc...). Components:

When jadis starts a new products or when it is about an update to an already existing model as for these MkII versions, they don't question everything that has been done so far. Jadis do not make an MkII version of their unit because they are unsatisfied or lacking of inspiration. We are indeed in presence of circuitry that doesn't are optimized versions of their predecessors. Requiring a long and technical and work with many consideration and comparative listening on any single electronics. The

preamplifier gets a tube regulated power supply and the amplifiers gain the

"The high compatibility with the new KT150 current comes pentode that has required a slight from a casted modification of the class-A polarized power output stage. The Point to point wiring transformer paired and selected tubes, hand-made from which the made transformers, point to point power and output transformers a total secondarv 22Kg per bloc and a relatively simple tension is conception are the ingredients for the *filtered by* excellent sonic results of these two units. capacitors and

Bass:

We left the Jadis units warm up for about along with a 30 minutes before starting to listen to tube their full potential. This was also the occasion for us to listen to our new highly efficient reference speakers with a tube system and specifically a Jadis one. On the track "My treasure" by the Danish by a TO3 type need any workout. These versions MkII jazz artist Sinne Eeg, the double bass regulator restitution gave us a first impression of mounted on a the potential of the new output stage of radiator for the JA30MkII. The instrument vibrates better heat with incredible amplitude filled with dissipation." excellent realism which was

Technical specification: Origin: FRANCE JPLMkII:

Dimension:

43x17x29cm Weight: 15Kg Bandwidth: 20Hz - 70kHz @ -3dB Input impedance: 100K (line) 1M (CD) Inputs: 5xRCA, 1xRCA tape out Outputs: 4xRCA main out, 1xRCA monitoring JA30MkII: a diode bridge Dimension: 46x21x21cm Weight: 22kg regulation. The Power output: 12V tension for 45W/chanel pure the filaments is class A also regulated Bandwidth: 15Hz – 60kHz -3dB 15W Distortion: <0.6% Input sensitivity: 1V (100K)

maintained during the whole listening sessions. We could feel the implication of the musician playing his instrument.

Medium:

The quality and timbre corrected provided by this Jadis combo are of the highest standing. Moreover we didn't notice any tendency to "exaggerate" with tones more colorful than reality or misleading pushed forward part of the bandwidth that would give a false "cinemascope" effect. On the

contrary, everything is really linear and coherent. We got carried away by extremely truthful tonal flavors and permanent fluidity. The Soprano Simone Kermes singing "Ha Vinto Amor" seems real with an agreeable feeling of presence. We are not so far from the rendering of a quality single stage type or electronics... Subtle vibratos are clearly revealed. Treble:

Another similarity between single

JADIS JPL MKII & JA30 MKII ended electronics and this Jadis combo are the high frequencies. We are still surprised of the fluidity and resolution of this part of the spectrum. This is a clear demonstration that Jadis totallv mastered and optimized the schematics and tubes' sweet points. The restitution is always precise but without any kind of aggressiveness. These qualities reveal that there are no conception defaults along the processed signal. The track



Once the protection cage has been taken off, we have "Animal" from Francis access to all the Cabrel in which the voice of components of the signer could sometimes the preamplifier feel dry or lifeless if the which includes electronics lack some the two power texturing and energy is successfully transcripted by supply regulation the two Jadis which give tubes, the four the song a dose of reality double triodes. all the

capacitors and Jadis' capacity to react to resistors. impulsions really

solicitations is satisfying and we do not feel frustrated when we

Dynamic:

and intensity.

powerful

listen to the bass drum on the song "Animal" by Francis Cabrel. The impact when is clearly here and seem real as the power supply of the JA30MkII does not bend large current from We demand. also noticed that the JA30MkII along with the JPLMkII are even more at ease when it comes to the transcription of micro details thanks to their rich high range and mid range frequencies. Copper and drums on the track "My treasure" by Sinne Eeg are displaying an incredible harmonic precision.





Responsiveness:

Jadis' behavior in terms of responsiveness and instantaneity could make some class-A transistorized systems blush. On the "concerto per due violini" by Vivaldi. the tonal differentiation and position of the two violins is obvious, thanks to the dense, detailed and spontaneous harmonic development of the Jadis. The presence of the lower Everything is audible, every frequencies is delicately counterbalanced by the tonus of the mediums and trebles. high analytic tonus helps

In the end, the Jadis bring us Each a message filled with authenticity.

connector on

the

Sound stage: preamplifier The specialization given by and the power the Jadis combo is one of the amplifier most realistic and holographic comes with a that we ever listened. The protective revelation of the harmonic black cap. cortege from the start, along Note on the to the development and the picture on the end of the note reveals all the right the high details of the sound capture. quality of the point to point single reverberation is wiring and precisely focalized and this assembly.

setting up a particularly aerial and credible sound stage.

Transparency:

It is really obvious after the first seconds of listening that the combo Jadis JA30MkII monoblocks and JPL MkII are really transparent. The whole restitution reminds of reality along the listening. Subjective bandwidth is large, the tonal register are really coherent and free from anv reproach.

JADIS JPL MKII & JA30 MKII

System:

Electronics: Nagra CDP (Drive) Totaldac D1-dual Speakers: PMC MB2 Câbles: Absolue creations (AES/EBU, mod&speakers)

Without being the fastest tubes electronics that we were given to review, the Jadis combo gives a vivacity that don't denaturize the texture and content of the message. Price/perf ratio:

Jadis' electronics are not at the reach of everyone. The quality of the materials, circuitry and components and the amount of work needed to assemble these units by hand explain largely the price of the combo JA30MkII and JPL MkII. Of cource a Jadis is by essence really minimalistic. This means that beside the traditional polished chassis and golden plates, all the investments are made in order to fulfill audio perfection. This means that not Responsiveness remote control are available, no digital input but top end transformers made in house. largely optimized schematics and exceptional finish. To own a Jadis is an act of passion.

Verdict:

The launch of the JA30MkII monoblocks with KT150 and JPL MkII line preamplifier is not a revolution but a welcomed evolution of two models already on point in their original versions. Jadis doesn't release new models very often, but when a modification could improve the sonic performance of a model, it gives an MkII version. This represent really well Jadis' state of mind when it comes to new model and Jadis proved it again with this MkII versions of the JA30 and JPL that have gained in musicality and realism. Qualities that Jadis will keep, with no doubt for many years to come.

DOMINIQUE MAFRAND

Built Components Bass Medium High Dynamic Sound stage Transparency Perf/price

