



SWING AND A HIT

While the words “affordable” and “accessible” can never really be associated with Dan D’Agostino, with many of its wares falling into ‘price on request’ territory, the US company can just about get away with describing its latest integrated amplifier, the Pendulum, as “entry-level”, despite the fact that it still costs a cool \$29,995.

Representing D’Agostino’s effort to reach a broader audience of audio enthusiasts while maintaining the performance standards associated with the revered brand, the Pendulum introduces a re-engineered version of the JFET input circuit topology originally developed for the company’s \$85k Momentum C2 preamplifier.

Delivering 120W per channel into 8 ohms (and doubling to 240W into 4 ohms), the Pendulum derives its power from a custom 750VA toroidal transformer and 25,000 µF capacitor bank — substantial specs for a unit of its relatively compact dimensions.

This robust power supply

implementation also incorporates sophisticated filtering to eliminate RF noise from AC powerlines, and addresses issues like asymmetric power waveforms — details that will certainly appeal to serious audiophiles concerned with clean power supply.

On the connectivity front, the standard configuration provides four analogue inputs — one single-ended RCA and three balanced XLR (including a theatre passthrough for home cinema integration), plus balanced preamplifier outputs for subwoofer integration.

And if you want a little extra, you can pay a little (relatively speaking) extra

by adding a phono stage with 60dB of gain for moving-coil cartridges (\$1,795), and/or a comprehensive digital module offering optical, HDMI, Ethernet and wi-fi connectivity (\$3,495).

The latter not only natively supports PCM signals up to 32-bit/384kHz and DSD signals up to DSD256 (11.2MHz) but also opens the gateway to streaming services including Tidal, Qobuz and Spotify, while offering MQA decoding for compatible files. It is due to receive Roon Ready certification shortly, too.

Aesthetically, the Pendulum maintains D’Agostino’s distinctive design language, featuring a central LCD display



NEWS



THE CENTRAL DISPLAY DIGITALLY REPRESENTS THE ANALOGUE METERS FEATURED ON OTHER D'AGOSTINO AMPLIFIERS, INSET INTO THE ICONIC ALUMINUM CASEWORK WITH A COPPER TRIM.

that digitally mimics the Swiss watch-inspired analogue meters found on the company's higher-end models.

This display serves multiple functions beyond volume indication, providing real-time updates on status, functions and even metadata from digital music sources.

The Pendulum also comes with a Bluetooth-enabled remote crafted from Delrin, whose own LCD screen mirrors information on the main display. Fancy!



SPECIFICATIONS

Frequency response: 1Hz – 80kHz, -0.5dB / 20Hz – 20kHz, +-0.01 dB

Signal-to-noise ratio: 100 dB, unweighted; 95 dB A-weighted

Output power: 120W (8Ω); 240W (4Ω)

Inputs: RCA; 3 x balanced XLR

Input impedance: 1MΩ

Outputs: Balanced XLR; 6.3mm headphone

Output impedance: 1Ω

Dimensions (HWD): 11.8 x 43.2 x 35.6cm

Weight: 15.9kg

For more information, contact Advance Audio on (02) 9561 0799 or visit www.advanceaudio.com.au

