

Product Announcement

Lehmannaudio Drachenfels

New high-specification headphone amplifier joins the range.

Didcot, Oxfordshire – 23rd August, 2017

With the introduction of the iconic Linear headphone amplifier in 2004, Lehmannaudio raised the standard for headphone amplifiers to a new level. Combining recording studio knowledge with high-fidelity expectations, the performance put Lehmannaudio firmly on the map as a go-to brand for specialist audio products. Later, the addition of the more affordable, award-winning Rhinelander further boosted the brand to prominence. The latest headphone amplifier to join the range is the Drachenfels; situated between the Linear and the Rhinelander it's been introduced to bring more conveniences, fit for modern headphone users.

Named after a famous hill in the North Rhine-Westphalia region, the Drachenfels is an analogue headphone amplifier designed with cutting-edge components, but is designed as a sustainable product for the future thanks to its modular internal design.

Operating as an analogue headphone amplifier via the RCA connectors on the rear panel, the Drachenfels offers 12dB of practice-oriented gain which, due to the smooth running ALPS Blue Velvet potentiometer with excellent synchronism and the ultra low-noise circuit, dispenses with the need for a gain switch. The advanced technical knowledge that has gone into the circuitry means that the sound performance offers a tremendous wealth of detail and pin-point timing, all captured within a highly engaging musical envelope.

However, where Drachenfels finds its niche is in its modular design. The back panel is designed to come away from the structure so more input options can be added with upgrade modules, bringing with them more advanced features. Immediately on the horizon are USB and Coax/Optical input options, with Bluetooth and WLAN expected later. The idea for the future is that even when new standards and listening preferences come to market, Drachenfels can be modified to suit rather than discarded and replaced.



The Drachenfels is built using the finest components available for the price. From the Neutrik headphone sockets to the low-loss MKP precision capacitors, the audio path is clear and unaffected by unnecessary devices. The clever design also allows it to be used either as a headphone amplifier with two outputs, or as a single-input pre-amp for a power amplifier or set of powered speakers. The small footprint makes placement in or near a system very easy, and operation is as simple as pushing the power switch and adjusting the volume dial.

Drachenfels is a new offering from a long-established European manufacturer, combining award-winning sound with premium industrial design and optional future-proofing.

Drachenfels £450.00 (SRP)

Available in the UK from September 2017 in Black or Silver finish.

For a list of all authorised Lehmannaudio stockists, visit www.henleyaudio.co.uk

Technical Information

Input impedance:	47k Ω
Maximum Gain:	12dB (with maximum potentiometer setting)
Frequency Response:	10Hz (-0.3dB) – 35kHz (-1dB)
Signal to Noise Ratio:	> 85dB (@ 0dB gain)
THD:	< 0.006 % (@ 18mW/330 Ω)
Channel Separation:	> 80dB (@ 10kHz)
Output Power:	330 Ω / 110mW 33 Ω / 180mW
Output Impedance:	Line Out (105 Ω) Headphone Out (5 Ω)
Audio Connectors:	Headphone Out: Neutrik sockets with gold-plated contacts (1 x Switching Line Out / 1 x Non-Switching Line Out) Line In/Line Out: RCA
Power Consumption:	Approx. 4W (standard version, using supplied PSU)
Outer Dimensions (W x D x H):	160mm x 120mm x 43mm (audio section)
Weight:	0.5kg net (standard version)



Notes for Editors

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About Lehmannaudio

Lehmannaudio Vertriebs GmbH was originally founded in 1988 by Norbert Lehmann, a young audio engineering student, in Cologne, Germany. Through those early days, Norbert developed a deep understanding of how the quality of certain electrical devices affected the end sound-performance of an amplifier. The cumulative result of this formative period was manifest in 1995, when *Lehmannaudio* released the Black Cube phono stage.

The Black Cube is now a cult object in the audiophile market. Still available today in almost exactly the same form as the original model, the Black Cube took components more commonly found in studio mixing desks and brought them to a hi-fi product. The result was an affordable phono stage that sounded truly sublime. In 2004, the next icon was born; the Linear Headphone Amplifier (originally called Black Cube Linear) again took studio principles and brought them to the hi-fi sector, allowing hi-fi fans to experience the true engineering ability of Norbert Lehmann.

Since 2004 the phono stage and headphone amplifier sectors have been happy homes for *Lehmannaudio* products, and now the company can boast a range of products in each sector that are suitable for all budgets and technical requirements.



About Henley Audio

Everyone has a different interpretation of what good sound is, and at Henley Audio we're no different. We strive to bring customers the best possible selection of hi-fi equipment from a variety of international manufacturers.

Formed in 1997 as the result of a management buy-out of Ortofon UK, Henley Designs Ltd. (trading as Henley Audio) is one of the UK's premier distributors of quality hi-fi equipment. The brands we distribute are not only highly-regarded in their own right, but they also share a symbiotic relationship with other brands in our portfolio.

For more information, visit www.henleyaudio.co.uk

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