



SOUND ADVICE Vol. 24, June, 22<sup>nd</sup> 2007



## Clearaudio's Champion

A new CLEARAUDIO design, the CHAMPION turntable is your gateway to high-end turntable performance. It employs the same high quality, specially selected materials, and attention to details that have created

CLEARAUDIO's reputation for audio excellence, but applied to a novel design that can be readily upgraded through three distinct performance levels. Each component is

manufactured entirely in Germany.

The turntable chassis is built from GS-Acrylic, the best and also the most expensive acrylic material available. The shape is optimized to minimize resonance and the structural plates are available in either a clear or black finish.

The platter is precision machined from Silicon-Acrylic, chosen to match as closely as possible the mechanical properties of a vinyl record. It runs on CLEARAUDIO's well known inverted main-bearing design, as used in all their turntables.

Behind the Clearaudio team are our dedicated employees, each giving their all, regardless of time and energy. Realising this is seeing the human element behind all our products. This story of all those hours of work, vision, dreaming and perfectionism will never end. Welcome to the world of artistic creation and finest engineering with our 'Champions'. We invite you to realise your dream, set with these features:

- Inverted platter bearing
- Non-resonant GS-acrylics
- Separate motor drive
- Precision polished materials
- Upgradeable to your choice and taste

For any enquiries you can reach The Soundsmiths at: [info@thesoundsmiths.com](mailto:info@thesoundsmiths.com) or call

Mob.: + 91-98925SOUND(76863) – Veeru

Mob.: + 91-9820513978 – Aditya



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## CARTRIDGES

### CLEAUDIO AURUM BETA / S MM



It was back in 1978 that Clearaudio first manufactured moving coil cartridges. This vast experience has been a significant benefit to our range of moving magnet cartridges. We have made massive improvements in details such as mass-reduction, the profile, polish and finish of the styli and in the damping of the cantilever.

Strict attention to construction methods along with extensive quality controls and hand-selection processes form part of the procedure for this stunning quality. We can assure you flawless quality in all areas to

guarantee exceptional linearity and trackability. Each model is available in a body-material of either stainless steel or Satiné wood ensuring compatibility with most tonearms.

## TO NEARMS – RADIAL TONEARM

### SATISFY TONEARMS

The Clearaudio difference is not subtle! The difference to other manufacturers is that we tend to set standards in every class by designing milestones. The features of the Satisfy you would find only realised in a few of the best tonearms.



- High quality handmade Swiss vertical and lateral bearings
- Pure polished sapphire bearing materials
- Directwired with Clearaudio Directwire as well as integrated high quality Clearaudio RCA connectors for unbroken signal path from the cartridge pins through the arm tube to the phono-preamplifier
- Different arm-materials: aluminum, carbon fibre, ebony and satiné

• Elegantly innovative magnetic anti-skating control, we think we did it all. You'll be astonished by both the appearance and the sound quality, which really satisfies!

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## REVIEWS

### **SoundStage!** *Soundstage - The Vinyl Word Back Issue Article, May 2002* *Clearaudio Champion Turntable, by Jason Thorpe*

**“Sound:** *"A precision instrument that's designed to present the music as it is, rather than as it could be with just a bit of editorializing"; "the mids and highs...were precise, clear and detailed, but not overly bright"; "the Champion did, however, infuse the upper mids with a tiny bit of additional energy, which enhanced the sense of detail."*

**Features:** *The Champion's plinth is "a large, perfectly polished chunk of 1"-thick GS-acrylic," "the three cone feet are also acrylic," and "the platter is made from 1" thick silicon-acrylic"; Level One and Level Two upgrades are available for no cost penalty if not purchased from the start.*

**Use:** *"The treble region proved very sensitive to both supporting shelf and cartridge choice. Once the Champion was placed directly on a light, stiff shelf, things meshed perfectly."*

**Value:** *"An excellent value" that "could save you money as compared to buying an inexpensive 'table now and selling it at a loss later when you want to upgrade."*

#### **Clearaudio Aurum Beta S cartridge**

*"Tri-Cell delivered the Champion with a Clearaudio Aurum Beta S moving-magnet cartridge. I had asked them to set the 'table up with a cartridge commensurate with its price, and to choose one that exemplified how the Champion should sound as a total system. The Aurum Beta S is a high-output cartridge with an aluminum body. Break-in of the Aurum Beta S took about 50 hours. During this time the sound had an up-tight, constipated feel. Bass was deep, but muffled and monotonic, the highs were crispy and etched, and the soul of the music suffered greatly. The Aurum Beta S took longer to break in, and the change in tonal balance was much greater, than any other cartridge that I've owned. After that period, however, things changed immensely.*

*The Clearaudio Aurum Beta S is in the high price range for a moving-magnet cartridge, and it faces stiff competition from comparably priced high-output moving-coils. However, its dynamics, bass response and precise nature might well float your boat. Check it out, especially if you plan on upgrading the cartridge on a Rega turntable."*  
**...Jason Thorpe**

## AUDIOPHILIA

**February 2002 by Anthony Kershaw**

*"My discovery of the upgradeable Clearaudio Champion turntable happened most fortuitously. A visit to a local distributor to hear some new horn speakers was arranged - the speakers were quite wonderful, even on the briefest of auditions. The Beauhorns were striking, but hooked up to the speakers was the Clearaudio Champion Level 2 turntable. Having a turntable attached in a listening room is becoming a rare occurrence, however, this distributor usually has one or two with which to listen as well as some beauties on static display. During the visit, while my ears were listening intently to the wonderful midrange playing through the speakers, my eyes were transfixed to this serious analog eye candy. With a little trepidation, I asked when I could get a Champion review sample. Moments later I was on the highway with a turntable in the trunk...."*

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