



It's a wonderful time for record collectors. Sales of vinyl are going up for the first time in a decade. Those turntables and cartridges that are left are fantastic and fine add-on phono stages proliferate. The Lehmann Black Cube is a perfect example.

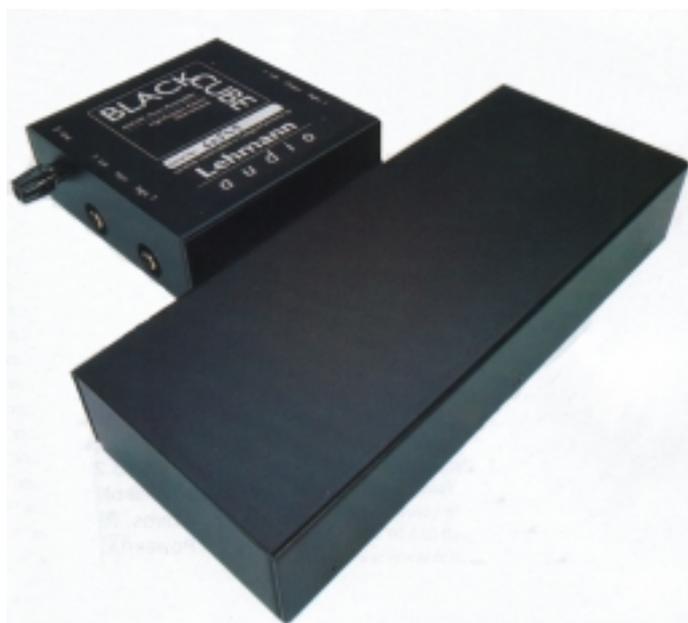
This is an inline phono stage, with a set of inputs on one side and two outputs on the other. In its SE guise, the Black Cube links to the PWX power supply with a 30VA toroidal transformer via a single lead. On the underside of the Black Cube are two sets of DIP switches that allow you to set the phono stage to match the MM or MC cartridge. The Cube itself is a passive RIAA stage with two op-amp driven amplifier stages. The passive RIAA stage is said to prevent phase errors.

This is fine stuff, capable of punching far above its weight. It is so musical

and precise, with powerfully solid images within a 3D hologram of a soundstage.

Even the cavernous bass of Bassomatic's *Set The Controls for the Heart Of The Bass* (you get the picture) is deep, powerful and controlled, yet it also has the dynamics to cope with Casals' *Bach Cello Suites*.

On listening to a product,



if the only criticism you can come up with is that it's unattractive looking, you know you are on a winner. If you have a good deck, it deserves the Black Cube SE.

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