

Thrax Dionysos

Vacuum Tube Control Amplifier



The control amplifier is the centerpiece of each high-end audio system. Being responsible for source selection, signal conditioning and volume control. It matches the output of your source to the input of your power amp.



Features

- Accepts both balanced and unbalanced input signals on RCA and XLR connectors.
- Switches ground plane with input selection preventing ground loops.
- Programmable grounding arrangement for large systems.
- Dual balanced and unbalanced output for bi-amp
- Home Theatre bypass feature for integration in Home Cinema systems
- Programmable absolute phase per input and accessible via remote control
- Stepped volume control for perfect repeatability of level setting
- Inductive volume control for best sound quality
- Shunt regulated constant current PSU for lowest noise and best dynamic behavior
- Choke input rectifier for no switching noise
- Custom vacuum encapsulated signal relays for ultimate sound and reliability
- Modular construction
- Microprocessor controlled
- Interlocking solid aluminum chassis.

Technology

The input of our pre-amplifier uses a transformer providing optimal loading for the source component to develop its full potential, allowing it to extract the maximum amount of information while keeping all noise picked up on the way out of the signal chain.

The input transformer provides complete isolation of the source components from the system. Rejects common mode signals much better than any active solution, stops EMI/RFI and ensures truly balanced differential input. All while being the optimal load for the source.

The volume control of a pre-amplifier has to adjust the level of the input signal to the value required by the power amp without burying in noise the low level information and transferring enough power to properly drive the amplification stage without affecting its operation. Our solution is fundamentally different and as simple as it gets. We use the same input

transformer with various winding ratios and we switch between them. Instead of throwing away part of the signal our solution behaves like an audio gearbox, transferring all the power of the incoming signal at the desired level.

The gain stage is realized by the use of a single low noise tube loaded with a step down transformer. Making the output of the control amplifier low impedance, DC free, truly balanced, isolated from noise sources and decoupled from the other components in the system. Providing an absolute optimum driving signal for the following power amplifier's input stage.

To further reduce the vanishingly low noise floor of the unit below certain volume setting the active circuit is disabled and the attenuator is connected directly to the output providing low impedance noise free signal.

Specifications

Inputs

- 4 pair unbalanced RCA
- 2 pair balanced XLR

Output

- 2 pair unbalanced RCA
- 2 pair balanced XLR

Attenuation steps

- 32

Volume Control Range

- Minimum gain -46dB
- Maximum gain +18db

Power supply

- 115 or 230 V

Power consumption

- 45W

Weight

- 15Kg

Dimensions

- 432Wx400Dx120H mm

Finish

- Black or Silver anodized aluminum

Tube compliment

- 1 x 6H6Π(6N6P)

