

proaudio DJ GEAR, PROFESSIONAL AUDIO

Sound PRESS

FEBRUARY 2025

TAMARA DEN

A Journey Through Music,
Creativity, and Connection

**A Love
Letter to
Music**

**Understanding DSP
in Sound Systems**

HK Audio Linear 7 & 9

**The
MIGHTY MANCHESTER**
Turbosound's MV210-HC and MS218

AT-LP140XP
Designed for DJ's

**The Essential DJ Gear
for South African DJs**

SWIFF
AUDIO

Coming
Soon

"Love, like music, has no boundaries—let your sound be the heartbeat of the world."

Give the Gift of Music
to Your Sweetheart.



P

WELCOME

to the February 2025 Edition of
proaudio Sound Press Magazine!

Our cover star, the incredible Tamara Dey, takes center stage in this issue, sharing her journey, passion, and what drives her to create music that resonates across generations.

With Valentine's Day around the corner, we're also penning a love letter to South Africa, celebrating the music, the culture, and the heartbeat of a nation that pulses with creativity. And what better way to express love than through sound? We've compiled a list of the best gear for DJs, ensuring that whether you're spinning at a club, festival, or an intimate set, your sound will be as powerful as your passion.

This issue also features an exclusive with Mark Stent, the legendary DJ/Producer, who shares his insights into the evolving world of electronic music, production techniques, and his must-have gear.

And speaking of gear – we've got tons of Pioneer DJ and AlphaTheta equipment in the spotlight, alongside a deep dive into professional audio systems including speakers, amplifiers, and more. Whether you're looking for the perfect setup for your next gig or upgrading your sound system, we've got you covered.

So turn the pages, get inspired, and stay ahead of the game with Proaudio Sound Press Magazine – your ultimate source for DJ and professional audio excellence!

Keep the music alive,

Pioneer DJ

sound PRESS

PUBLISHER Proaudio (+27) 011 608 2099

DIRECTOR Joss Pack (ext. 17)

SALES MANAGER Justin Nel (ext. 14)
PRO SALES Gareth J Roberts (ext. 15)

INTERNAL SALES Ivor Pack (ext. 16)
INTERNAL SALES Matthew Huma (ext. 27)

EXTERNAL SALES Sarel Ras (ext. 20)
EXTERNAL SALES Richard Theunissen (ext. 21)
EXTERNAL SALES Graham Lowndes (ext. 12)

COMMERCIAL SALES Aadil Matwadia (ext. 23)

ACCOUNTS Deanne Keiser (ext. 29)
ACCOUNTS Leanne Cohen (ext. 11)

SERVICE MANAGER Pieter Preller (ext. 13)
SPARES Brandon Schmidt (ext. 24)

RECEPTION Nathon Schmidt (ext. 12)

MARKETING Elster Pieterse (ext. 19)
MARKETING Teagan Cousins (ext. 19)
MARKETING Daniel J Bungay (ext. 18)



This magazine is designed to inform, supply, and provide information relating to the industry that we find ourselves in. Some of the material that we have used is resourced from websites around the world to help bring perspective and insight to your business' and your lives. Products highlighted and reviewed may or may not be available, if you have any questions relating to the information herein, please contact us.

sound **Press** Contents

ON THE COVER



12

TAMARA DEY discusses the impact of technology on her transition from vocalist to DJ, her vibrant stage presence, and her approach to balancing creativity with self-care in a demanding industry.

FEATURE ARTICLES



06

A Love Letter to Music

Music has a nearly magical ability to transcend language and culture, reaching deep into people's hearts and souls.



18

Best Valentines Gift for DJ's

In South Africa, where Amapiano and house music dominate dance floors, having the right DJ setup is crucial for creating unforgettable vibes.



68

Mark Stent – DJ/Producer

Mark may have a tough exterior and a vibrant party lifestyle, but at his core, he's a dedicated family man.

Proaudio Sound Press – February 2025 Edition
“Gear, Trends, and Insights to Kick Off the Year”

DJ GEAR

ALphatheta DDJ-GRV6

22 DDJ-GRV6 stands out as a powerhouse that delivers top-tier performance every time.



AT-LP140XP

28 Fully manual professional DJ turntable features a high-torque direct-drive motor and anti-resonant, mass-damped, die-cast aluminum platter.



ALphatheta XDJ-AZ

32 Making waves in the DJ community, earning praise for its high-end features, user-friendly layout, and robust build quality.



ALphatheta HDJ-F10

36 Designed for DJs who demand high-quality sound, ultimate flexibility, and seamless connectivity.



Pioneer DJ DM-50D-BT

42 A hybrid speaker system that seamlessly transitions between production and everyday use.



PROFESSIONAL AUDIO

PowerWorks Artemis Series

48 The PowerWorks Artemis Series stands as a testament to the blend of technology and design that modern sound reinforcement requires.

Turbosound Compact System

52 The MV210-HC and MS218 combo bring massive sound in a size that defies the usual expectations of large systems.

LAB.GRUPPEN PLM Series

58 Designed to endure the rigors of touring and permanent installations alike, these amplifiers are equipped with robust components that guarantee longevity and minimal maintenance.

Understanding DSP

60 One of the latest advancements in DSP technology has arrived with the HK Audio Linear 7 and Linear 9 series now available in South Africa.

ATH-E40 IN-EAR Monitor

64 Crafted to deliver a symphony of high-quality sound and unwavering RF stability, this wireless in-ear monitor system is a powerhouse tailored for exceptional performances.

COMING SOON – SWIFF AUDIO

76 Swiff Audio is a dynamic and innovative brand specializing in high-quality audio equipment and accessories designed to inspire creativity and enhance performance.

**"Great sound isn't just heard—it's felt.
Play with passion, mix with purpose."**

A **Love** Letter to Music

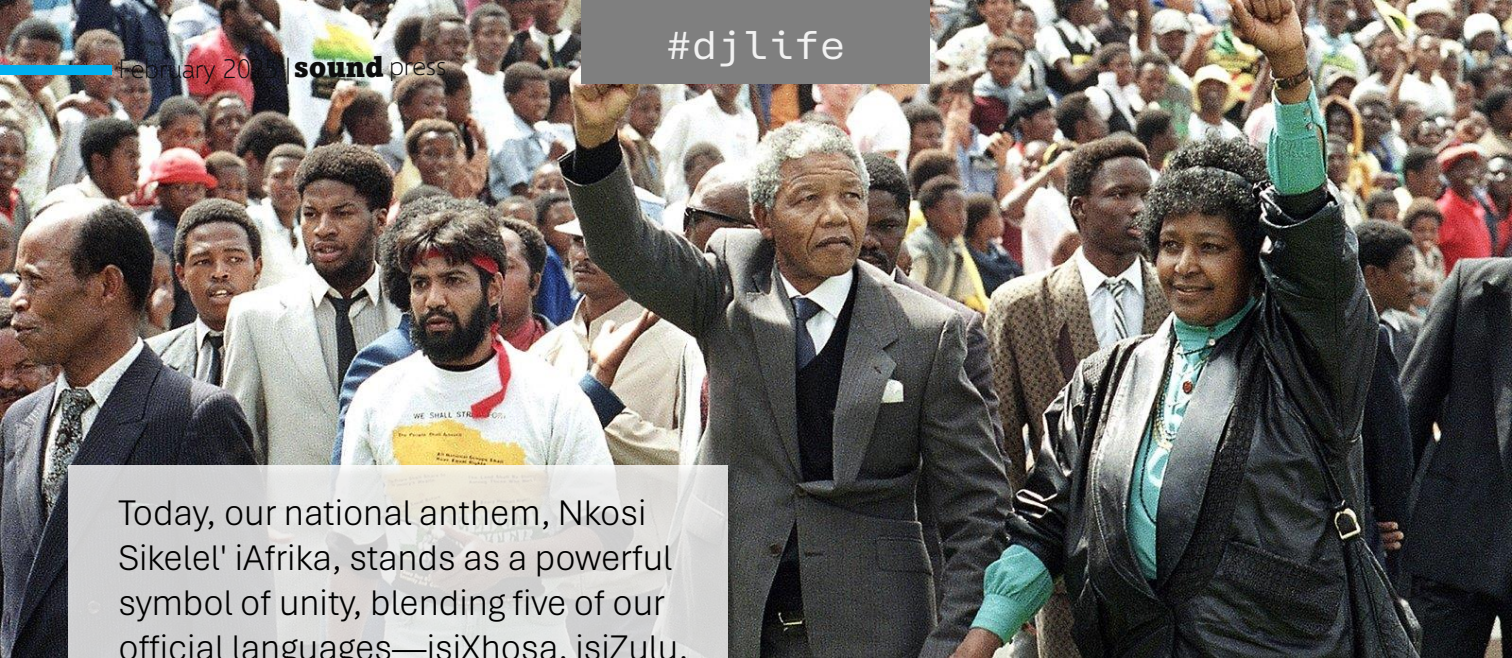
South Africa's **Unbreakable Bond**

South Africa is a dynamic and diverse nation that beats to the rhythm of music.

From the lively sounds of amapiano to the deep roots of jazz, the harmonies of gospel, and the powerful lyrics of hip-hop, music is more than just entertainment- It's a way of life in this vibrant land of people, gold, and music. **In February**, the month of love, we celebrate not just the romance between loved ones, but the deep, undeniable love South Africans have for music and the music industry that keeps it alive.

Music has a nearly magical ability to transcend language and culture, reaching deep into people's hearts and souls. It evokes nostalgia, stirring emotions and memories through the rich variety of genres that define our sound. It connects people from all different backgrounds and brings them together. In South Africa, where we have 11 official languages, a song can unite people who don't even speak the same mother tongue. The moment the beat drops, strangers become friends, and dance floors become places of shared love and absolute joy and harmony. Whether it's the rich tone and rhythm of Amapiano, Gqom shaking up the streets of Durban, or Afro-pop filling the airwaves, every genre finds a home in the hearts of our Rainbow nation.

Music in South Africa is not limited to clubs or concerts. It plays in the taxis that weave through the busy streets of Jozi, at shebeens where laughter and debate flow freely, in the kitchens where gogo hums a melody while preparing a hearty meal. Even in challenging times, South Africans find solace in music-just as struggle songs once uplifted and united our people during the fight against apartheid. Long before that, indigenous tribes used music as a form of storytelling, healing, and celebration. The rhythmic beats of the djembe and marimba, the soulful melodies of isiCathamiya, and the powerful chants of traditional praise songs have long been woven into our rich history, carrying us through both hardship and triumph and still today we turn up the volume to escape, celebrate, praise, remember and feel deeply.



Today, our national anthem, Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika, stands as a powerful symbol of unity, blending five of our official languages—isiXhosa, isiZulu, Sesotho, Afrikaans, and English. As voices rise in harmony, singing words of hope and strength, the anthem reflects the diversity and love of our nation while reminding us that, despite our different backgrounds, we are one people bound together by music.

There's something about a local concert where voices join in unison, hands wave in the air, and the bass vibrates through the soul. It's an experience that proves **music is not just something we hear—it's something we feel.**

From the massive crowds at the Cape Town Jazz Festival to the pulsating energy of Rocking the Daisies and the electric vibes in the park at Park Life Festival and Joberg day, live music is where South Africans truly express their love for sound. International artists often marvel at the energy of South African crowds—our ability to sing every word back, to dance until the early hours, and to embrace music with an undying passion.





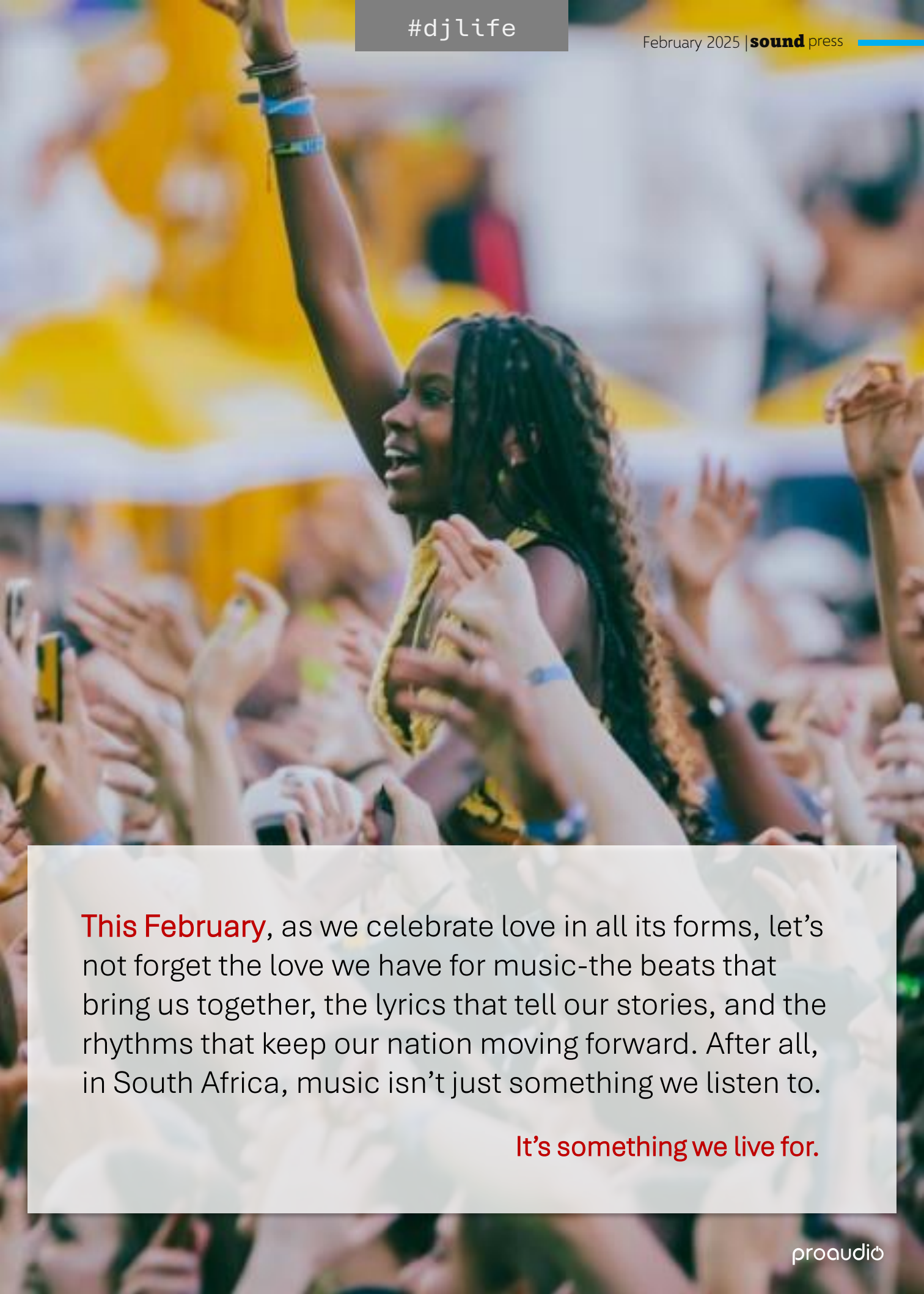
The South African music industry has birthed global stars, showcasing our rich and diverse sound to the world. Icons like Miriam Makeba, whose powerful voice made her an international symbol of resistance and African music, and Hugh Masekela, whose jazz melodies captivated global audiences, paved the way for future generations.



Lucky Dube brought reggae to the world with messages of unity and freedom, while Black Coffee has become one of the most sought-after DJs in the international house music scene. More recently, artists like Master KG, with his global hit *Jerusalema*, and Sho Madjozi, who blends Tsonga culture with modern hip-hop, continue to put South Africa on the world stage.

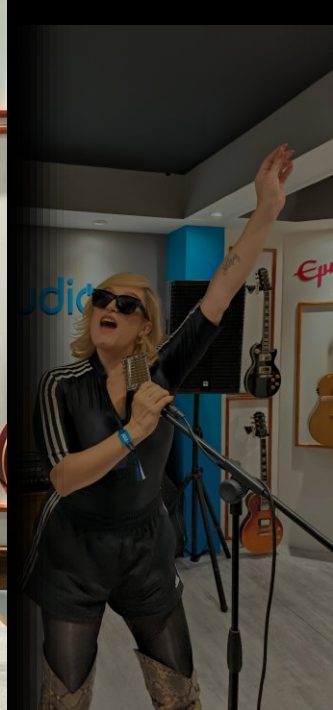
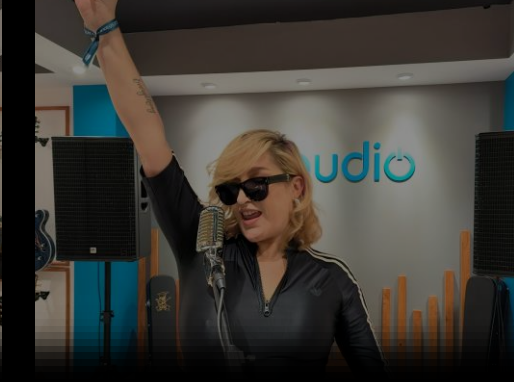
The Industry continues to grow, shaping and defining our culture. The rise of amapiano, a homegrown genre, is proof that South Africans don't just consume music—we create it, innovate it, and share it with the world. Behind the scenes, producers, DJs, sound engineers, and music promoters work tirelessly to keep the rhythm going.

Music in South Africa is more than just a sound—it's a connection. It connects people at groove spots, churches, family gatherings, and even funerals. A song can bring back a memory, heal a heart, or start a revolution. It's the love language of the nation, a universal force that speaks to every South African, no matter where they come from and no matter where you are.



This February, as we celebrate love in all its forms, let's not forget the love we have for music—the beats that bring us together, the lyrics that tell our stories, and the rhythms that keep our nation moving forward. After all, in South Africa, music isn't just something we listen to.

It's something we live for.



TAMARA DEY

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine Interviews Tamara Dey: A Journey Through Music, Creativity, and Connection

In this interview with Proaudio Sound Press Magazine, Tamara Dey reflects on her dynamic career, spanning decades and genres. She shares insights into her creative process, collaborations with icons like Oskido, and how her South African heritage has influenced her unique sound.

Tamara discusses the impact of technology on her transition from vocalist to DJ, her vibrant stage presence, and her approach to balancing creativity with self-care in a demanding industry. She also highlights her latest venture, Ode An Basso, a tech house event redefining the South African dance scene. Tamara's passion, authenticity, and dedication shine through, inspiring artists to stay true to their purpose while embracing growth and innovation.



Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: Your career spans multiple genres and decades. What do you think has been the key to staying relevant in such a fast-paced industry?

Tamara Dey:

I'll always be a music fan first, before anything else. I'm constantly exploring new sounds, emerging subcultures, and fresh approaches to songwriting and production. I also take great joy in staying immersed in the club scene. This connection to audiences at a grassroots level continues to inform my work and helps me resonate with listeners across different genres and generations.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: You've collaborated with some of the biggest names in South African music. Which collaboration stands out the most to you, and why?

Tamara Dey:

The collaboration that stands out the most to me is definitely with Oskido on the track "Thati Mpathlayako" early in my career. This project was a pivotal moment for me, as it not only launched my career but also placed me among artists who had inspired me to pursue my passion for being a club vocalist. The experience was transformative; I experienced incredible highs and learned some tough lessons along the way too, both shaping my artistic journey and helping me grow as a musician.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine:

How do you approach songwriting, and where do you draw inspiration for your lyrics and melodies?

Tamara Dey:

I approach songwriting through a variety of methods, which keeps the process fresh and exciting for me. Sometimes, I start with a vocal hook that plays on repeat in my mind, and I build the music around it. Other times, I might have a specific message I want to convey, or I'm inspired by a bassline or synth hook in my head that sparks my creativity. I've had moments where I sometimes hear entire tracks in my dreams and then wake myself up to record ideas on my phone. Listening back to those recordings is hilarious as I'm half asleep, but they have often led to some cool concepts.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine:

South Africa has a rich and diverse music scene. How has your heritage and cultural background influenced your sound?

Tamara Dey:

Growing up, I was surrounded by my parents' love for rock and soul music, which left a lasting imprint on my own musical style. It's allowed me to explore blending the darker tones I'm so drawn to with the lighter, more melodic elements of pop. As a result, my productions and songwriting often have a balance between these contrasting elements.





Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: Technology has transformed the music industry. How have advancements in audio equipment and production tools shaped your music over the years?

Tamara Dey:

Technology has transformed my career in many ways over the years, but most recently in my transition from club vocalist and songwriter to DJ. The advancements in DJ equipment have made it possible for me to learn the craft and start performing professionally in under a year, which has been a tremendous advantage given that I began DJing later than many of my peers. Additionally, the access I have to a vast array of high-quality music through various platforms has allowed me to quickly build a diverse, multi-genre collection of dance music for my sets. This technology has not only helped me elevate my craft, but has also allowed me to enrich my musical repertoire extensively, keeping me connected to audiences in new and exciting ways.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: What is your go-to setup for recording and performing, and are there any specific brands or equipment you swear by?

Tamara Dey:

When it comes to brands and equipment, I've worked with both the best and the bare minimum over the years, and both have yielded wonderful results and hit singles. The right tools certainly enhance the process, but I believe that it's ultimately human skill, creativity, and imagination that elevate the technology we use and result in music reaching its fullest potential.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: You're known for your vibrant stage presence. What advice do you have for up-and-coming artists about connecting with their audience during a performance?

Tamara Dey:

We all have a unique story to share with the world—a unique conversation and interaction to have with our audiences through music. Each of our voices is as important as the other.

My advice to up-and-coming artists is to lean into that purpose, stay true to yourself, and most importantly, have fun. When you exude joy and authenticity on stage, your audience will naturally resonate with that energy and connection.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: The music industry can be demanding. How do you maintain balance and stay inspired creatively in such a competitive environment?

Tamara Dey:

It can be a taxing industry to work in, and self-care has become more crucial for me than ever before—I wish I had discovered that balance sooner. It's also essential for me to try and find balance between writing, engaging with the scene, and simply living life.

Finding time to nurture my well-being and allowing myself time to recharge definitely helps me stay creatively inspired.

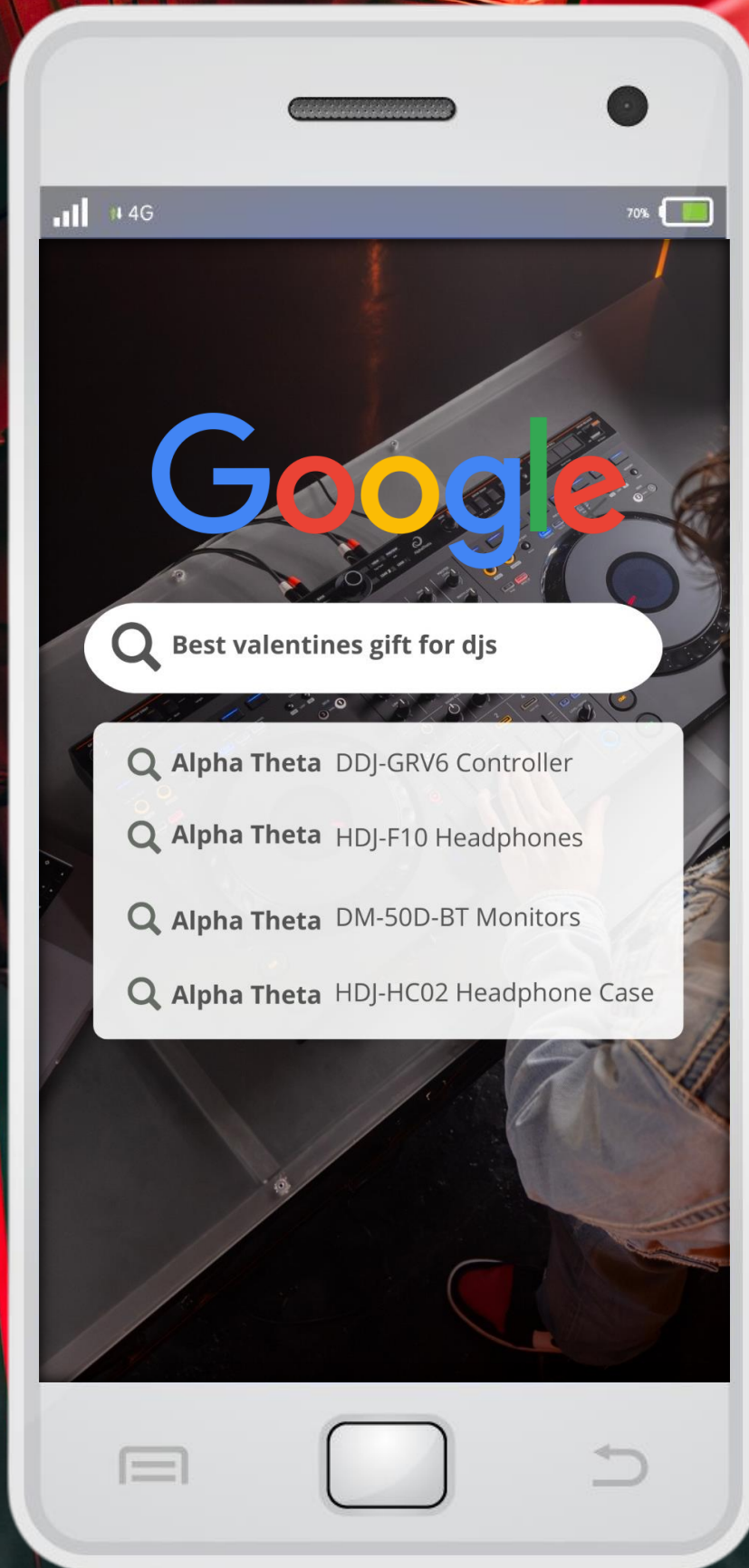



Proaudio Sound Press Magazine: You have been producing your own dance events. How has being on this side of the music industry changed your life?

Tamara Dey:

I launched my own tech house event called Ode An Basso at Bad Manors Jozi in early 2024 with my partners Jayson Ralf and Dune Cassell, and it's been insanely rewarding to be part of growing this sound in South African dance culture right now.

Our ultimate goal is to redefine the tech house experience with an emphasis on authenticity, diversity, and a return to the dance floor's roots. We're all really excited to continue growing the brand through our collective releases and events in 2025.





February, the month of love, is the perfect time to celebrate passion

—not just for romance but for music too! In South Africa, where Amapiano and house music dominate dance floors, having the right DJ setup is crucial for creating unforgettable vibes. Proaudio is bringing top-tier AlphaTheta DJ controllers and Pioneer DJ gear to South Africa, ensuring that local DJs have everything they need to take their performances to the next level.

The **Essential DJ Gear** for South African DJs



1. **AlphaTheta DDJ-GRV6** – This 4-channel performance DJ controller is built for those who love to mix live and keep the energy high. With its Groove Circuit function for live remixing, it's perfect for mixing Amapiano. Imagine swapping out *Amalanga* (feat. TO Starquality, Chley & Kabza De Small) by Mas Musiq, Lawd Weezy, DJ Maphorisa, TO Starquality, Chley with the drums from *Famax - Franky Rizado Remix* by RAFFA GUIDO, Franky Rizado.



2. **Pioneer DJ HDJ Headphone Range** – Whether you're just starting out with the HDJ-CUE1 or going for the top-tier sound of the new HDJ-F10, Pioneer DJ's headphone lineup delivers premium quality and durability. These headphones ensure that every beat and transition is crystal clear, helping you craft the perfect mix.



3. **Pioneer DJ HDJ-HC02 Headphones Case** – Transporting your headphones safely is essential, and this lightweight yet durable case ensures they stay protected wherever your gigs take you.



4. **Pioneer DJ BC-BAG-CONTROLLER-S** – Carrying your gear shouldn't be a hassle. This DJ controller bag, made from durable 600D nylon fabric with foam padding, offers maximum protection for your setup while on the move.



5. **Pioneer DJ DM-50D-BT Monitors** – Perfect for both DJing and music production, these 5-inch monitors with Bluetooth® functionality provide crisp, balanced sound, allowing you to fine-tune your mixes at home or in the studio.

The Sound of Love & Amapiano

February is about sharing love, and what better way to do that than through music? Whether you're playing a soulful house set at a wedding or dropping deep Amapiano grooves at a Valentine's Day event, this DJ setup ensures that every mix resonates with passion.

South African DJs, this is your time to shine! Proaudio is bringing you the best tools to craft electrifying sets that connect with your audience on a whole new vibe. This combo is perfect for DJs and can be bought as a package or one by one, making it easy to build your ultimate setup at your own pace.

Let the music speak, let the love flow, and let every beat bring people closer together.

Happy Valentine's Month - keep the love and the music alive!



The AlphaTheta DDJ-GRV6 is a game-changer in the DJ controller market. With its combination of versatile compatibility, high-performance jog wheels, innovative effects control, and professional-grade mixing features, it is well-suited to DJs looking to push the boundaries of their creativity. Whether performing in clubs, at events, or streaming online, the DDJ-GRV6 stands out as a powerhouse that delivers top-tier performance every time.

A New Era of DJ Performance

The **AlphaTheta DDJ-GRV6** is redefining what's possible in DJ performance, combining cutting-edge technology with an intuitive design that caters to both seasoned professionals and aspiring performers. With its seamless integration into modern DJ workflows, the **DDJ-GRV6** is designed to offer unparalleled control, flexibility, and creativity.



One of the most significant aspects of the **DDJ-GRV6** is its **hybrid compatibility**, allowing DJs to use it with both standalone USB playback and software-based setups. This feature ensures that performers can transition between different environments without disruption. Whether relying on Rekordbox, Serato, or another preferred software, the **DDJ-GRV6** provides a smooth and responsive experience, a factor that users have repeatedly praised in reviews.

A highlight of the **DDJ-GRV6** is its **high-resolution jog wheels**, which have been meticulously engineered to provide an authentic vinyl feel. This feature is particularly beneficial for scratch DJs and those who prefer manual beatmatching. Users have noted that the **jog wheels' responsiveness** allows for precise adjustments, making transitions and effects applications incredibly smooth.

The **performance pad section** is another key component that elevates the **DDJ-GRV6** above its competitors. Featuring eight velocity-sensitive pads per deck, DJs can trigger hot cues, loops, samples, and even perform finger drumming with remarkable accuracy. The **GRV6** also introduces **dynamic pad modes**, allowing users to layer effects, create live remixes, and add an extra dimension to their sets. This level of versatility has been particularly well-received by performance DJs looking for a controller that can match their creative ambitions.

In terms of effects and mixing capabilities, the **DDJ-GRV6** brings a **new generation of FX control**, allowing DJs to apply **Sound Color FX, Beat FX, and new Filter FX** with precise control. The **dedicated FX paddles** provide a tactile, performance-oriented method of engaging effects, something that turntablists and experimental DJs have found incredibly useful.



In terms of effects and mixing capabilities, the **DDJ-GRV6** brings a new generation of FX control, allowing DJs to apply **Sound Color FX**, **Beat FX**, and new **Filter FX** with precise control. The **dedicated FX paddles** provide a tactile, performance-oriented method of engaging effects, something that turntablists and experimental DJs have found incredibly useful.



Connectivity is another strong point of the **DDJ-GRV6**. With **dual USB ports**, it supports seamless back-to-back performances, making it ideal for collaborative sets and smooth DJ handovers. Balanced XLR outputs provide professional-grade sound delivery, ensuring that performances are crystal clear whether in a club, live stream, or studio setting.

Another feature that has received glowing reviews is the **standalone mixer mode**, allowing the **DDJ-GRV6** to be used as a dedicated mixer for external media players or turntables. This feature extends the controller's longevity and flexibility, making it a worthy investment for those looking for a long-term performance solution.



The onboard mixer is designed to provide a **pro-club feel**, with **full three-band EQs**, **independent channel filters**, and **professional-grade faders**. The inclusion of a **Magvel crossfader** ensures durability and a smooth feel for those engaging in fast transitions or scratching.

Many DJs have noted that the mixer section closely resembles high-end club setups, making it a great tool for those transitioning from home setups to professional environments.



/Direct-Drive with High-Torque Motor

Designed for DJs

AT-LP140XP



The AT-LP140XP

fully manual professional DJ turntable features a high-torque direct-drive motor and anti-resonant, mass-damped, die-cast aluminum platter to ensure stable, on-axis rotation at 33-1/3, 45, and 78 RPM. It is equipped with an S-shaped tonearm with height adjustment, adjustable tracking force (counterweight) and adjustable dynamic anti-skate control.

Audio-Technica has been a leader in phono cartridge design for more than 50 years, and that expertise shows in the durable, high-output AT-XP3 DJ cartridge with 0.6 mil conical bonded stylus included with the turntable. It comes pre-mounted to an AT-HS6 universal 1/2"-mount headshell.

Designed to connect to components with a dedicated phono input, the turntable comes with a detachable dual RCA output cable and supplies a strong 5.5 mV output.

Additional professional features include a start/stop button; forward and reverse play; selectable high-accuracy quartz-controlled pitch lock and pitch change slider control with +/-8%, +/-16%, and +/-24% adjustment ranges; a stroboscopic platter with speed indicator; a popup stylus target light; and a removable hinged dust cover.



Audio-Technica's AT-LP140XP turntable emerges as a compelling addition to the landscape of DJ-centric equipment, catering to both the professional realm and the audiophile enthusiast's cravings.

Akin to its predecessor, the ATLP120USB, this newer model elevates the experience with an assortment of enhancements, notably the inclusion of the AT-XP3 cartridge. In this comprehensive review, we delve into its features, sonic performance, and its place within the audiophile sphere.

Designed with the DJ community in mind, both the ATLP120USB and the AT-LP140XP present an array of familiar tools. The latter, however, ventures further, aiming to carve its place in audiophile circles despite the inherent DJ-centric accessories. This review seeks to explore whether the AT-LP140XP lives up to its aspirations in the high-fidelity domain.

From a feature standpoint, the AT-LP140XP mirrors its predecessor with a suite of DJ-centric functionalities—platter strobe/light, forward/reverse operation, variable pitch control, and a retractable light. However, distinguishing itself, the AT-LP140XP foregoes built-in phono amplification and a USB port, contributing to a cleaner, purer audio signal, albeit sacrificing convenience for vinyl ripping.

Structurally, the AT-LP140XP exhibits notable differences, such as a robust, heavier plinth and a more damped construction, reducing feedback and coloration from low-frequency sounds.

This attention to build quality extends to its motor, boasting higher torque than its predecessor, ensuring a more stable and precise operation.

A significant highlight is the inclusion of the AT-XP3 cartridge, specifically tailored for DJ demands—showcasing a conical stylus tip, V-Mount dual magnet construction, and excellent tracking capabilities for manual and back-cueing.

However, the inherent DJ-oriented cartridge contributes to a certain level of inherent noise, somewhat detracting from the turntable's audiophile potential.

Sound quality is where the AT-LP140XP shines and raises questions. The sonic profile leans towards a vibrant, energetic performance, with a sturdy and responsive bass and an animated midrange. Yet, the DJ-tuned cartridge tends to emphasize certain frequencies, occasionally leading to a slightly edgy or pronounced sound signature.

Experimentation with tracking force adjustments revealed intriguing results, highlighting the delicate balance between catering to DJ requirements and meeting audiophile expectations. Additionally, replacing the DJ-specific cartridge with an audiophile-oriented counterpart, like the Ortofon 2M Red, unveiled a transformation in sound quality, hinting at the turntable's potential when geared solely toward audiophile pursuits.



The Audio-Technica AT-LP140XP stands as a bridge between DJ functionality and audiophile aspirations. Its robust build, energetic performance, and responsive bass make it an intriguing choice for enthusiasts seeking a fusion of utility and sonic vitality.

However, its inherent DJ-oriented design compromises its standing as a true audiophile turntable, presenting a notable trade-off for those seeking pristine sound quality above all else.

Ultimately, its inclusion on demo lists becomes justified for those seeking a well-built, lively, and versatile turntable that balances the demands of DJing and audiophile listening.

A close-up photograph of a hand pressing a button on a DJ controller. The controller features several square, backlit buttons in various colors (yellow, blue, green, red, orange) and two circular jog wheels. The background is a blurred blue light.

A Game-Changer in Standalone DJ Controllers



The **AlphaTheta XDJ-AZ** has been making waves in the DJ community, earning praise for its combination of high-end features, user-friendly layout, and robust build quality.

Designed for professionals and ambitious hobbyists alike, this all-in-one unit delivers an experience that mirrors club setups while offering the portability and convenience of a standalone system.

One of the most talked-about features of the XDJ-AZ is its standalone capability, which allows DJs to perform without the need for a laptop. This is a huge advantage for those who want a streamlined setup, as tracks can be loaded directly from a USB drive.

Many users have noted how effortlessly the unit handles track analysis, including BPM detection and waveform generation, making it an intuitive choice for DJs who want to focus more on their set and less on the technical aspects.



The 7-inch full-color touchscreen display is another feature that has been widely praised. The screen provides clear, detailed waveforms and offers responsive touch control for browsing, cueing, and track selection. Unlike previous models, the XDJ-AZ includes **waveform stacking**, a feature usually reserved for premium controllers, allowing DJs to visually align tracks more effectively during beatmatching. Reviewers have consistently highlighted how the touchscreen enhances usability, making track selection and navigation feel seamless.



A standout aspect of the XDJ-AZ is its **performance pads**, which add a new level of creative expression. With eight multi-function pads per deck, DJs can trigger hot cues, loops, and samples with precision. Many users have found that the tactile feel of the pads, combined with their responsiveness, allows for highly dynamic performances. The inclusion of **Slip Mode** and **Beat Jump** ensures that DJs can make intricate adjustments to their mixes without disrupting the overall flow.



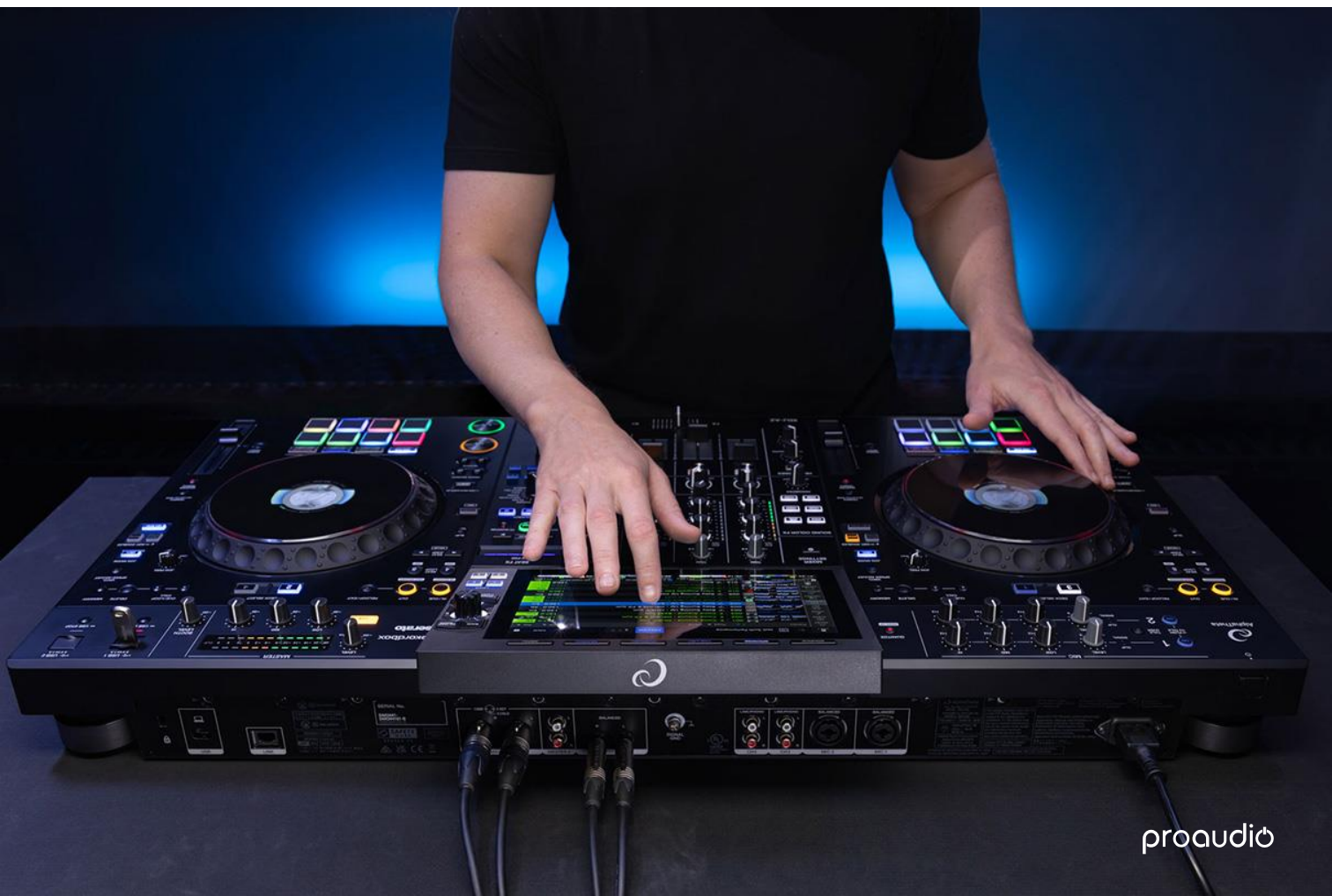
Another frequently reviewed feature is the **onboard mixer**, which includes a **3-band EQ**, **Sound Color FX**, and **Beat FX**, reminiscent of professional club setups. The quality of these effects has been widely praised, with many DJs noting that they allow for deep customization of their sound. The **Magvel crossfader** has also received positive feedback for its smooth operation, particularly among scratch DJs who appreciate its responsiveness.

In terms of connectivity, the **XDJ-AZ** offers a wealth of options, including balanced XLR outputs, booth outputs, and microphone inputs, making it suitable for both club and mobile DJ settings. Users appreciate the **dual USB ports**, which enable seamless transitions between DJs, a feature often found on high-end club-standard gear.

From a usability perspective, one of the most frequently mentioned advantages of the **XDJ-AZ** is its layout, which closely resembles industry-standard Pioneer DJ setups.

Many DJs who perform in clubs appreciate that transitioning from the **XDJ-AZ** to a professional booth setup is practically effortless. The full-sized jog wheels also contribute to this familiarity, providing an authentic feel that turntablists and mix DJs alike have praised.

Overall, the **AlphaTheta XDJ-AZ** has been widely recognized as a **powerful, versatile, and intuitive DJ controller** that bridges the gap between home setups and professional environments. Its **standalone functionality, club-style layout, and performance-driven features** make it a solid choice for DJs looking for an all-in-one solution that doesn't compromise on quality.







The Ultimate Wireless DJ Headphones

The world of DJing is constantly evolving, and the introduction of the AlphaTheta HDJ-F10 marks a new era in professional wireless performance. Designed for DJs who demand high-quality sound, ultimate flexibility, and seamless connectivity, the HDJ-F10 brings cutting-edge SonicLink ultra-low-latency technology, ensuring that DJs experience no lag between their movements and the sound they hear.

Long battery life for **extended DJ sets**

Feel confident that your headphones will go the distance, even if you're playing a long DJ set. A full battery gives you 9 hours' use with SonicLink or 30 hours' use with Bluetooth. You can also play your set with a wired connection.



 **SonicLink** 9hours

 **Bluetooth**[®] 30hours



Unmatched Wireless Freedom

One of the standout features of the **HDJ-F10** is its **SonicLink ultra-low-latency technology**, which allows DJs to mix, cue, and perform wirelessly without any perceptible delay. Unlike standard Bluetooth headphones, which often introduce latency issues that can disrupt beatmatching and live performances, **SonicLink** ensures real-time audio transmission, making these headphones a game-changer for club performances, mobile DJs, and livestream setups.

Crystal-Clear Sound Quality

DJs need to hear every detail of their mix, and the **HDJ-F10** delivers **pristine sound quality** with a **wide frequency range** and **deep bass response**.

Whether you are cueing up the next track, adjusting EQs, or fine-tuning your set, the precision-tuned drivers provide an immersive and accurate listening experience. The headphones also offer high-resolution clarity, ensuring that every kick drum, hi-hat, and synth line is heard exactly as intended.

Comfort and Durability

Designed for long hours behind the decks, the **HDJ-F10** features an ergonomic build with plush ear pads and an adjustable headband. The lightweight yet durable construction ensures that DJs can wear them comfortably for extended sets. The foldable design makes them easy to transport, while the **reinforced hinges** add extra durability for rigorous use on the road.



Dedicated transmitter which enables SonicLink connection

The dedicated transmitter HP-TX01 instantly transfers sound to the HDJ-F10 via ultra-low latency wireless communication with simply connecting to DJ mixer. Any DJ mixer equipped with a PHONE or 3.5 mm stereo mini jack monitor output can be used with the HDJ-F10. It is compact, lightweight, and easy to carry with your gear.



Versatile Use Cases

The HDJ-F10 isn't just for DJs—it's a versatile tool for multiple audio applications:

- **Club DJs** – Perform without being tied down by cables, allowing for greater movement and interaction with the crowd.
- **Livestreaming DJs** – Maintain a sleek, wireless setup with professional audio quality, perfect for broadcasting live performances.
- **Studio Monitoring** – Use in wired mode for critical listening, ensuring precise audio production.
- **Music Enthusiasts** – Experience premium sound quality in everyday use, from casual listening to music production.

Wired Mode for Maximum Flexibility

While the HDJ-F10 shines as a wireless powerhouse, it also includes a **detachable cable option**, allowing DJs and producers to switch seamlessly between wired and wireless modes. This flexibility ensures that no matter the setup, these headphones can adapt to any professional environment.



The AlphaTheta HDJ-F10 represents a **breakthrough in DJ headphone technology**, providing ultra-low-latency wireless performance, exceptional sound quality, and unmatched versatility.



Studio-Ready Sound

with Wireless Freedom



When it comes to high-quality audio, Pioneer DJ has long been a trusted name among DJs, producers, and music enthusiasts.

The **Pioneer DJ DM-50D-BT (White)** takes this reputation to the next level, offering a **versatile, high-performance speaker system** that delivers crisp, well-balanced sound whether you're in the studio crafting your next track or simply enjoying your favorite playlist at home.



The DM-50D-BT is more than just a studio monitor—it's a hybrid speaker system that seamlessly transitions between production and everyday use. Whether you're an aspiring producer fine-tuning a mix or a casual listener who appreciates high-fidelity sound, these speakers are engineered to meet your needs.

With **Class D amplification** and **5-inch woofer units**, the DM-50D-BT ensures deep, rich bass while maintaining pristine clarity in the mids and highs. This balance is essential for both professional studio monitoring and immersive listening experiences at home. The front-facing bass reflex port enhances low-end response, ensuring punchy bass without distortion, even at higher volumes.

Wireless Connectivity

A standout feature of the DM-50D-BT is its **Bluetooth 5.0 capability**, making it easy to stream music wirelessly from your phone, laptop, or tablet. This eliminates the hassle of cables and allows for a clean, clutter-free setup—ideal for modern home studios and personal spaces.

Whether you're playing back your latest mix or setting the mood with a carefully curated playlist, the convenience of **wireless audio streaming** means you can switch between professional and casual use with ease.



Switchable Sound Modes for Versatility

Unlike traditional studio monitors that require external equalization adjustments, the DM-50D-BT features an intuitive **two-mode DSP switch**:

- **DJ Mode:** Optimized for energetic and immersive sound, perfect for live mixing and music playback.
- **Production Mode:** Flattens the frequency response for accurate monitoring, ensuring precision when fine-tuning audio in a studio environment.

This flexibility allows users to **adapt the speakers to their needs with the flip of a switch**, making them perfect for dual-purpose setups where work and leisure go hand in hand.





Premium Design Meets Functionality

With a sleek, modern white finish, the DM-50D-BT not only sounds great but also looks stunning in any setting. The compact yet robust build makes them ideal for home studios, workspaces, and entertainment areas where aesthetics matter as much as performance.

The angled front baffle design further enhances clarity by minimizing sound diffraction, ensuring that audio remains precise and well-defined across the entire listening space.

The DM-50D-BT offers a variety of input options to suit different setups, including RCA, mini-jack (AUX), TRS, and Bluetooth connectivity. This means you can connect everything from DJ controllers and audio interfaces to laptops and smartphones, making them one of the most adaptable speaker systems in their class.

- **High-fidelity audio** for both studio work and general listening
- **Bluetooth 5.0** for seamless wireless streaming
- **Two-mode sound adjustment** for professional and casual use
- **Powerful Class D amplifier** with optimized bass reflex design
- **Sleek, stylish white finish** that complements any space
- **Versatile connectivity** for various audio sources



Whether you're producing music, DJing, or simply enjoying high-quality sound, the **Pioneer DJ DM-50D-BT (White)** delivers a top-tier audio experience. Its blend of **studio-grade sound, wireless convenience, and aesthetic appeal** makes it an excellent choice for professionals and enthusiasts alike.

If you're looking for a reliable, all-in-one speaker solution that bridges the gap between precision audio and everyday listening, the **DM-50D-BT** is the perfect addition to your setup.

THE POWER

of PowerWorks Artemis Series Speakers





The PowerWorks Artemis Series stands as a testament to the blend of technology and design that modern sound reinforcement requires.

These speakers offer not just outstanding audio performance but also the durability and versatility needed for both on-the-road applications and fixed installations.

With their robust construction, powerful output, and sleek design, the Artemis Series speakers are equipped to elevate any audio experience, making them a prime choice for audio professionals seeking reliability and high performance in their sound systems.



The quest for clarity, power, and versatility leads many to the PowerWorks Artemis Series.

This exceptional lineup of active plywood enclosures is engineered to deliver superior audio performance, offering a suite of features that cater to both mobile and installed sound systems.

With models ranging from 12 to 18 inches, the Artemis Series stands out for its high-definition sound and flexible applications.

Dynamic Audio Performance

The Artemis Series is synonymous with high-definition audio. Equipped with high-power woofers and compression drivers, these speakers deliver crystal-clear sound across a broad frequency range. The bi-amped active configuration, which includes Class-D amplification for low frequencies and Class-AB for highs, ensures efficient power handling and a robust sound profile.



This setup provides a peak power of 1200W and 600W RMS, pushing sound performance to impressive levels of clarity and volume.

Designed for Durability and Aesthetic Appeal

Beyond their sound capabilities, the Artemis speakers are designed with practicality and aesthetic appeal in mind.

The enclosures are crafted from sturdy plywood, ensuring durability and resistance to the rigors of both touring and fixed installations. Finished with black anti-scratch paint and featuring a sleek, minimalist design, these speakers not only sound great but also look professional in any setting.

Versatility in Installation

Flexibility is at the core of the Artemis Series, with various mounting options to suit different needs. Whether you need to fly the speakers vertically or horizontally, mount them on a tripod, or use them as stage monitors, the Artemis speakers are up to the task.

Subwoofers That Complement

The series also includes powerful subwoofers like the Artemis 12SB, 15SB, and 18SB, each designed to enhance the bass response effectively. These subwoofers are equipped with high-excursion woofers and sophisticated DSP controls, allowing for detailed audio tailoring.

The sturdy enclosures and advanced amplification ensure that these subs can handle intense low frequencies without distortion, making them perfect complements to the full-range Artemis speakers.

Ease of Use and Connectivity

The Artemis Series is user-friendly, featuring graphic backlit DSP displays for easy configuration. Inputs include combo XLR mic/jack and stereo 3.5mm jack, accommodating a wide range of audio sources.

An onboard mixer and balanced XLR output facilitate seamless integration of multiple speakers or an active subwoofer, ensuring that setting up a coordinated sound system is straightforward and efficient.



Their versatility makes them ideal for a range of applications, from live concerts and events to permanent installations in venues.



Turbosound's **MV210-HC and MS218** A Compact Sound System that Packs a Punch



What makes this setup truly stand out is its size. Despite its ability to deliver world-class audio for 2,000 partygoers, the system is compact and portable, making it the ideal choice for touring artists and rental companies. The MV210-HC and MS218 combo bring massive sound in a size that defies the usual expectations of large systems. When people hear the performance, they're often left wondering, "How can something so small produce so much sound?"

This system is designed for ease of use, reliability, and flexibility, offering a perfect balance between portability and power. It's the ideal setup for any venue or event that requires high-performance sound reinforcement with the flexibility to adapt to varying requirements. Whether you're putting on a show in a nightclub or taking your system on the road for a tour, Turbosound's MV210-HC and MS218 will be there, delivering the goods and leaving a lasting impression on everyone in the crowd.

Turbosound's MV210-HC and MS218 sound system offer unbeatable flexibility, portability, and power—making it the go-to choice for any medium-sized venue, touring event, or rental company. When you're looking to impress with clear, powerful sound, this system delivers without compromise. Get ready to make an impact and leave your audience wondering where all that sound came from!



One of the standout features of the MV210-HC is its ability to run in a flexible line array configuration. This makes it easy to cover wide areas with even, balanced sound—no more dead spots, no more uneven volume. This feature makes the MV210-HC the perfect solution for both small gigs and large-scale events.

The MV210-HC

Power and Precision in a Compact Design

At the heart of this system lies the MV210-HC, a bi-amped, 3-way, full-range line array element that boasts dual 10” drivers. With 3,960 watts of power, this compact powerhouse is engineered to deliver exceptional clarity and depth across a wide frequency range. It’s ideal for a broad spectrum of sound reinforcement needs, including speech and music, whether you’re setting up a fixed installation or on the move for a touring gig.

Designed to work seamlessly with Lake DSP and Lab Gruppen amplification, the MV210-HC ensures optimal front-of-house (FOH) performance. But it doesn’t just sound great—it also offers considerable flexibility to adapt to various venue requirements. Whether you’re in a small nightclub or a large event space, this system is designed to work in any environment, delivering consistent audio without compromise.



The MS218

The Bass That Brings the Energy

But what's sound without the bass? Enter the MS218, a passive dual 18" subwoofer that packs a serious punch with 8,000 watts of peak power. This compact subwoofer is engineered to handle everything from deep, rumbling lows to punchy, crisp kicks, ensuring your sound system delivers the full spectrum of audio that audiences crave.

Like the MV210-HC, the MS218 is designed to integrate with Lake DSP and Lab Gruppen amplifiers. This synergy creates a perfectly balanced system that offers outstanding performance in any setting—whether it's a fixed venue, a portable setup, or a touring application.

Its size is deceiving: the MS218 subwoofer's compact design allows it to fit into spaces where larger subs wouldn't even dream of going. But once it's in action, the power it produces belies its size, leaving audiences in awe. It's this combination of portability and punchy low-end power that makes the MS218 the go-to choice for sound professionals who need big bass without the bulk.



Amplification That Powers the Show

To bring the MV210-HC and MS218 to life, you need the right amplification—and that's where Lab Gruppen's PLM series comes in.

For the tops (MV210-HC), you'll need the PLM 12k44, a 12,000-watt amplifier with 4 flexible output channels on SpeakON connectors. This amplifier integrates Lake Digital Signal Processing and Digital Audio Networking, giving you everything you need to manage your sound system effortlessly. It's built to handle the demands of touring, with all the power you need to run three MV210-HC units on each side, providing consistent and reliable performance every time.

To drive the bass bins (MS218), the PLM 20k44 is the perfect match. This 20,000-watt amplifier also boasts 4 flexible output channels on SpeakON connectors, offering the same high-performance DSP and networking features as the PLM 12k44. With the PLM 20k44, you can deliver the heavy bass that'll make your crowd feel every beat, all while maintaining the clarity and precision you expect from the Turbosound system.





Compact Yet Mighty

A Sound System That Defies Expectations

What makes this setup truly stand out is its size. Despite its ability to deliver world-class audio for 2,000 partygoers, the system is compact and portable, making it the ideal choice for touring artists and rental companies. The MV210-HC and MS218 combo bring massive sound in a size that defies the usual expectations of large systems. When people hear the performance, they're often left wondering, "How can something so small produce so much sound?"



THE POWER BEHIND THE SOUND

Lab.Gruppen PLM Series Amplifiers – Setting the Stage for 2025

As we welcome 2025, the audio industry demands excellence, precision, and reliability more than ever. For professionals seeking unmatched performance, the **Lab.Gruppen PLM Series Amplifiers** emerge as the ultimate solution, delivering exceptional power and quality to drive sound systems of any scale. Whether you're managing a concert, a broadcast event, or a large-scale installation, the PLM Series stands out as the *source of power for the new year*.



Performance Without Compromise

The Lab.Gruppen PLM Series Amplifiers are engineered with cutting-edge technology to deliver outstanding sound clarity and power efficiency. With models ranging across various power options, the PLM Series caters to diverse applications while ensuring the highest audio fidelity. These amplifiers are built to handle demanding environments, offering unparalleled stability and consistency even at maximum output levels.

Innovative Features

At the heart of the PLM Series lies **Lake Processing** – a technology renowned for its superior sound shaping capabilities. The integration of advanced DSP ensures precision control, enabling users to fine-tune every detail of their audio performance. Coupled with Dante™ audio networking, the PLM Series provides seamless digital connectivity, ensuring compatibility with modern sound systems. The Rational Power Management (RPM) system further enhances flexibility, allowing for efficient allocation of power across channels, tailored to the specific needs of any venue or event. This ensures no watt is wasted, maximizing both performance and energy efficiency.

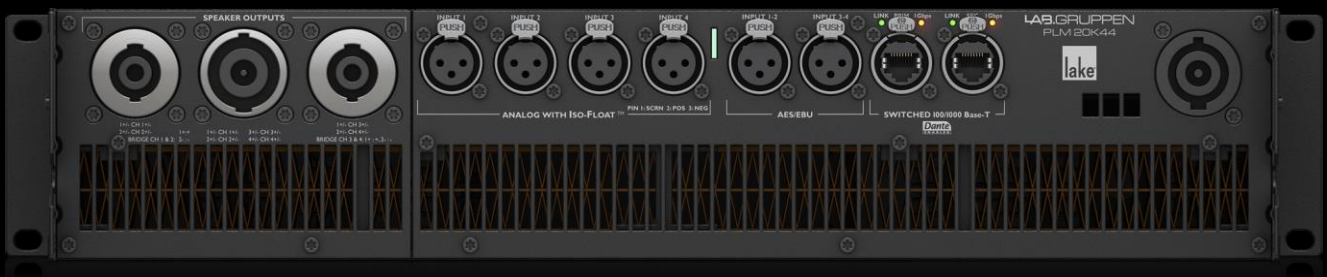
Built for the Future

The Lab.Gruppen PLM Series isn't just about power; it's about reliability. Designed to endure the rigors of touring and permanent installations alike, these amplifiers are equipped with robust components that guarantee longevity and minimal maintenance. Their sleek, compact design also saves space, making them ideal for installations where rack real estate is at a premium.

- **Superior Power Options:** Models designed to handle everything from intimate venues to massive arenas.
- **Impeccable Sound Quality:** Lake Processing and advanced DSP ensure pristine audio output.
- **Future-Proof Connectivity:** Dante™ networking keeps you connected in an evolving digital landscape.
- **Reliability and Efficiency:** Built to last with intelligent power management.

Powering 2025

The Lab.Gruppen PLM Series Amplifiers embody the spirit of innovation and excellence that drives the audio industry forward. As the cornerstone of many sound systems heading into 2025, these amplifiers ensure that your events, installations, and performances are powered by nothing but the best.



Understanding DSP in Sound Systems

The Advanced Features of the HK Audio Linear 7 & 9



When setting up sound systems for events, whether you're an upcoming sound engineer or working as part of an event setup crew, understanding Digital Signal Processing (DSP) is essential. DSP is the key to achieving high-quality, precise sound control, and it's integral to modern sound systems, particularly in large-scale live events or complex installations.

One of the latest advancements in DSP technology has arrived with the HK Audio Linear 7 and Linear 9 series now available in South Africa. These speakers offer some groundbreaking DSP features that are changing the game in sound management and efficiency.

What is DSP?

In a sound system, DSP refers to the manipulation of audio signals using digital processing. It allows for adjustments to sound characteristics, such as **volume, EQ, delay**, and more, in a way that traditional analog systems can't match. With DSP, sound engineers can shape the audio for different environments, ensure clarity, and prevent distortion, all from one central location.

Key DSP Features of the HK Audio Linear 7 & 9

Extended Remote Control

Gone are the days when only large touring systems allowed remote control over every component of your setup. The Linear 7 and 9 series offer network-compatible speakers that enable central control of every mid/high unit, subwoofer, and stage monitor directly from the Front-of-House (FoH) position. You can access every speaker on the network from your Mac or PC, adjusting its volume, EQ, limiting, delay, and polarity. This centralized control ensures efficiency and consistency across your entire system, especially for live sound engineers managing complex setups.



Equalizer (EQ) Display

With more than ten individually configurable filters, including Bell, Notch, Low Shelf, High Shelf, and others, the EQ display provides full control over your system's frequency response. This means you can tailor the sound to the acoustic environment by simply adjusting values or using a graphical interface. Whether you're fine-tuning for clarity or creating a unique tonal balance, the Linear series gives you precise control.



Presets

If you've worked in venues with recurring acoustic challenges, you'll know how much time goes into sound checks. Thankfully, the Linear 7 and 9 series allow you to store presets, making it easier to quickly load optimized settings for familiar environments. Simply save the settings you need and load them directly onto the speaker, eliminating the need to start from scratch every time.



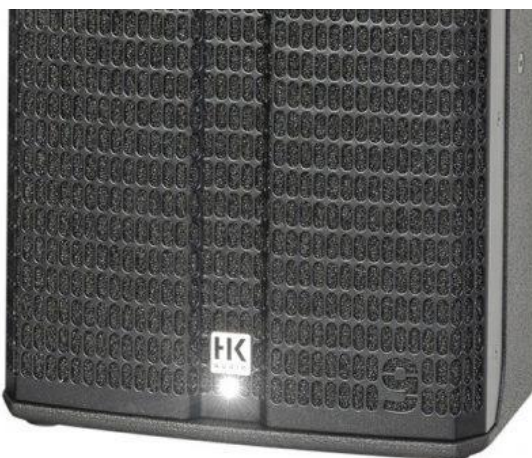
DSP-Out

A unique feature of the Linear series is the DSP-Out, which allows you to integrate non-network-compatible active speakers into the network. For example, you can include speakers from the Linear 3 series and control their parameters, such as EQ, delay, and limiting, remotely. This ensures your existing infrastructure stays relevant and adaptable to future needs.



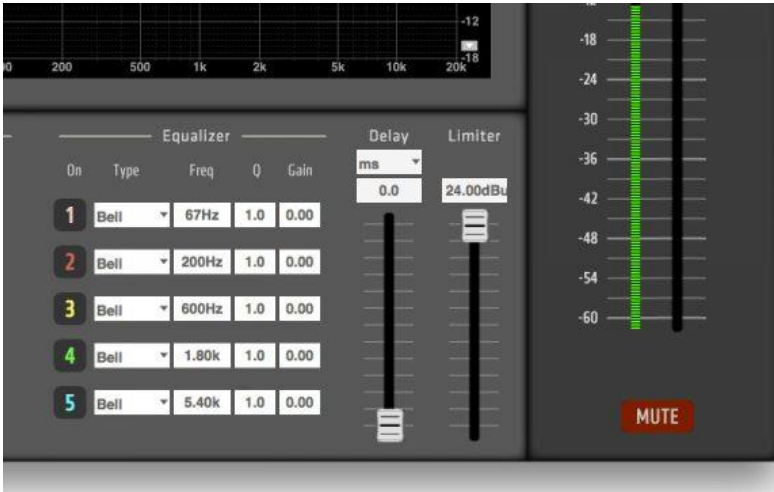
Group Functions

For sound engineers managing large setups, organizing multiple speakers is now a breeze. The DSP CONTROL software enables you to group speakers together and control them efficiently. Whether you're setting up separate left and right channels or managing different zones within a venue, group functions make it easier to adjust settings like EQ, volume, and limiting for multiple speakers simultaneously.



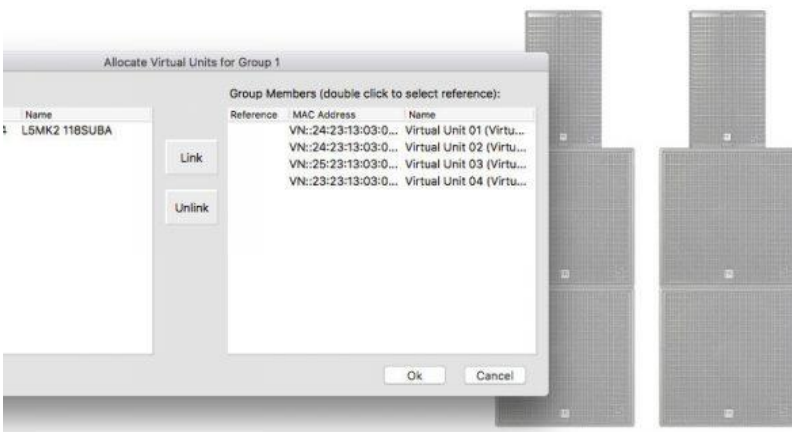
Wink Button

When you're working in a dimly lit environment, identifying speakers can be tricky. The Wink button feature allows you to ping the speakers, causing their LED signals to flash for easy identification. This is especially useful for finding specific units in large setups or when troubleshooting.



Delay Function

The Delay function is crucial for achieving the best sound experience across the entire audience. By setting precise delay times in user-defined units, you can create delay lines that ensure the sound reaches every corner of the venue at the right time, creating a balanced and immersive audio experience.



Virtual Units

Planning your setup in advance? Virtual Units let you organize and plan your system layout before the actual event. You can group your speakers by foyer, main room, outdoor area, or bar floor, all within the DSP CONTROL software. When you arrive on-site, simply replace the virtual units with the actual Linear series speakers at the click of a mouse.

The HK Audio Linear 7 and 9 series have set a new standard for DSP capabilities in sound systems. With advanced features like remote control, EQ flexibility, presets, delay, and more, they offer sound engineers and event setup professionals the tools they need for flawless performance.



High-Fidelity Sound

Pro In-Ear Monitors Are Part of the Package

Don't settle for basic earbuds. The 3000 Series Wireless IEM comes with our ATH-E40 in-ear monitor headphones for professional performance right out of the box.

Within the dynamic realms of live performances, houses of worship, and stage productions, audio clarity and stability reign supreme, the Audio-Technica AT3000 Series Wireless In-Ear Monitor System—an epitome of durability, cutting-edge technology, and superior sound delivery, meticulously crafted to meet the exacting demands of professional settings.

Crafted to deliver a symphony of high-quality sound and unwavering RF stability, this wireless in-ear monitor system is a powerhouse tailored for exceptional performances. Its optimized internal digital signal processing is a testament to its commitment to providing unparalleled stereo separation, ensuring a pristine and immersive audio experience.

A standout feature is its wide UHF tuning bandwidth spanning 138 MHz, a testament to its adaptability in an increasingly congested RF environment. Available in the DF2 frequency band (470 – 608 MHz), this system ensures maximum versatility without compromising on signal stability, an absolute necessity in today's bustling RF landscapes.

True to Audio-Technica's legacy, this system shares design elements with the revered 3000 Series UHF Wireless Systems, guaranteeing seamless integration and compatibility with existing setups—a boon for professionals seeking efficiency and ease of use.

The transmitter and receiver units are equipped with OLED screens, offering optimal readability of critical settings and alerts. Furthermore, the system's integration with the Wireless Manager software enables network monitoring and control, empowering users with remote access and comprehensive management capabilities.



audio-technica

#proaudio

February 2025 | **sound** press



proaudio

Efficiency and simplicity merge seamlessly with the ability to deploy channel plans across network-connected transmitters via a single receiver, eliminating interference or third-order intermodulation issues—ensuring uninterrupted and distortion-free performance.

Practicality meets longevity with the body-pack receiver's impressive continuous operation of up to 7 hours, powered by NiMH batteries and easily charged in the ATW-CHG3 or ATW-CHG3N charging station (sold separately).


The system offers the flexibility of stereo or mono operation, complemented by pan/personal mix controls, allowing performers to tailor their auditory experience to perfection. Custom audio settings including EQ, limiter, gain control, and balance further enhance personalization options.

The receiver's antenna diversity significantly bolsters RF stability, ensuring consistent and reliable signal reception—a critical aspect in live performance scenarios.

Complementing this exemplary system are the included ATH-E40 professional in-ear monitor headphones, boasting proprietary dual-phase push-pull drivers that deliver exceptional accuracy and clarity, elevating the listening experience to new heights.

The transmitter unit is equipped with balanced XLR inputs and loop output, alongside a network port, catering to versatile connectivity needs and facilitating seamless integration with existing audio setups.





The Audio-Technica AT3000 Series Wireless In-Ear Monitor System is a testament to uncompromising excellence in audio technology. Its blend of durability, technological sophistication, and superior sound delivery makes it an indispensable asset for professionals seeking precision, reliability, and uncompromised audio quality in their performances.



ATW-R3250 STEREO RECEIVER

000.000 MHz
[Signal strength icon] [Battery icon] [ST] [ST] [Signal strength icon]

 **audio-technica**





Mark may have a tough exterior and a vibrant party lifestyle, but at his core, he's a dedicated family man. He cherishes every moment spent with his three daughters, Kiara, Chicane, and Skyla.

Behind the Music

When he's not with family, Mark focuses on music production and building his own brand of sound, tailored for both the dancefloor and radio.

His calm demeanor stems from his studies in Buddhism and a life-changing meditation practice, which he's now sharing through an upcoming meditation app and his Instagram page.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine

Starting From The Beginning

You've been in the music scene since your early teens, and your journey has been incredible. Can you tell us about how your love for house music began and how you transitioned from DJing at Azzuri Lounge to becoming "The World's Strongest DJ"?

Mark Stent

My dad instilled in me a love for music; he was a musician and an early form of 'DJ' - he used to play records for his youth group. In the early 90s, dance music slowly exploded in the underground club culture. I was only around 15 years old, and I snuck out and went to a club called '4th World' - It was like nothing I had ever seen or experienced before; the music had so much energy, and there was so much togetherness on the dance floor.

This was more of an acid house/ progressive house culture and not quite my vibe, but my interest peaked. MK's mix of the Nightcrawler's hit 'Push the feeling on' was the song that made me want to play music - it is still my number-one song over 30 years later. From there, I got obsessed with collecting underground house music and got my first vinyl record at Dance Traxx in Hillbrow. From that point, music became the anchor for every part of my life.

Azzurri Lounge was my first official gig. My mate Ricardo Da Costa and I were so desperate to share our music that we used to play there for pizza and drinks. I can honestly say those were the purest moments of my career—it was purely about the music; big-name DJs were not a thing yet, and we just wanted to play records.

Fast-forward a few years: I finished university, married, and had my first daughter. I also competed heavily in bodybuilding competitions and recently won the South African heavyweight championships. I was still DJing, but primarily for fun, and Dave Forbes asked me if I would play a speed garage vinyl set at his new club, Sutra. This is where I believe it all got serious for me. After a couple of months, I played every week, multiple gigs all over the place, and things blew up fast. I quit my job, and DJing became my career. Right place, right time. The rest is history.

As for my moniker, 'world's strongest DJ', came from my friend Tyrel's (RIP) sister, Bianca - I wasn't on Facebook at the time, and she set up my page with that name more as a joke than as anything serious. After playing my first H2O set and meeting DJ Fresh, who is also a bodybuilder, he brought up meeting the 'DJ with muscles' on his 5FM show, and the name just stuck.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine:

You started your own record label, Flexual Records, and later expanded with Stentfire Music and 3 Girls Music. What inspired you to launch your own label, and how has it helped you grow as an artist and support other talents?

Mark Stent

Flexual was initially started to help me release my music and the music of my industry friends. Being from South Africa, it took a lot of work to get international labels to hear us; Flexual was our way of showing them and learning the more serious side of the music scene. Flexual was an early starting point for artists like Kyle Watson, Crazy White Boy, Stupid Fresh, Nick Supply and many other international talents.

It also gave me access to international artists, remixers, and DJs, who I brought to South Africa for events. It was a labour of love and was instrumental in the early 'Fidget' and electro-house scene. I met so many great people with the label and watched so many young careers grow, but to be honest, we had no idea what we were doing.

Later, I started Stentfire Records to address the South African underground and Afro scene specifically—inspired by my friend and local legend Shona—and to give the world access to quality Afro and South African sounds. 3 Girls Music (named after my three daughters) is my label for releasing my music and has allowed me to experiment as a producer without the constraints of label sounds and politics.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine

The Evolution of “Marktronic” Mixes

Your “Marktronic” promo mixes have been a massive hit. You recently relaunched it — how has the sound and vibe of the “Marktronic” series evolved over the years, and what can fans expect from the latest edition?

Mark Stent

When I first became serious as a DJ, I would put out weekly mixes for my supporters (in those days, putting up a download for mixes wasn't controlled or regulated). These mixes served two purposes: one, to give my supporters access to the music I played every week and two, to give me a chance to 'feel' my new records before I played them live. They became very popular and helped me grow my following.

I relaunched the series when I moved to the UK in early 2024, but the goals are different now. Marktronix is about what I'm listening to right now, the music that moves me. Without the pressures of the circuit and radio, I can now experiment with what I play and truly craft mixes that reflect where I am musically right now, as well as test out my new productions.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine

H2O and the Event Industry

You've played at some of the biggest events, including H2O. How has your experience with H2O shaped your career, and what are the ups and downs of working in the event industry, especially post-pandemic?

Mark Stent

H2O was the event that catapulted my career. It is by far my favourite gig, and it always felt like home. Dave and his team were so far ahead of the game and have consistently (for 25 years) put on some of the best shows South Africa has to offer.

What made it even more special was that it was in my home area, and I got to play for my friends and family at every event. It also gave me a platform to share my music and play alongside some of the most prominent artists to visit South Africa, for example, Avicii, Armin Van Buuren, Steve Aoki, Chris Lake, Swedish House Mafia, and the list is endless.

As cool as it is working in events, it's more complicated than people think - it's not just about the gig; a lot goes on behind the scenes - studio time, social media, sponsorship commitments, networking, brand management, etc.

Weirdly, it's also a very lonely job; you are always on the road, alone, in the studio, primarily alone and even in front of 20000 people crowds, you are alone - people want your brand, not your feelings on the day. There is a high rate of depression in artists who do this for a living. I managed to offset this by being disciplined in looking after my health and prioritizing family time.

The pandemic changed everything. For 2 years, our source of income was completely cut off, and many of us lost a lot. We were not sure if it would ever come back. It forced us to pivot and look at new and creative ways to survive.

The industry has taken a long time to recover, and I wonder if it ever will completely recover. People learned that they could still have fun at home. A whole generation of kids missed their 'partying' phase.



Proaudio Sound Press Magazine

Old School Vinyl DJ Sets

You're known for your love of vinyl and old-school DJ sets. How do you feel about the resurgence of vinyl in modern DJ culture, and what's the magic of spinning vinyl compared to digital setups?

Mark Stent

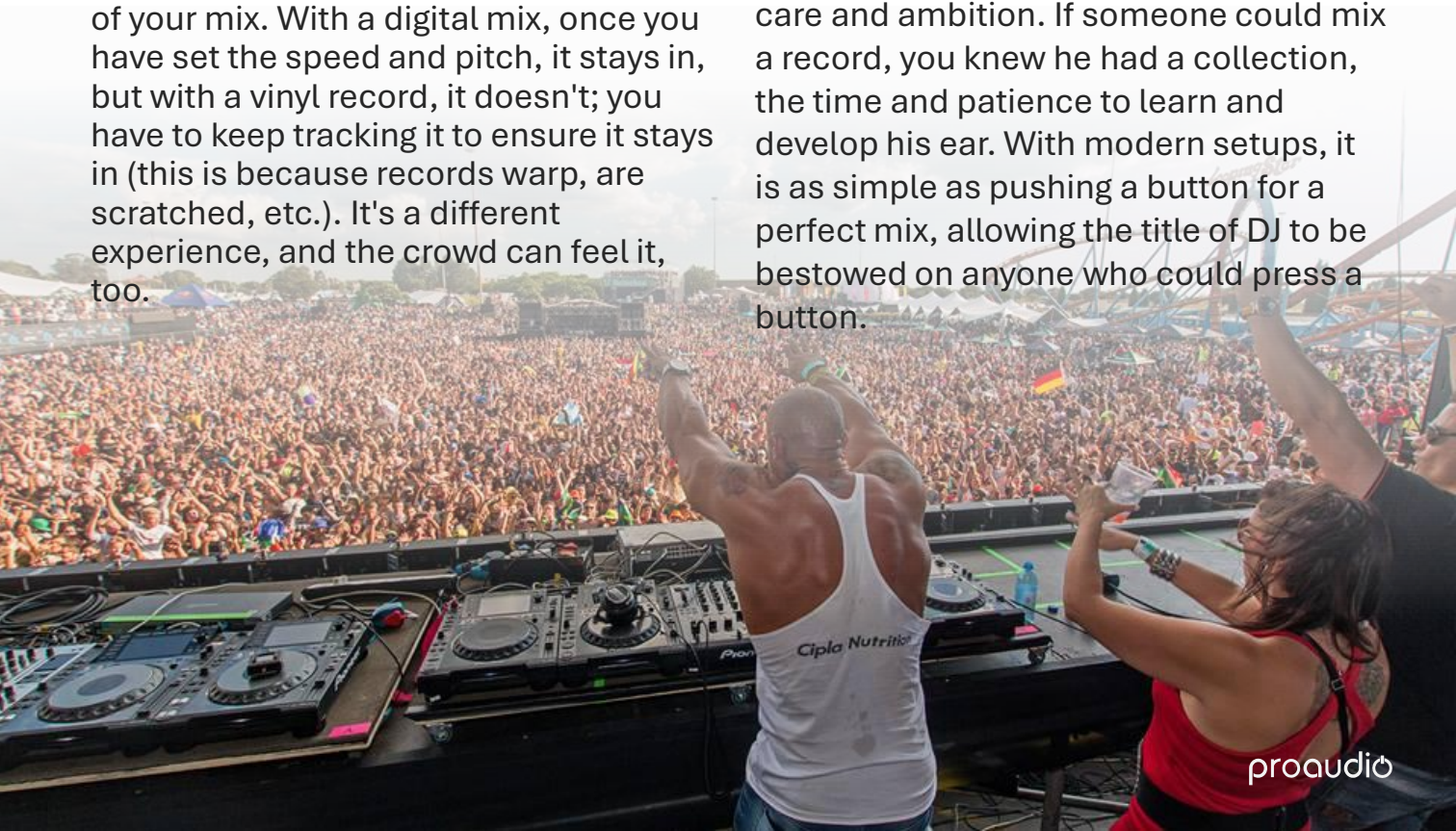
I saw a statistic recently that vinyl sales have overtaken CDs worldwide, and I understand why. Vinyl has a much warmer analogue sound and is more tactile than other forms of music storage. I think people are yearning to connect with their music again, and vinyl is the perfect medium.

As a DJ, there is something pure about mixing on vinyl - you have to be intimately connected to your record and pay attention to it for the whole duration of your mix. With a digital mix, once you have set the speed and pitch, it stays in, but with a vinyl record, it doesn't; you have to keep tracking it to ensure it stays in (this is because records warp, are scratched, etc.). It's a different experience, and the crowd can feel it, too.

Modern music is very disposable; it is short in length and has little shelf life, and there is far too much choice in which records to play. In the vinyl days, I would take a box of 80 records and be able to play 6 hours; with modern digital technology, I could have 3000 tracks on my USB and struggle to find what to play for 1 hour.

Now, I'm not hating modern tech; I love it. It gives so many more ways to mix and mash music—look at James Hype. He has taken it to a whole other level. But I love the old-school journey of mixing vinyl; it's magical, simple and real. I still have a huge record collection and I will never get rid of it, it defines me, each record is a memory of where I was in my life when that record came out. I feel fortunate to have been part of that era in DJ history.

The other thing that the vinyl culture had is that learning to mix on vinyl took time, care and ambition. If someone could mix a record, you knew he had a collection, the time and patience to learn and develop his ear. With modern setups, it is as simple as pushing a button for a perfect mix, allowing the title of DJ to be bestowed on anyone who could press a button.



Proaudio Sound Press Magazine

Global Influence

You've performed internationally, from Bahrain to the UK. How do South African audiences compare to international crowds, and what's been your most memorable experience playing abroad?

Mark Stent

South Africans are the best, but that's probably because I'm South African and connect with people like me. What I love about mature and developed dance music countries, like the UK, is that they are open to hearing more than just hits. They are interested in and excited about new things and are open to listening to a DJ express themselves. They allow the DJ to educate as well as entertain.

I have had so many experiences over the years that choosing just one is hard. My biggest event was the first Ultra South Africa, which had around 30k people. That event felt amazing just because of its sheer scale. But, as a DJ and music lover, my best experiences have been personal ones - for example, playing with Maxi Jazz from Faithless, and the SW4 afterparty in London was incredible.

I'm a huge fan. Or when I was playing in a London bar, Carl Cox showed up to play a late set unannounced. That day, I was a fan first and then one of the DJs on the lineup. I met Jensen Button and Simply Red when I played at the Bahrain F1 GrandPrix Afterparty. Surreal. My life as an artist has been filled with experiences, all of them mean something, all of them are memorable.

Proaudio Sound Press Magazine

Juggling Music and Family

You're not just a DJ but also a devoted family man. How do you balance a demanding DJ career, running Flexual Records, and being present for your family?

Mark Stent

My three daughters are the best and most grounding part of my life, and at times, it was really challenging to be consistent when I was on a plane or the road most weekends. But I always met all their milestones, made time to listen and be there for them, and tried to show up in every way I could.

I learned to manage my time and prioritize family and togetherness as I got better at it, but sadly, I still missed some birthdays and holidays. They are all grown up and have turned out to be the most incredible and strong women; I am very close to them, and being their dad is still my top priority.

Retrospectively, being a working DJ takes a heavy toll on your personal life in many ways, but no one prepares you for it, and you learn as you go. I think one of my favorite moments was taking all three of my girls to their first H2O and having them with me on the main stage while I played, what I did finally became real to them.



SWIFF
AUDIO

Coming Soon

Swift Audio is a dynamic and innovative brand specializing in high-quality audio equipment and accessories designed to inspire creativity and enhance performance.

Known for blending cutting-edge technology with sleek design, Swift offers products that cater to musicians, sound engineers, and audio enthusiasts alike. Whether you're on stage, in the studio, or at home, Swift Audio delivers reliable, versatile solutions that empower you to achieve your best sound.

Some of the products that you will see...



MODEL: WX501

SWIFF AUDIO

- 5.8G digital transmission
- Low Latency
- 30-50M effective transmission
- Anti-loss design, easy to store

DIGITAL WIRELESS SYSTEM



SWIFF AUDIO

STEREO/CUE MIC IN-EAR MONITOR WIRELESS SYSTEM

LED Display | 8-10 Hours Battery Life | 3000mAh Charging Case

WX520

SWIFF AUDIO

M1 PLUS

2x M1T + 1x M1R

WIRELESS DYNAMIC MICROPHONE SYSTEM

Tertiary noise reduction | Channel optimization | 8 hours of battery life | 50M stable transmission



SWIFF AUDIO M1R Receiver

SWIFF AUDIO M1T Transmitter

SWIFF AUDIO M1T Transmitter



SWIFF AUDIO

MINI DIGITAL WIRELESS SYSTEM

- Low Latency
- 30-50M Transmission range
- Strong Anti-interference capability

WS-70 PLUS

RECEIVER

SWIFF AUDIO WS-70 PLUS

SWIFF AUDIO WS-70 PLUS

proaudio

WX520r

SINGLE RECEIVER AVOID REPEATED PURCHASES

The WX520 wireless echo system is equipped with a receiver. If your band/team needs more receivers, you can purchase the WX520r receiver separately and use it after simple pairing. There is no need to buy a complete set of wireless listening equipment to avoid waste.





WX503

— DIGITAL WIRELESS SYSTEM —

P200

Lower noise power supply

With PQ transformers, 8 sets of pure independent output, minimize the noise generated by the power supply



S100

MULTIFUNCTIONAL MUSICAL INSTRUMENT SPEAKER

80W high power | 5.8G digital transmission | 5200mAh battery capacity | 5 hours battery life



2TX+1RX Wireless microphone system

Intelligent noise reduction

Super clear radio



proaudio

Are you mixing with the right company?

Pioneer Dj  **AlphaTheta**

 **audio-technica** **dBTechnologies**



MIDAS



SONANCE
BEYOND SOUND

 **Turbosound**



ENOVA TANNOY

LAB.GRUPPEN  **SOUND TOWN**

Blackstar
AMPLIFICATION

Carry-on

Epiphone *Gibson*

KRAMER
Guitars

proaudio.co.za