Magnat MC 1





The Magnat MC 1 is a REVELATION which provides purelistening pleasure.

Test extracts:

DESIGN & WORKMANSHIP:

Solid housing, very neat connections and a metal remote control. When this small machine bursts into life it poses a serious problem for traditional electronics manufacturers.

TECHNOLOGY & CONFIGURATION:

The control elements protrude from a sturdy, 8 millimetre thick aluminium front panel. A small window reveals a tube - a component which is normally only found in high-end amplifiers. What is it's purpose in the MC 1? It provides preamplification and adds an element of melodiousness that is typical of tubes. The strictly selected ECC 88 double triode isn't just responsible for high-level inputs, but also for the integrated phono preamplifier. Yes, you read correctly, the



MC 1 also has an input for a turntable. After the signals are preamplified a transistor amplifier enters the fray. This ensures that 60 watts of continuous power is available at the outputs. Pulses add a further 20 watts per channel. The basis of this power is a special scatter-free transformer which can deliver high currents very quickly. A close look at the unit reveals that the mains adapter is detached from the rest of the housing. All aspects that are normally only commonplace in considerably more expensive amps. Let's continue with the Sanyo drive, which can read both CDs and SACDs. The MC 1 contains a Burr Brown converter instead of a 08/15-D/A converter chip. This guaranteed brand quality provides converter linearity, which is conducive for a good sound. All interior paths are kept as short as possible to ensure the best sound quality. The built-in RDS tuner makes radio listening a real pleasure. The MC 1 has tone regulators, which can even be switched off for audiophile enjoyment, and the solid metal remote control ensures you maintain full control of the features while comfortably seated in your chair.

Gold-plated RCA inputs, which include a phono input and sold speaker terminals, are of a quality that is rare in this price category. Even a central mains switch has been included in the development budget.

SOUND:

The sound quality definitely sets new standards in this price range.

There's no doubt when addressing the issue of sound quality: "excellent" is absolutely justified! Maybe there's a catch with the tuner? No, this also displays an impeccable level of quality. Not only are most stations are received with low noise, it also sounds better than average. Continued testing merely emphasised the fact that the sound quality, configuration and workmanship of the Magnat MC 1 were thoroughly convincing. The only issue we couldn't resolve was that of the relatively low price. Anyone looking for a low-cost entry into high-quality music reproduction need look no further than the Magnat MC 1.

CONCLUSION:

The Magnat MC 1 is a revelation which provides pure listening pleasure. This SACD/CD receiver offers a strong alternative to the copious run-of-the-mill systems that are on offer in this price range. Whether it's playing high-resolution material from SACDs or analogue signals from a turntable, the MC 1 produces a sound that is extremely appealing. The only "audacity" is the low selling price, which is certainly not to the detriment of the customer. It goes without saying that the Magnat MC 1 has been awarded the coveted ,price tip' accolade.



