

proaudio DJ GEAR, PROFESSIONAL AUDIO

# sound PRESS

JUNE 2025

**A tribute to**  
**WEHBBA**



Youth Day is celebrated across South Africa with various music festivals,

**BIGGEST**  
**YOUNG ARTISTS in SA**  
KAY-DEE & DJ Sophia



**Darren Scott**

His voice may be gone, but his spirit and impact will live on in the hearts of South Africans.

**Precision  
in Sound**

Midas Heritage-D Training &  
Turbosound Demonstration  
Raise the Bar at Proaudio

**A Masterpiece  
for Vinyl Lovers**

Pinnacle of Turntable  
design – **AT-LPS2**

**Pioneer Dj**  
with the **GEAR YOU NEED**



“I’ve always tried to make music that I love and that I’d like to play and listen to myself. Only then other people would do the same, I believe.”

WEHBBA



# WELCOME

to the **JUNE 2025 Edition**  
of **proaudio**  
**Sound Press Magazine!**

We're excited to bring you the June edition of Proaudio Sound Press Magazine, packed with stories, talent, and the latest gear.

This month's cover star is the legendary Wehbba—a true force in global techno. We honour his journey and passion, alongside features on DJ Kay-Dee and DJ Sophia, two rising stars making waves in South Africa's music scene.

We cover the Ultra Music Festival in Cape Town, AlphaTheta at IMS Ibiza, and reflect on the importance of Youth Day in South Africa. We also pay tribute to the life and legacy of Darren Scott, a voice that will be deeply missed.

For the gear lovers, we showcase standout products like the Pioneer DJ XDJ-XZ, XDJ-1000MK2, HDJ-X5, the rare AT-LPA2, Midas HD96-AIR, HK Audio Sonar 115 Xi, and the Swift Audio In-Ear Monitoring System. Plus, we cover the Midas Heritage-D training hosted by Proaudio.

**Keep the music alive**

**Proaudio Sound Press Team**

# sound PRESS

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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.



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WEHBBA



In the pulsating world of electronic music, few names resonate with the same depth and intensity as Wehbba.

A master craftsman behind the decks and in the studio, **Wehbba** has carved a unique path from his early days in São Paulo, Brazil, to becoming one of the most respected names on the global techno circuit.

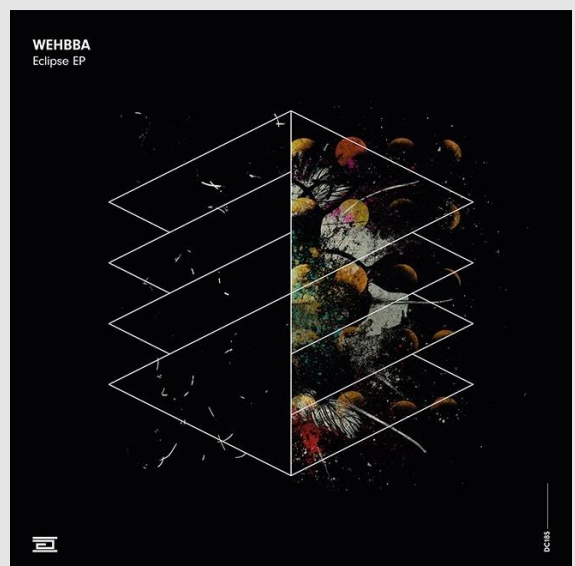
Born Rodolfo Wehba, his story is one of passion, precision, and an unrelenting commitment to his craft. Starting his career in dentistry—a far cry from the smoky dancefloors of underground clubs—Wehbba found his true calling in music. He took the plunge, trading dental drills for drum machines, and the world has been grateful ever since.

Wehbba's sound is a symphony of contrasts: hypnotic yet driving, complex yet accessible, raw yet refined. His music speaks to the soul of the dancefloor, blending intricate grooves with powerful basslines that command attention. Releases on labels like Drumcode, Bedrock, Systematic, and Tronic have solidified his place among the legends, with standout tracks like "Eclipse" earning praise from heavyweights such as Carl Cox and Adam Beyer.

## WEHBBA ECLIPSE



DRUMCODE  
RECORDS

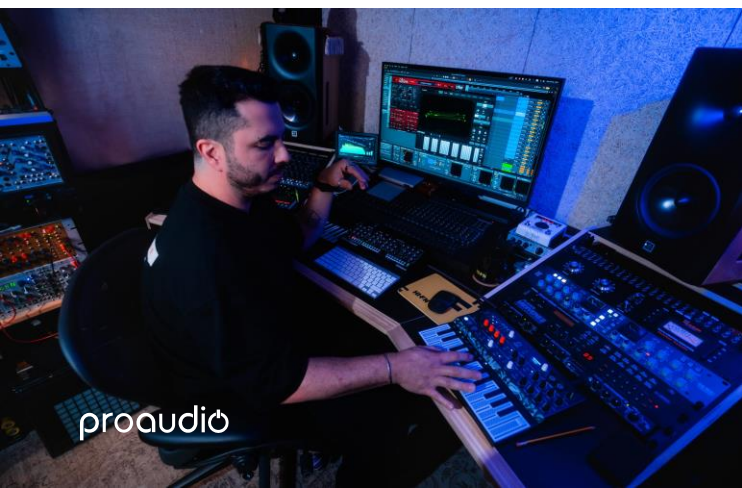




What sets Wehbba apart is not just his music, but his philosophy. He is a relentless explorer, pushing the boundaries of sound design, shunning shortcuts, and building every element of his tracks from the ground up. His dedication to originality shines through in his work—a refusal to follow trends and a determination to lead instead.

Offstage, Wehbba is a thinker and a teacher, sharing his insights into production, sound design, and the art of crafting a DJ set.

His humility, paired with a fierce commitment to his art, makes him not only a celebrated artist but an inspiration to the next generation of DJs and producers.





As Wehbba graces the cover of this June edition of *Proaudio Sound Press Magazine*, we celebrate an artist who embodies the spirit of music at its purest—a passion unbound by convention, a sound that moves bodies and souls alike. His story reminds us that the pursuit of creativity is a journey without limits, and that true artistry is born from courage, curiosity, and an unshakable love for the music.

Wehbba's name has become synonymous with innovation in techno, and as he continues to push the envelope, we're reminded that some journeys, like his, are destined to leave a lasting imprint on the world.





Today, we're here to talk about his latest project, **"Studio Dump,"** a bold new album that breaks away from traditional production norms. Instead of over-polishing, Wehbba has embraced spontaneity — releasing raw, unfiltered tracks that capture the essence of his creative process.

In this interview, we'll dive into the inspiration behind "Studio Dump," explore his creative methods, and learn about the gear that helped shape this unique body of work.

**sound  
PRESS**

**"Studio Dump" seems to capture the raw, unfiltered side of your creative process. Can you share the moment that sparked the concept for this album and how it aligns with the 'photo dump' trend on social media?**



I think that social media is a thing that now permeates our day to day very prominently but also kind of subconsciously, and it has changed the landscape of electronic music culture in such a way, especially since the pandemic,

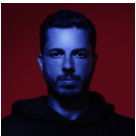
but actually creating a project that is based on those very tools from social media and how people consume culture in them. Ever since I've created HIFN, it's been my goal to dive deeper into my artistic vision, beyond just making and performing music, and exploring different sides of art and culture in general.

So with the STUDIO DUMP 05.25 I wanted to embrace the ephemeral quality of online presence in different realms, from the music making to how I would distribute the album and how I would share any content during the release period.





**From a technical standpoint, can you walk us through your studio setup for "Studio Dump"? Which synths, drum machines, and plugins played a key role in shaping the album's sound?**



I've used most of my tools while developing these tracks, but also a whole lot of things were done "in the box", and I tried to pull it all off without a post-production phase, so there wasn't any mixing or mastering sessions for the whole album, it was all done in the moment, while creating the tracks, in their own projects.

If there were any tools that were used in most tracks, I'd have to quote mostly plugins, Xfer Serum, Kilohearts Phase Plant, Sonic Academy Kick 3, Softube Model 82 and Sonic Charge Microtonic.

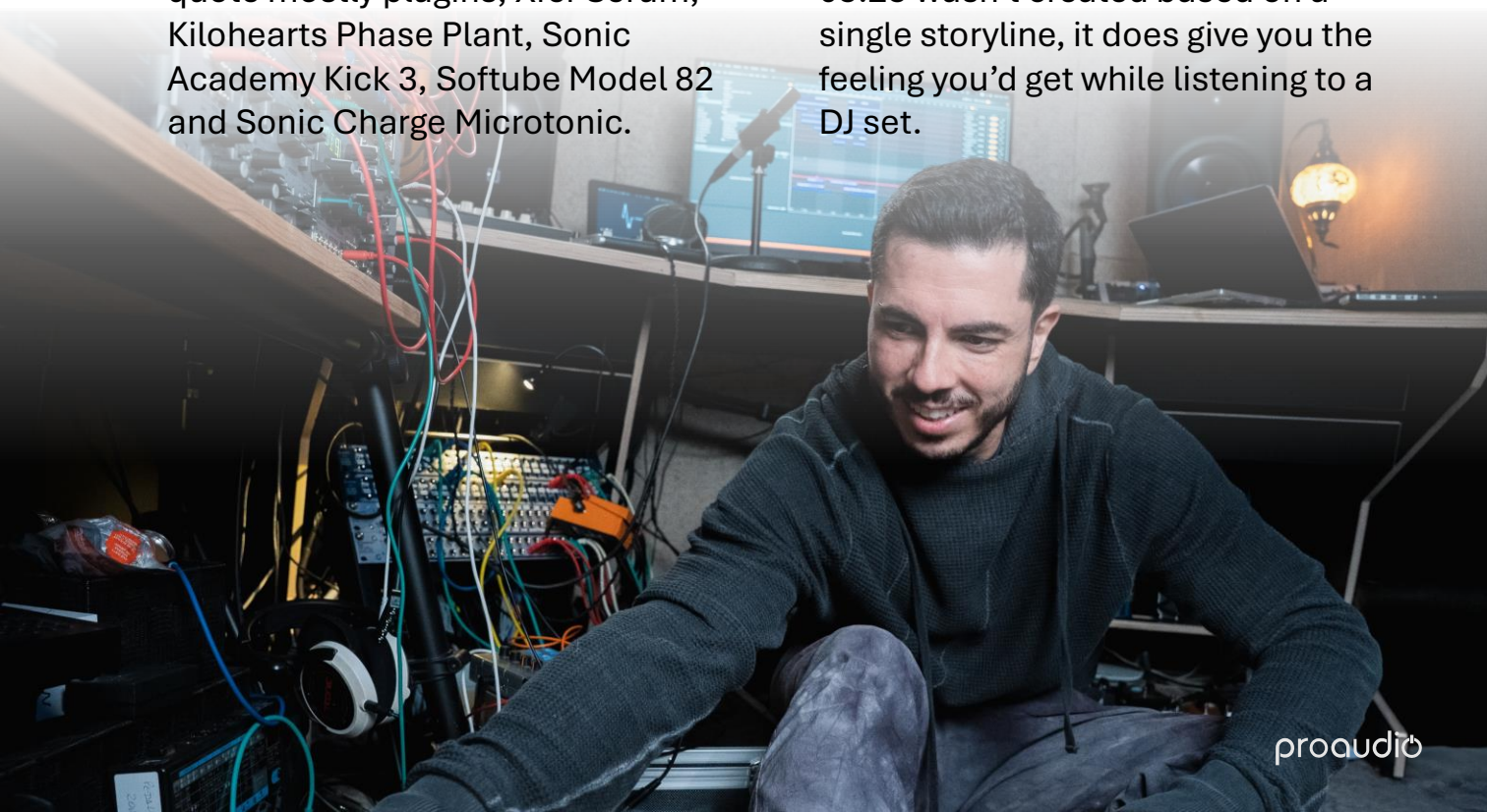


**The tracks in "Studio Dump" are designed to serve specific moments in a DJ or live set. How do you decide which sonic ideas are meant to disrupt, reset, or drive the energy of a set? Is it a deliberate process or purely instinctual?**



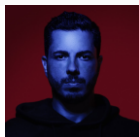
It's purely instinctual, and after 20+ years of DJing you kind of develop your own way of creating those moments in your own sets, and if you're a producer as well you can create what you feel that is lacking in your music library to be able to achieve that.

Even so, I've also tried to create a collection of tracks that made sense when played in a sequence, so if even though STUDIO DUMP 05.25 wasn't created based on a single storyline, it does give you the feeling you'd get while listening to a DJ set.



**sound  
PRESS**

As a prolific producer who has collaborated with names like Laurent Garnier, Danny Tenaglia, and Stephan Bodzin, how has your approach to sound design evolved over the years, leading to the raw, instinctive style of "Studio Dump"?



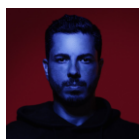
I'm constantly researching and learning, trying to develop new techniques based on whatever new technologies appear, trying to optimize my workflow to be able to fully realize my ideas with more fidelity and wasting less time and energy on things that aren't helping the creative process.

I've had to learn to embrace plugins and working in the box so that I can work while I'm on the road, otherwise my output would be a lot less frequent, and since I've started HIFN I wanted to express myself a lot more than I could the past few years, so I couldn't depend on being in my studio all of the time, I had to be more flexible, and slowly but surely I'm getting there.

Working on STUDIO DUMP 05.25 was a big challenge that really pushed me to keep working no matter where I was, so that I could finalise everything once I reached the studio all at once.

**sound  
PRESS**

In "Studio Dump," you lean away from the traditional polished album structure. Do you think this reflects a broader shift in how electronic music is consumed in the digital era? Do you see this approach becoming a new norm for artists?



I can't really tell, but I feel that it's what's already happening. And that's why instead of shifting away from this and just be angry about it, I've decided to embrace it fully and experience in my own skin what that's like, learning from each step and seeing how it can benefit my own artistic expression and get as much growth out of this experience as possible.





**HIFN has been an important platform for you, not just as a label but as a multi-art platform. How does the concept of HIFN influence your creative decisions, especially in projects like "Studio Dump"?**



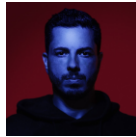
HIFN is not just an important platform for me, it IS me.

It's what I'm all about as an artist, it's about freedom in art, it's about being open and sharing knowledge, collaborating, learning, exploring concepts, and STUDIO DUMP is one big opportunity to do all of that in one single project.

Being able to share my findings and exchange ideas within the HIFN Community on Patreon every chance I get is extremely fulfilling for me, the listening parties leading up to the album release were really inspiring, and I like to think that stuff like this is what keeps our culture alive, beyond the business and the hedonistic aspects of it, and this is what keeps me going and keeps me inspired after all these years.

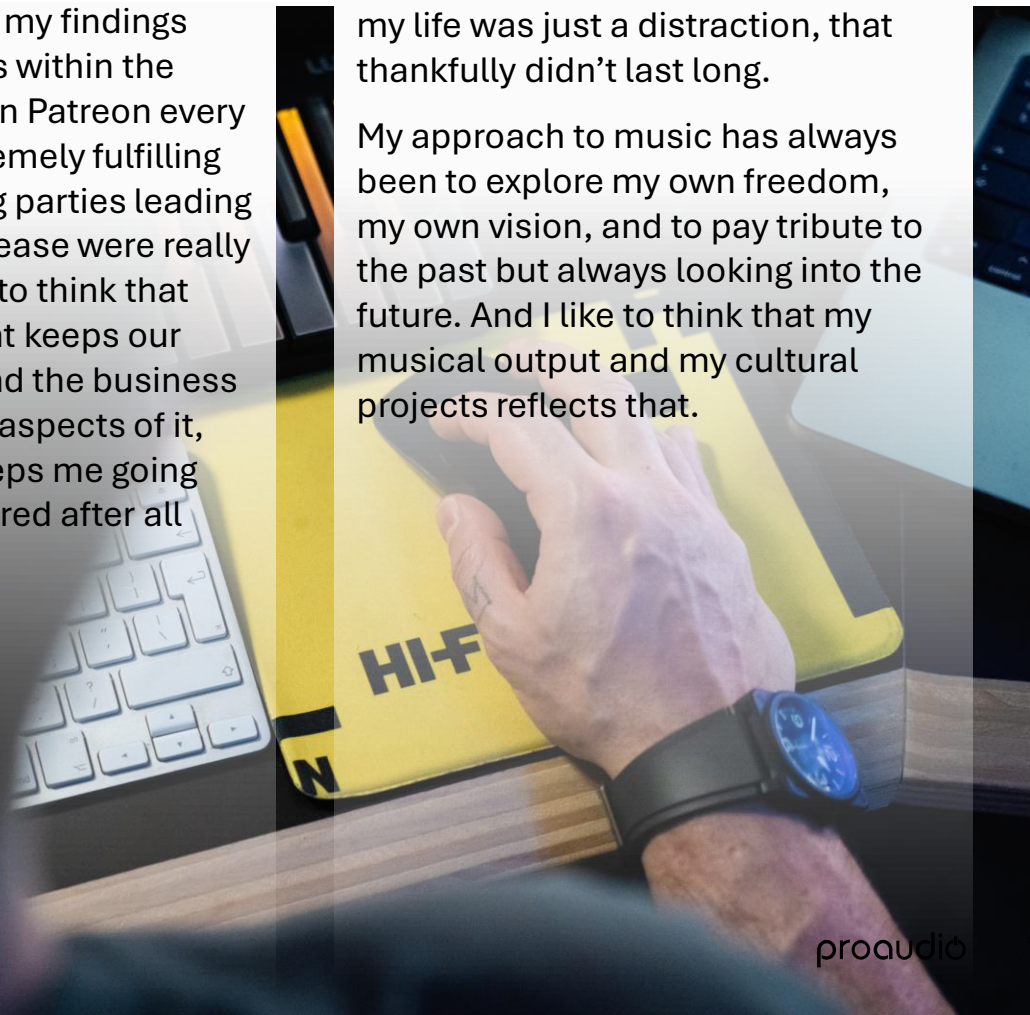


**Wehbba, you're recognized as one of Brazil's leading electronic music ambassadors, with a career spanning over a decade and a journey that took you from being a dentist in São Paulo to a globally renowned DJ and producer now based in Lisbon. Looking back, how did this transformation shape your approach to music, especially in raw, unfiltered projects like 'Studio Dump'?**



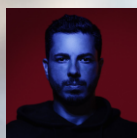
I don't think it was ever a transformation, I was born for art and music, and anything else that happened beyond that in my life was just a distraction, that thankfully didn't last long.

My approach to music has always been to explore my own freedom, my own vision, and to pay tribute to the past but always looking into the future. And I like to think that my musical output and my cultural projects reflects that.



**sound**  
**PRESS**

**For emerging producers looking to build their own distinct sound like you have, what advice would you give regarding the balance between technical precision and raw, spontaneous creativity?**



I think the focus should always be on creativity.

Technical precision comes with time and experience and it's not a limiting factor to being able to create, even though having technical prowess can help you explore and apply different techniques to your creations, nowadays with modern tools and samples, it's very easy to have a great and competitive sound, without having too much knowledge about engineering and sound design.

So always focusing on creating your own artistic vision would be the best way to go.





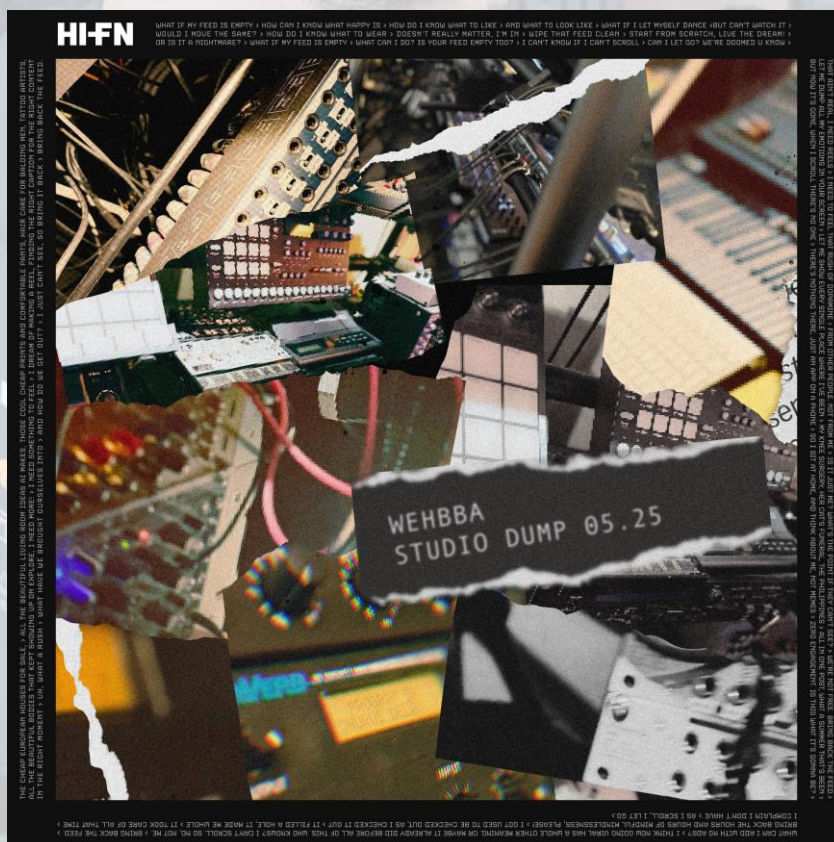
# WEHBBA – Studio Dump

Out now via HIFN

No strategy. No roadmap. Just raw sound.

**Studio Dump** is Wehbba's unfiltered album—a spontaneous release of sonic sketches created in the moment, reflecting the chaos and creativity of the social media era.

Each track is a fragment of energy, a snapshot of instinct before the mind kicks in. This is music in its purest form—immediate, imperfect, alive.



## Tracklist:

- |                        |                                     |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. FEED WORDSCAPE      | 6. BRAIN CONFUSION                  |
| 2. RENN                | 7. MIRAGE (feat. Misstress Barbara) |
| 3. EXIT TIME           | 8. ESSENCE                          |
| 4. RESPECT THE PROCESS | 9. SYMMETRY                         |
| 5. SYNTHETICS          | 10. TRACTION                        |



# Ultra Music Festival

Lights Up Cape Town





**Cape Town** once again proved itself a global hotspot for electronic music as **Ultra South Africa 2025** roared into town, delivering a spectacular experience that left fans in awe.

Held at the iconic **Kenilworth Racecourse**, the Cape Town leg of this dual-city festival welcomed thousands of partygoers ready to dance, connect, and celebrate the power of music.

This year's lineup was stacked with international heavyweights, including **Armin van Buuren**, **Hardwell**, and **Fisher**, each delivering high-voltage sets that lit up the stage and the crowd. Local heroes also had their moment to shine, with South African DJs like **Kyle Cassim**, **Lady Lea**, and **Abby Nurock** showcasing the vibrant talent within the country's ever-growing EDM scene.







But Ultra is more than just music—it's a multisensory experience. With breathtaking visuals, explosive pyrotechnics, cutting-edge lighting rigs, and world-class sound systems, the production value was second to none. Every drop, every beat, every build-up was amplified by immersive staging that turned the racecourse into a pulsating wonderland of light and sound.

Festival-goers, decked out in their boldest outfits and festival gear, danced long into the night under the Cape Town sky. Whether you were a first-timer or a veteran raver, the sense of unity on the dancefloor was unmistakable—proving once again that Ultra isn't just an event, it's a movement.

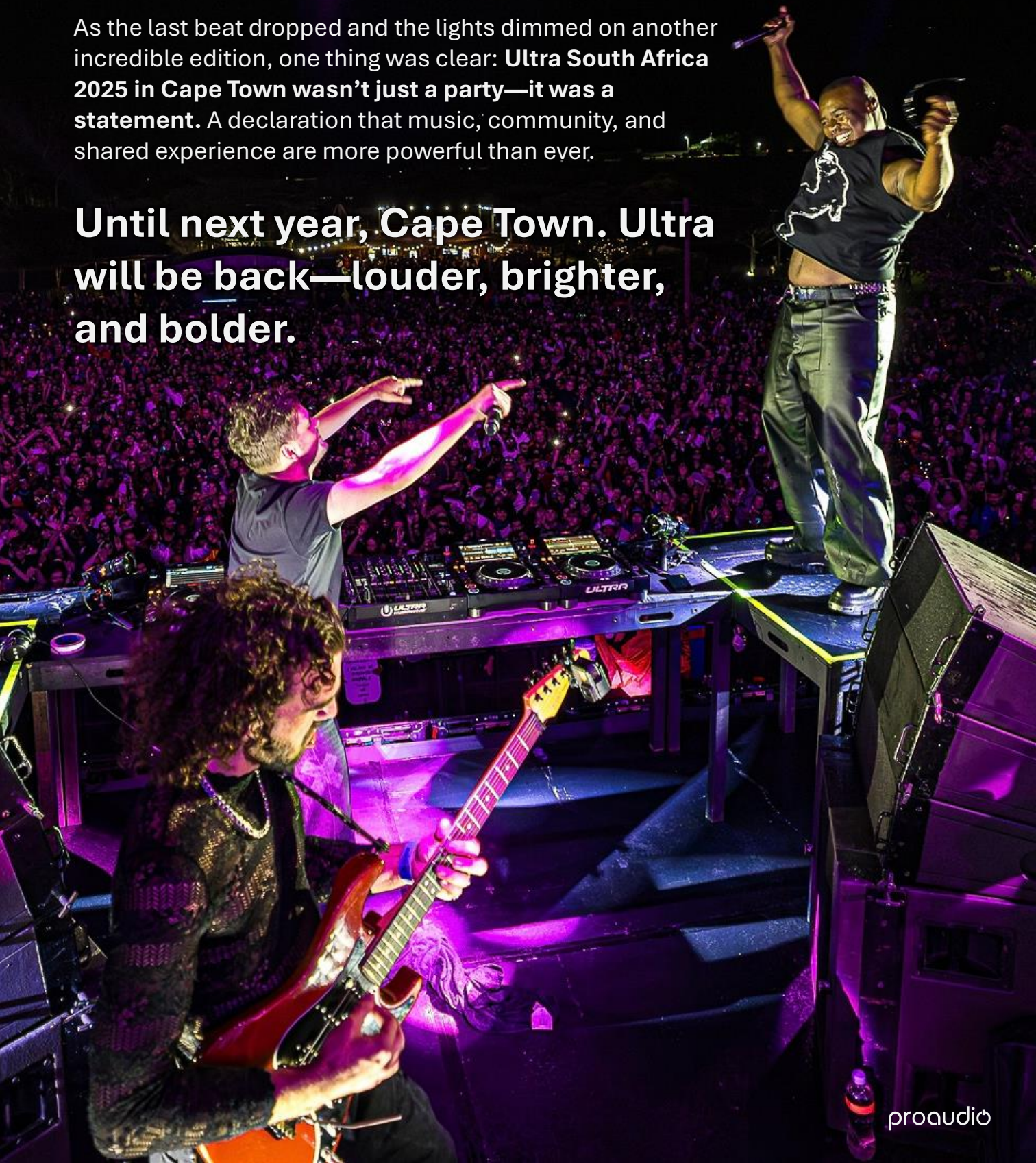




From the seamless logistics and slick stage transitions to the food vendors, chill zones, and safety measures, the festival organisers showed why Ultra South Africa remains a world-class production on the global circuit.

As the last beat dropped and the lights dimmed on another incredible edition, one thing was clear: **Ultra South Africa 2025 in Cape Town wasn't just a party—it was a statement.** A declaration that music, community, and shared experience are more powerful than ever.

**Until next year, Cape Town. Ultra will be back—louder, brighter, and bolder.**







# PRECISION IN SOUND

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Midas Heritage-D Training & Turbosound Demonstration Raise the Bar at Proaudio

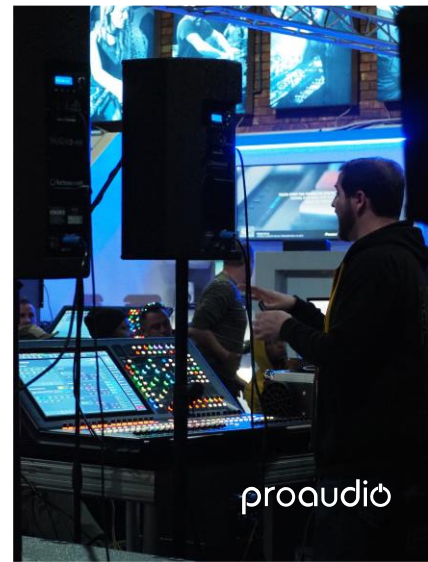




**ON 13 MAY 2025,**

**Proaudio HQ** became a hub of learning, sound, and connection as audio professionals from across the country gathered for a full day of **Midas system training** and a **Turbosound live demo** that delivered serious impact.

The day began with an intensive **Midas Heritage-D training session**, led by product expert **Sam Woods**. Attendees were given a deep dive into the flagship console's workflow, signal routing, and dynamic processing capabilities. With its powerful platform and refined interface, the Heritage-D proved why it remains a go-to for top-tier engineers working across broadcast, touring, and live production.





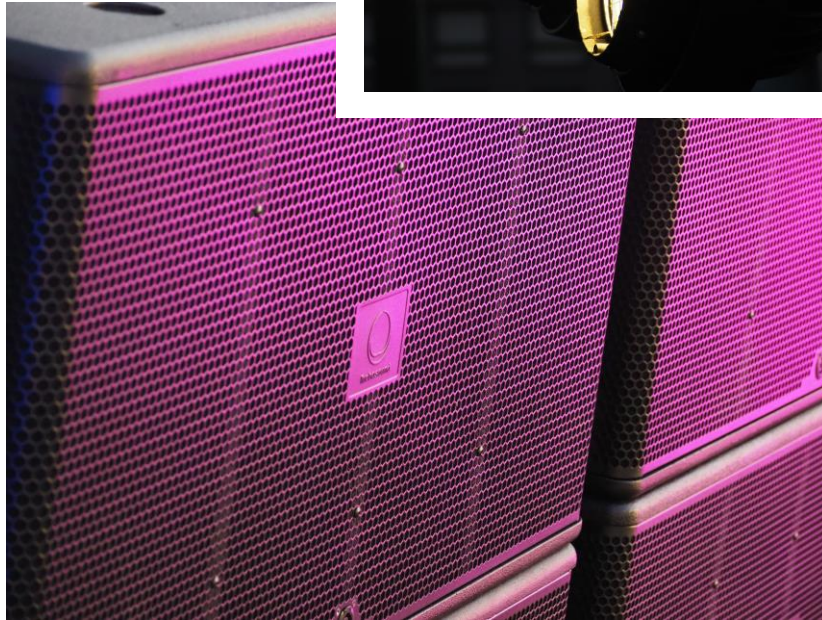
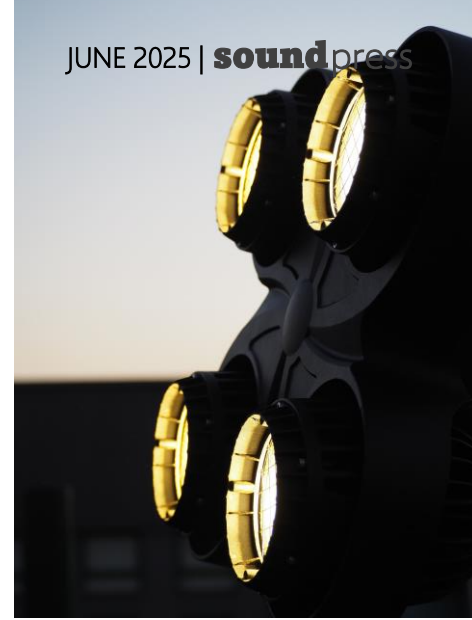


While the training took place, guests enjoyed **a generous offering of coffee, chai, hot chocolate, cooldrinks, snacks, and light meals**, all of which created an inviting space for learning, networking, and community building.

In the **late afternoon**, **Sam, David Cole**, and **Gareth** departed for Cape Town to conduct the next day's training—demonstrating Proaudio's national commitment to hands-on learning and technical support.







As the sun began to set, the **Proaudio team stepped in to welcome dealers from around South Africa**, who arrived eager to experience the **Turbosound demonstration** in full force.

Outside, the stage was set. With **MV212 and MV212-XV line array elements, MS218 subwoofers, and Lab Gruppen PLM12K44 amplification**, the **Turbosound Manchester Series** filled the space with remarkable power, balance, and clarity.

Alongside it, the **Turbosound NuQ system** impressed with its portability and punch—ideal for mobile setups, smaller venues, and installations needing reliable performance without compromise.



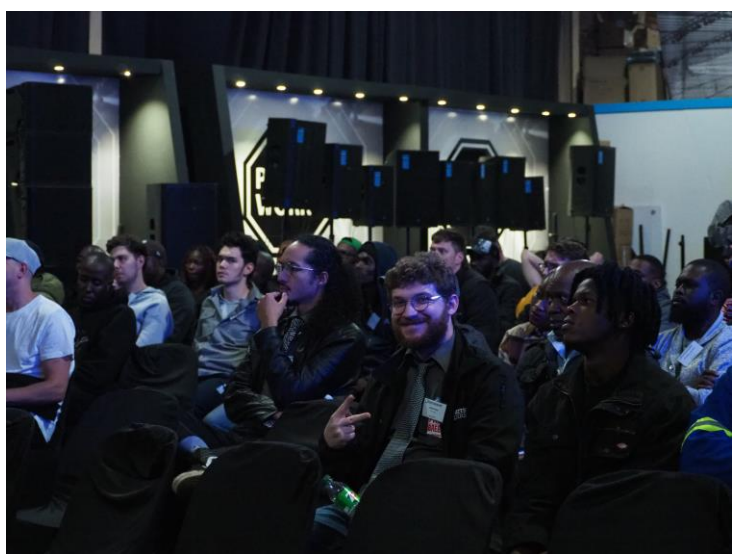




**The evening was cool and crisp, but the sound outside was enormous—and the cold was forgotten very easily.** The system roared to life under the night sky, and the sense of scale and sonic detail left a lasting impression on everyone present.

As the music played on, guests were treated to **hot/cold beverages and pizza**, rounding off the event in true Proaudio style—where world-class audio meets genuine hospitality.

It was a reminder that great gear is only part of the story—what brings it to life is the community behind it.







More than just a demo, the event was a showcase of **Proaudio's commitment to excellence, education, and nationwide dealer support.**



# The Gap Between Bedroom and Club

XDJ-AZ 4-channel professional all-in-one DJ system





# If you've ever dreamed

of stepping behind the decks in a club, or felt the excitement of watching DJs on the big stage and thought, “*I want to do that,*” the Pioneer DJ XDJ-AZ is your perfect next step. It takes the best parts of the flagship CDJ-3000 and DJM-A9—Pioneer DJ’s club-standard equipment—and puts them into a single, easy-to-use system designed for DJs who are ready to take their craft to the next level.

Think of the XDJ-AZ as the sweet spot between the simplicity of the XDJ-RX3 and the full professional setup of a CDJ-3000 and DJM-A9. The RX3 is a fantastic system for home use, live streams, and small events, but the XDJ-AZ brings you closer to the real club experience. It’s like going from a great practice field to the actual stadium—the feeling is different, and it shows in your performance.



**The XDJ-AZ’s full-size jog wheels feel just like those on the CDJ-3000.**

They’re big, smooth, and responsive, so when you scratch, pitch bend, or nudge a track, you feel completely in control—no surprises, no compromises. If you’ve been using a controller like the DDJ-FLX4 or FLX6, you’ll immediately notice the difference in feel and responsiveness. The XDJ-AZ gives you the muscle memory you’ll need when you eventually step up to a full club setup, so you’re ready for anything.

The mixer section is equally impressive. Modeled on the DJM-A9, it puts every knob, fader, and button exactly where you’d expect to find them in a pro booth. This means you can build your confidence and workflow on the XDJ-AZ, and when you stand in front of a DJM-A9 in a club, it’ll feel like you’ve already been there.



Features like the Beat FX section are designed to be intuitive, with dedicated buttons that make it easy to add effects and take your sets from good to unforgettable.

Whether you're building tension with a reverb, dropping a filter sweep, or adding that perfect echo, the XDJ-AZ makes it feel natural and effortless.

Another feature that sets the XDJ-AZ apart is its focus on playability and performance. The layout is designed so you can mix with freedom, without the clutter of unnecessary controls.

It's a system that encourages you to experiment, get creative, and discover your style. You can master the basics and then push into more advanced techniques without needing to learn a whole new workflow when you upgrade to club gear.





#djgear

JUNE 2025 | **sound**press



proaudio









## Legacy in the Mix

DJ KAY-DEE on Youth, Vinyl, and the Beat That Drives Her

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In celebration of Youth Month, *SoundPress* turns up the volume with one of South Africa's fastest-rising DJ talents — **DJ KAY-DEE**. With a Red Bull van set at Plett Rage, a shared lineup with global icon Laidback Luke, and rankings that speak for themselves, she's a force on the decks and a voice of her generation.

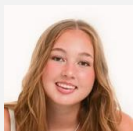
More than just beats and drops, KAY-DEE's journey is rooted in legacy, powered by family, and driven by a love for music that's impossible to ignore. In this exclusive feature, she opens up about the gigs, the grind, and the father who lit the spark.





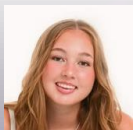
**sound PRESS** Congratulations on the new car with the sound system!

Are you now travelling to gigs with your own ride, and how did you manage before?



Thank you and eventually I have wheels. Yes, I am travelling to my own gigs and my CDJS are in separate flight cases, so it makes life so much easier. Before I got my driver's license, my father would accompany me to all my gigs. I started DJ'ing at a very young age and my safety was always his first priority. He also assisted me with video footage at my events that I could use on my social media platforms. If I require more gear, I simply take his bakkie. Thanks DAD.

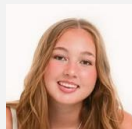
**sound PRESS** You recently played at the Wynberg Festival — how was that experience?



The experience was great and what made it special was that the date of the event fell on my birthday. That evening, I had another event playing for Valley of Light, so it was quite an unforgettable day!

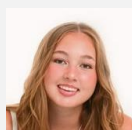
**sound PRESS** At Plett Rage, you performed from the iconic Red Bull van!

What was that like, and how was the overall Rage experience?



My performance at the Red Bull van was actually a last-minute gig and it is quite a funny story that led me to play there. My overall Plett Rage experience was amazing, and I will treasure the memories.

**sound PRESS** We just saw your name on a lineup with Laidback Luke — how did that opportunity come about?



The organiser of the event contacted my manager. Unfortunately, the event was postponed, and I am hopeful that it will take place later this year with even bigger artists on the line-up. The event is a fundraiser for a 22-year-old girl with a brain tumour and a 13-year-old boy with a heart condition. If only there can be enough support for the event to help these individuals.



**sound  
PRESS**

**Your DJ rankings are climbing steadily: 7th in South Africa, 8th in Africa, and 390th globally. What's your secret to consistently rising through the ranks?**



I have to give a huge shout out to the people on my Promo groups, and I constantly annoy my family to vote for me.

**sound  
PRESS**

**Many people are curious about the meaning behind your DJ name — can you tell us the story of KAY-DEE?**



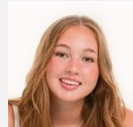
My DJ name, Kay-Dee is a tribute to my father's enduring spirit and his own DJ name, DEE-LITE. The DEE in KAY-DEE represents the radiant light he shone upon my path, guiding me towards the rhythm and passion that now fuels my journey.

KAY-DEE is more than a name- it's a bridge connecting our love for music, our shared dreams, and the cherished memories we've created.

Every performance is a testament to his inspiration, a chance to make him proud and keep his light burning bright.

**sound  
PRESS**

**What kind of impact has your father's legacy had on your journey as a DJ?**

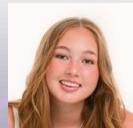


I can remember my father DJ'ing at home and me being extremely young. I would

always go stand with him and watch him spin the wheels of the CDJ's. He inspired and pushed me to do DJ courses over weekends and during the evenings whilst still at school and I will always be very grateful for him always standing behind me.

**sound  
PRESS**

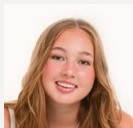
**Not many people know this, but you can play vinyl too — where did you learn, and do you still enjoy spinning on decks?**



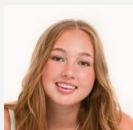
Yes, that is another chapter of my DJ career that I really enjoy. I did some vinyl classes with Gremlin and are very fortunate to have vinyl at home too.



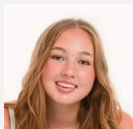


**sound  
PRESS****What's been the biggest challenge for you as a young DJ in South Africa?**

I started my DJ career at an extremely young age and it's not easy to be a female in this industry. You must work extremely hard and ensure that you always stand out and bring something different to every event.

**sound  
PRESS****What's your message to other young DJs and creatives this Youth Month?**

Keep pushing, believe in yourself, work hard, and remember, age doesn't matter.

**sound  
PRESS****How has your community supported you throughout your journey?**

I am extremely thankful for my Instagram and Facebook followers who has helped me in my dj career and promoted and shared my social media posts. Without their continuous support, I would not have been where I am today.



## What exciting projects or gigs do you have lined up next?



I am playing at an international event – DASH BERLIN LIVE @ ROXY and then I have a lot of private functions lined up for the rest of the year (weddings, birthday parties, etc). Projects..... not going to elaborate right now, so maybe just watch this space.





# A Timeless Classic for Digital DJs

Pioneer DJ XDJ-1000MK2



# Released in 2016

the Pioneer DJ XDJ-1000MK2 may not be the newest kid on the block, but it's still a serious player in the world of digital DJing. Technology moves fast, but some products are built to stand the test of time—and the XDJ-1000MK2 is one of them.

For DJs who want professional features without the premium price tag of the flagship models, this unit continues to deliver.

The XDJ-1000MK2 shares a lot with the legendary CDJ-2000NXS2. It offers a familiar layout that feels right at home for DJs who have experience with Pioneer's gear, and it's intuitive enough for beginners ready to level up.

The full-size jog wheel gives you the tactile feedback you need for smooth pitch bending and scratching, while the 7-inch full-color touchscreen makes browsing tracks, setting cues, and using performance features simple and fun.

It's a clean, well-organized interface that keeps you focused on the music.





One of the standout features of the XDJ-1000MK2 is its support for high-resolution audio formats like FLAC and ALAC, so you can play tracks up to 48kHz/24-bit. This means your music sounds as crisp and detailed as possible, which is a big deal when you're playing for an audience that appreciates quality sound.

Performance-wise, the XDJ-1000MK2 gives you a lot to work with. It comes with 8 Hot Cues, letting you jump to key moments in a track on the fly. Beat Jump, Quantize, and Slip Mode add creative possibilities, whether you're crafting transitions or layering effects in real-time. It's a system that encourages experimentation and allows you to develop your own style.

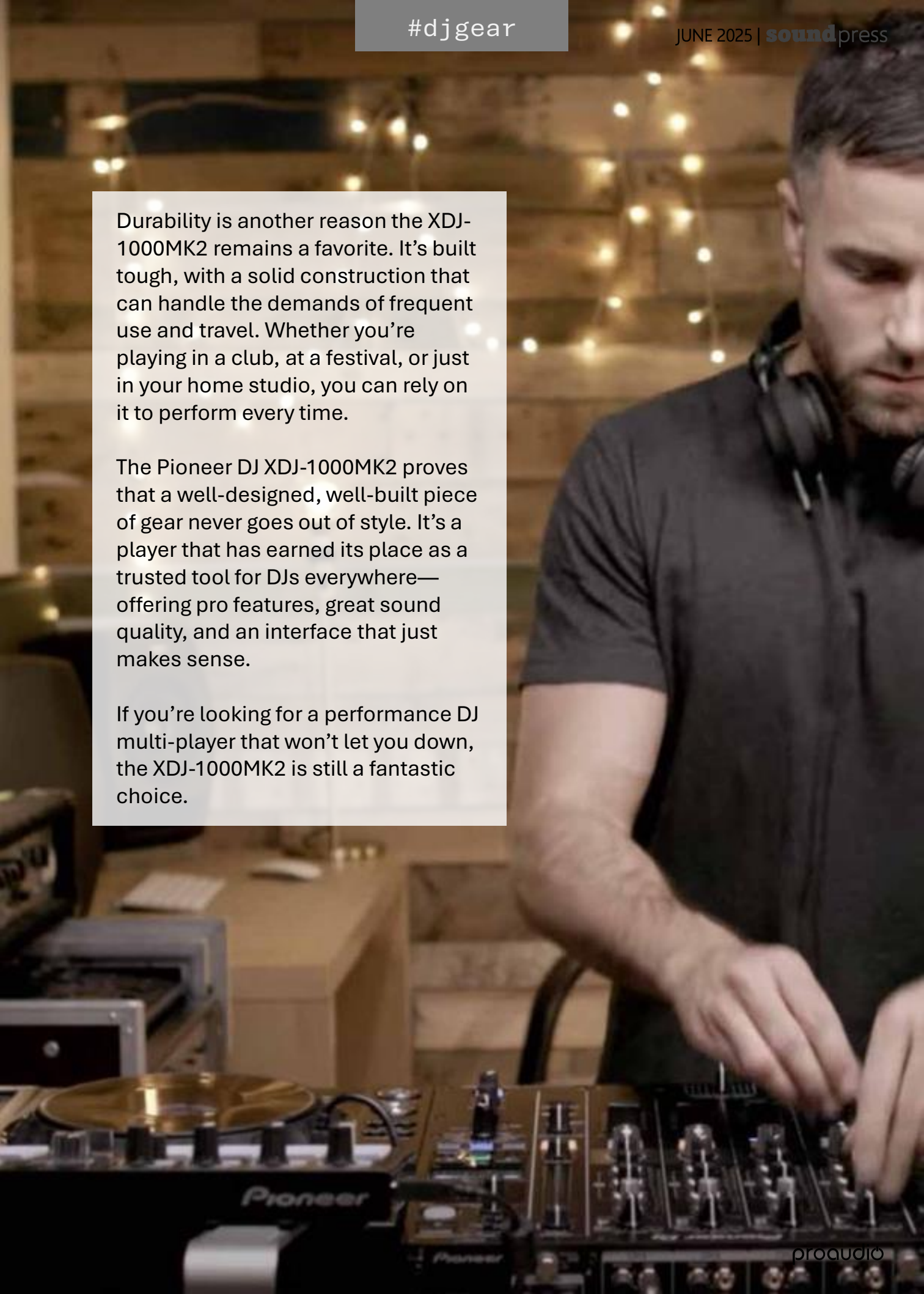
Integration with rekordbox is seamless. Prepare your playlists, cues, and loops on rekordbox, then plug in your USB and go. And with Pro DJ Link, you can connect up to four players or laptops via LAN, making it easy to sync tracks and share information across your setup—just like you'd see in a club environment.



Durability is another reason the XDJ-1000MK2 remains a favorite. It's built tough, with a solid construction that can handle the demands of frequent use and travel. Whether you're playing in a club, at a festival, or just in your home studio, you can rely on it to perform every time.

The Pioneer DJ XDJ-1000MK2 proves that a well-designed, well-built piece of gear never goes out of style. It's a player that has earned its place as a trusted tool for DJs everywhere—offering pro features, great sound quality, and an interface that just makes sense.

If you're looking for a performance DJ multi-player that won't let you down, the XDJ-1000MK2 is still a fantastic choice.





# Dalt Vila Transformed

IMS Ibiza Unites the Global DJ Community

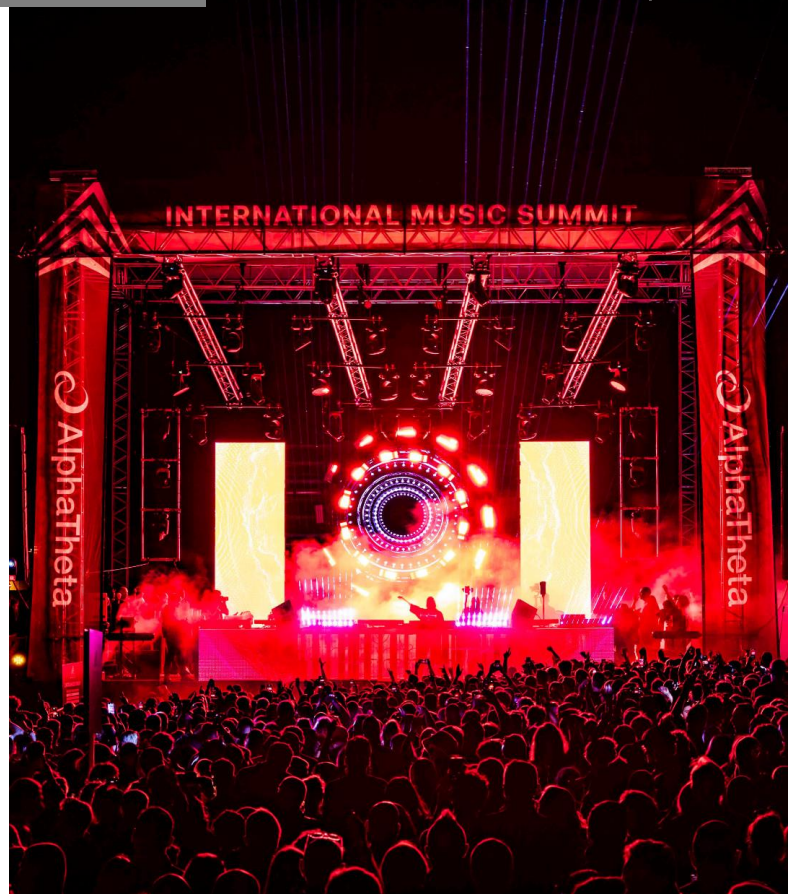




Each year, the International Music Summit (IMS) in Ibiza closes with one of the most unique and visually stunning events in the global electronic music calendar — a full-scale open-air celebration held within the ancient stone walls of **Dalt Vila**, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**. For one unforgettable night, centuries-old architecture is illuminated with LED walls, state-of-the-art sound systems, and a lineup of international talent that reads like a who's who of the DJ world.

The 2025 edition of **IMS Dalt Vila** continued this tradition with a lineup that spanned genres, generations, and continents. From the seasoned techno command of **Paco Osuna**, to the infectious Latin-infused sets of **HUGEL**, and the soulful selections of **Bradley Zero**, the stage was a melting pot of musical styles.

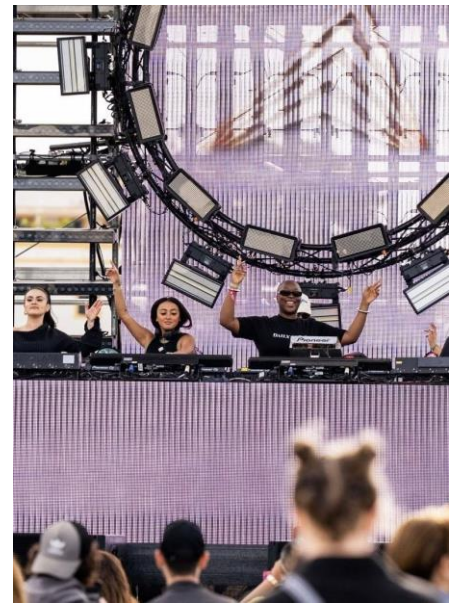
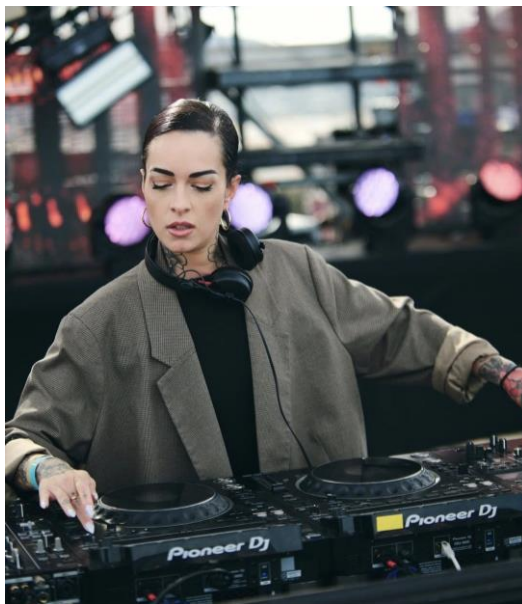
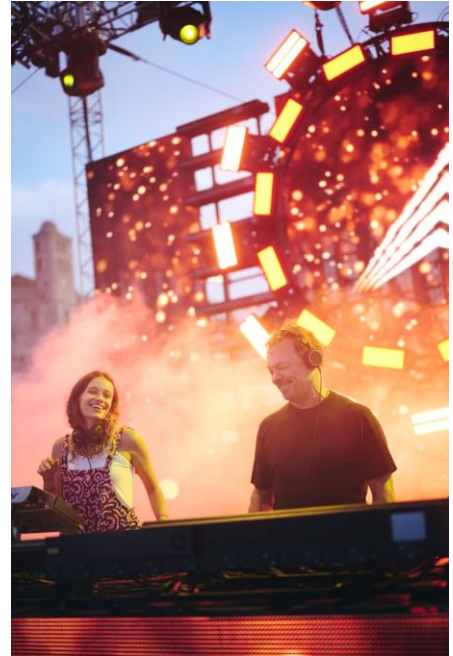
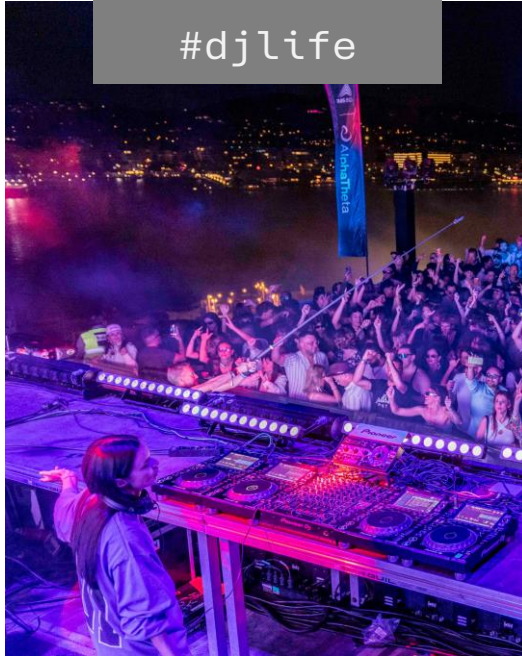
Rising talents like **Deer Jade** and **Girls Don't Sync** brought fresh perspective, while heavyweights like **Pete Tong** and **Miss Monique** delivered electrifying sets that reminded everyone why Ibiza is the heartbeat of global dance culture.





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#djlife





But it wasn't just about the artists — the gear took center stage too. Performances throughout the night were powered by the latest innovations from **AlphaTheta** and **Pioneer DJ**, two names that have become synonymous with professional DJing. At the core of most sets was the industry-standard **CDJ-3000**, prized for its blazing-fast processor, enhanced jog wheels, and expanded touchscreen display — giving DJs the precision and responsiveness needed to perform in front of a crowd that spans thousands.

These units were often paired with the flagship **DJM-A9** mixer, delivering next-level effects, superior sound quality, and intuitive control layouts that allow for spontaneous creativity on stage. Some artists also made use of the **RMX-1000** effects processor for live remixing, and the **DJS-1000** performance sampler — a favourite among artists who blend live production with traditional mixing. Combined with AlphaTheta's contribution to more intuitive and wireless solutions, the performance setups at Dalt Vila were nothing short of cutting-edge, reflecting the evolution of DJ gear as both art and instrument.





What sets IMS Dalt Vila apart is not just the location or the lineup — it's the **spirit of connection**. This isn't just a festival finale. It's a summit of ideas, a playground for collaboration, and a celebration of how far DJ culture has come.

Gear reps, artists, producers, agents, and fans gather here, not just to dance, but to **talk tech, share stories, and shape the future** of electronic music together.

The moment the sun sets behind the fortress and the first beat drops, something magical happens. The walls of Dalt Vila, which have stood for over 500 years, begin to vibrate with the energy of today's sound — a blend of history and hedonism, tradition and innovation.

In a time where digital connections often replace real ones, IMS reminds the DJ world that there's no substitute for standing shoulder to shoulder, vinyl crate or USB stick in hand, under the stars, in a place that pulses with life.







# Sound, spirit, and setting

— at IMS Dalt Vila, all  
three become one  
with AlphaTheta.







# DJ Sophia

Cape Town's Youngest DJ Prodigy Making Waves

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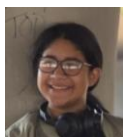
At just 11 years old, DJ Sophia is already a name you can't ignore. From playing on Cape Town's biggest stages to spinning on Good Hope FM, she's turning heads with her talent, charm, and a love for old-school music that sets her apart from the crowd.

In this interview with *Proaudio Sound Press*, Sophia opens up about discovering fans in Worcester, her creative journey as a DJ and budding producer, the gear that powers her sets, and her dream of taking her sound beyond South Africa.

Get ready to meet a young artist with a big vision, a huge heart, and a future that's just heating up.



**sound PRESS** You've been gigging all over Cape Town — and even beyond! How did it feel to discover you have fans in Worcester, and what are you planning for your return there?



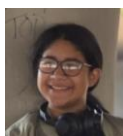
To discover I had fans in Worcester was an amazing experience. They are such a vibe, so kind, and very welcoming. I plan on an epic return to Worcester on Youth Day, 16.06.2025 for a Matinee Party.

**sound PRESS** You've recently started dabbling in music production. What kind of sound or style are you hoping to create, and who inspires you as a producer?



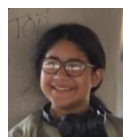
I've recently started dabbling in music production and believe it or not my melody selection is leaning toward Rock :) the producers who inspire me most and set a great standard in the music producing realm are Timberland, Pharrell Williams, Missy Elliot, David Guetta.

**sound PRESS** You mentioned you're getting more creative with your mixing. What's the most unexpected genre combination you've tried — and how did the crowd react?



My creativity in mixing two different genres is still a work in progress and that's why I've not been so daring to play it to crowds yet. The most unexpected and uncommon combination, tech house & R&B dance pop.

**sound PRESS** You're also rocking the Pioneer DJ XDJ-RX3 controller. How has this gear changed the way you perform at gigs?



The Pioneer DJ XDJ-RX3 controller is the big mama of controllers that I own. In a way because of it's great features, it not only gives me a boost in confidence but also helps me to perform at my best at functions knowing that I have such an awesome piece of equipment.

**sound PRESS** You've now moved from the RX3 to CDJs for some shows.

What has that transition taught you, and do you prefer one setup over the other? The transition from the



RX3 to CDJ's has been a seamless transition. But I still prefer my RX3 to the CDJ's.





**sound**  
**PRESS** You recently became a resident DJ on Good Hope FM — congratulations! What does it feel like being on the radio at just 11 years old? I've been a resident DJ on



Good Hope FM since the age of 6 years old :) It's an amazing experience, especially getting to hear the message and comments the listeners send in when my mixes are playing.

**sound**  
**PRESS** You've got a real love for old school music. Where does that come from, and how do you bring that vibe into your sets?

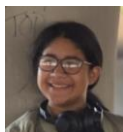


I love old school music, I was born into a family that has a great love for music. My late grandfather used to listen to Elvis, Carpenters, UB40, Manhattans, The Commodores, and Phil Collins a lot while I was still very little. My mom & dad on the other hand would listen to Whitney Houston, Mariah Carey, Luther Vandros, Usher, SWV, Robin S, etc.

So I had the pleasure of being surrounded with all these great songs and that's where my love for old school developed. I usually transition from new school to old school that keeps my sets versatile but relevant.



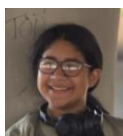
**sound**  
**PRESS** We saw you perform at the Cape Town Festive Lights Festival with Carletheia — how was that experience, and what's it like sharing the stage with a vocalist?



Performing at the Festival of Lights with Carletheia was an absolutely awesome experience. It was such a pleasure working and co-labing with her. I also thoroughly enjoyed the choreography we worked on together and performed on stage.

I also got to entertain the crowd with my scratching. So all round a wonderful, memorable experience. It was so lovely sharing the stage with a vocalist, you each get to shine in your own way (she with her beautiful vocals and me with my mixing & scratching) but together we were dynamite.

**sound**  
**PRESS** With so much talent at such a young age, what's your biggest dream as a DJ, and what can we expect from DJ Sophia in the next year?



My biggest dream is to travel internationally to DJ for a crowd outside of South Africa. What you can expect from DJ Sophia this year is definitely more gigs in and around Cape Town, and hopefully getting my SOFIRE merch ready.



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 Ian Petersen: 071 411 0675  librascale1612@gmail.com



proaudio



# Built for DJs, Designed to Last

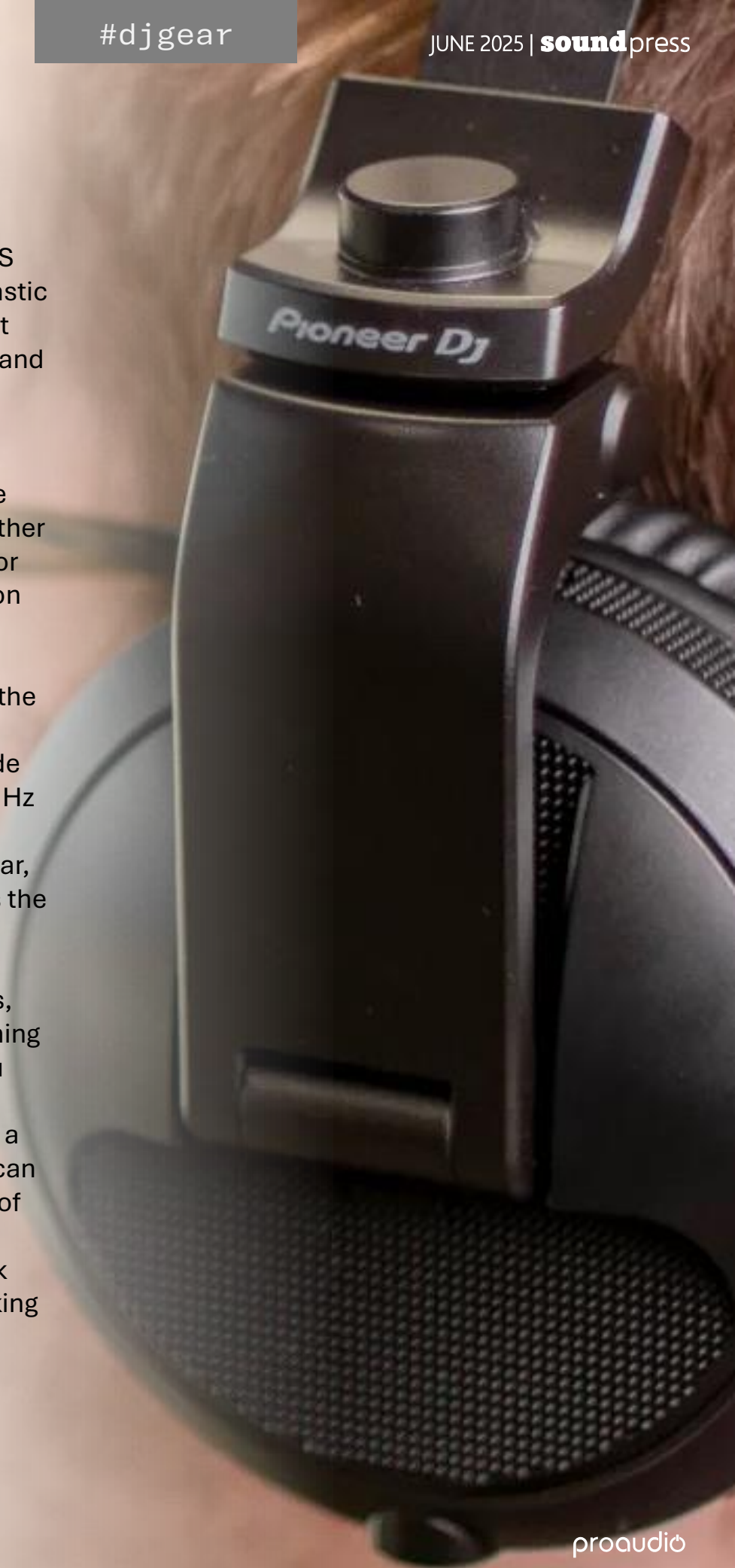


The Pioneer DJ HDJ-X5-S headphones are a fantastic choice for DJs who want great sound, reliability, and comfort—all at an affordable price.

They're designed for the demands of DJing, whether you're just starting out or already making waves on the scene.

Sound quality is where the HDJ-X5-S shines. With 40mm drivers and a wide frequency range from 5 Hz to 30 kHz, these headphones deliver clear, balanced sound across the board.

You can hear deep bass, crisp highs, and everything in between, helping you make better mixing decisions in the heat of a set. And because they can handle up to 2000 mW of input power, you get distortion-free playback even when you're cranking up the volume.







But it's not just about sound. The HDJ-X5-S is built tough. These headphones have passed **the US Military Standard Shock test**, which means they're made to handle the knocks and bumps of daily use. Whether you're throwing them into your bag, using them night after night, or moving between gigs, they're built to last.

Comfort is also key, and Pioneer DJ got it right with the HDJ-X5-S. The over-ear design, flexible headband, and swivel mechanism make them super comfortable for long sessions, so you won't feel weighed down during extended sets.

They're lightweight too, weighing just 269 grams, and the coiled cable stretches from 1.2 to 1.8 meters, giving you freedom to move while you play.

The HDJ-X5-S also comes with thoughtful extras, like a 6.3 mm stereo adapter and a carrying pouch, so you're ready to go straight out of the box.



In short, the Pioneer DJ HDJ-X5-S is a solid, reliable pair of headphones that won't let you down. They deliver the sound quality you need, the durability you can trust, and the comfort that keeps you going through your longest sets. Whether you're playing your first party or headlining a packed venue, these headphones are ready to work as hard as you do.







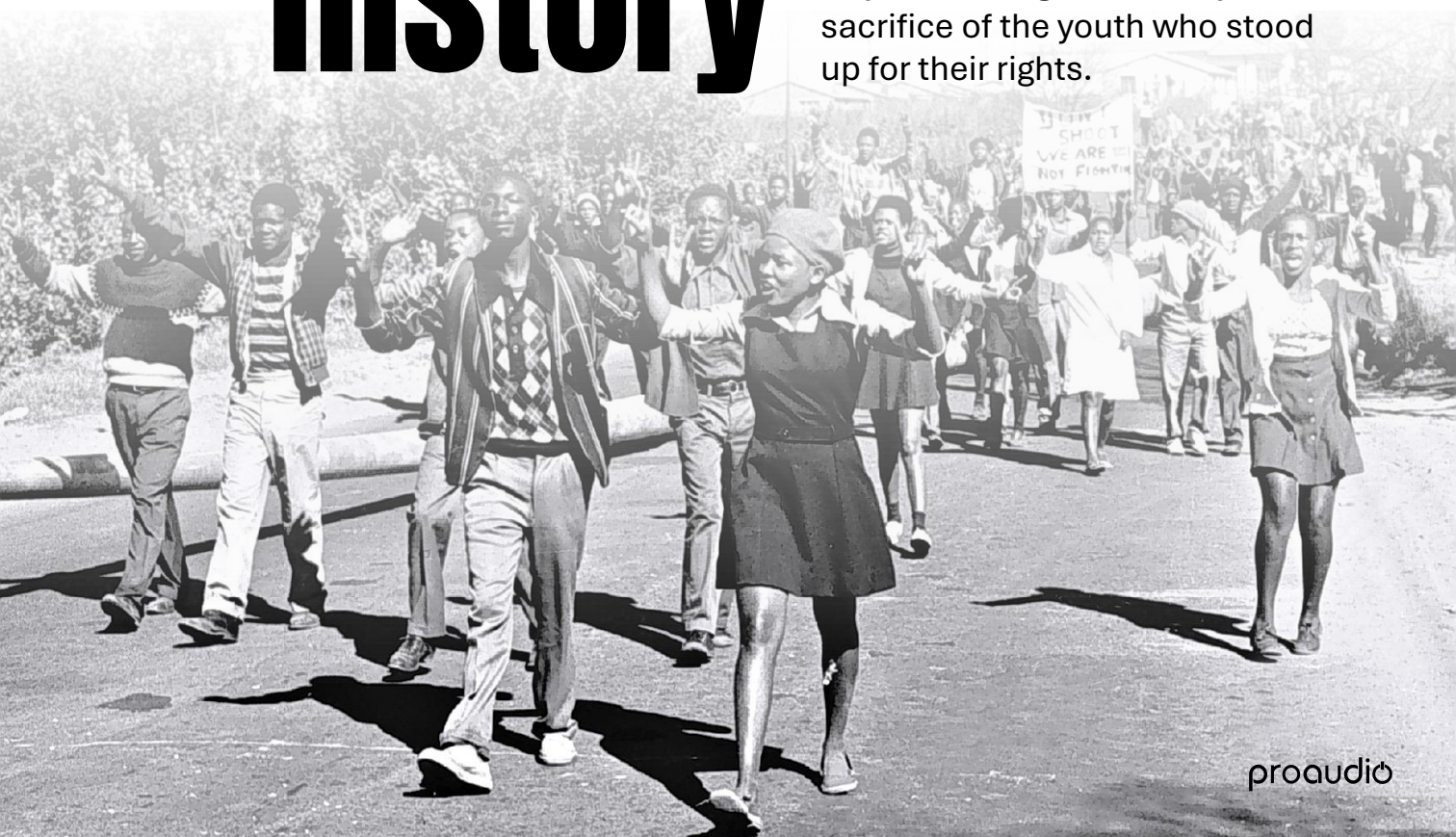


# On June 16, 1976, a pivotal moment in **SOUTH AFRICAN** history

unfolded as thousands of black students in Soweto protested against the apartheid government's policy mandating Afrikaans as the medium of instruction in schools.

This peaceful demonstration turned tragic when police opened fire, resulting in the deaths of at least 176 students, with some estimates suggesting up to 700 fatalities.

The Soweto Uprising became a catalyst for intensified resistance against apartheid and is commemorated annually as Youth Day, honouring the bravery and sacrifice of the youth who stood up for their rights.





# The Soundtrack of Resistance

Music has always been intertwined with South Africa's struggle for freedom. During the apartheid era, songs served as powerful tools for protest and unity. Artists like Miriam Makeba and Hugh Masekela used their music to raise awareness and inspire resistance.

In contemporary times, genres such as Amapiano have emerged from the townships, reflecting the voices and experiences of the youth. Amapiano, which originated around 2012, blends deep house, jazz, and lounge music, and has become a symbol of youth culture and expression in South Africa.



# The Rise of Young DJs

In 2025, young DJs are at the forefront of South Africa's vibrant music scene. Artists like Franadilla, the creative force behind Ebumnandini and Franasonic, are not only delivering electrifying sets but also shaping the events space in cities like Johannesburg, Cape Town, and Durban.

Similarly, DJ DESIREE has evolved from a Johannesburg-based DJ into an international sensation, earning accolades and performing at major festivals like Glastonbury and Coachella.

These young DJs are not just entertainers; they are cultural ambassadors, using their platforms to reflect the aspirations and challenges of South Africa's youth.

Their music often addresses themes of identity, resilience, and social change, resonating with audiences both locally and globally.





## Youth Demographics and the Music Industry

According to Statistics South Africa, individuals aged 15 to 34 constitute approximately 50.2% of the country's working-age population, translating to about 20.9 million people.

This significant youth demographic plays a crucial role in shaping cultural trends and driving the music industry forward. The rise of digital platforms and social media has further empowered young artists and DJs to reach wider audiences and influence the global music scene.

## The Global Voice of South African Youth

Amapiano has transcended its local roots to become a global phenomenon. Artists like Tyla have propelled the genre onto the international stage, blending Amapiano with pop and R&B to create chart-topping hits like "Water," which earned her a Grammy for African Music Performance.

The genre's infectious rhythms and relatable themes have resonated with audiences worldwide, showcasing the creativity and innovation of South Africa's youth.



## Youth Day Music Festivals

Youth Day is celebrated across South Africa with various music festivals, many of which take place in townships, providing platforms for young artists and DJs to showcase their talents:

1. **Mamelodi Youth Day Fest:** Held annually on June 16 in Mamelodi, this festival celebrates Youth Day with musical performances and community engagement.
2. **Basha Uhuru Freedom Festival:** Hosted at Constitution Hill in Johannesburg, this festival celebrates Youth Month with a program of art, music, fashion, and film events, highlighting South African youth culture and creativity.

## Honouring the Past, Inspiring the Future

As South Africa commemorates Youth Day in 2025, the legacy of the 1976 Soweto Uprising continues to inspire new generations. Young DJs and musicians are not only preserving the spirit of resistance through their art but also forging new paths for cultural expression and social change. Their contributions underscore the enduring power of music as a force for unity, empowerment, and transformation.









# Farewell to *Darren Scott*

## A South African Broadcasting Icon

South Africa mourns the loss of **Darren Scott**, a revered radio and television personality, who passed away on May 27, 2025, after a prolonged battle with melanoma, an aggressive form of skin cancer.

His passing marks the end of a remarkable four-decade career that left an indelible mark on the nation's broadcasting landscape.

Darren Scott's broadcasting journey began in the early 1980s at Capital Radio. His passion and charisma quickly propelled him to prominent roles at major stations including 5FM, East Coast Radio, Jacaranda FM, and Hot 102.7FM. Notably, his "Just Plain Breakfast" show became a staple for many South Africans, blending humor, music, and heartfelt commentary. Beyond radio, Scott also made significant contributions to television, particularly through his work with SuperSport.





In 2024, Scott was honored with induction into the Radio Awards Hall of Fame, a testament to his enduring influence and dedication to the medium he loved. Hot 102.7FM paid tribute, stating, "Darren was many things: a gifted communicator, a music lover, a sports encyclopaedia, a deeply spiritual soul and a loyal friend. But above all, he was radio."

Scott's fight with melanoma began in 1986 and spanned nearly four decades. Despite multiple surgeries and treatments, he remained resilient, often returning to the airwaves even during periods of illness.

In recent years, the financial burden of treatment led him to return to South Africa from the United States to continue working and fund his medical expenses. His ex-wife, Sarah-Kate Accetta, launched a BackaBuddy campaign that garnered significant support, reflecting the nation's deep affection for him.

The news of Scott's passing elicited a wave of tributes from fans, colleagues, and fellow broadcasters. One listener poignantly remarked, "Another voice of my childhood has gone silent. RIP Darren Scott. Alongside legends Jeremy Mansfield, Mark Pilgrim, and Kevin Savage — you were the soundtrack to our youth."

In May 2025, a benefit concert was organized in his honor, featuring performances by renowned artists such as Ard Matthews, Jesse Clegg, Louise Carver, and Kurt Darren. The event underscored the profound impact Scott had on the entertainment industry and the lives of countless South Africans.

Darren Scott is survived by his sons, Mark and Matthew, who were central to his life and motivation throughout his health struggles.

His legacy as a broadcaster, mentor, and friend will continue to inspire future generations.

As we bid farewell to this broadcasting giant, we celebrate a life dedicated to connecting with audiences, sharing stories, and bringing joy to countless listeners and viewers. Darren Scott's voice may have been silenced, but his spirit and contributions will resonate forever in the hearts of South Africans.





# HK Audio SONAR 115 Xi

**Power, Clarity, and Control in One Smart Speaker**

**If you're looking  
for a powerful  
speaker that  
delivers clear,  
rich sound  
without needing  
extra gear, the  
HK Audio SONAR  
115 Xi is the  
perfect choice.**

This active 2-way  
loudspeaker is  
built to handle all  
kinds of  
situations—  
whether it's live  
music, a DJ set, or  
even a party.

The SONAR 115 Xi packs a punch with its 15-inch woofer, designed to give you deep bass and full, balanced sound without needing a separate subwoofer. Thanks to HK Audio's expert acoustic engineering, this speaker sounds amazing on its own. But if you want even more power, you can pair it with the SONAR 115 Sub D for a system that's loud and clear enough for clubs and live gigs.







## With a peak power output of 1200 watts,

the SONAR 115 Xi has plenty of volume when you need it. It also gives you flexible input options, including two XLR/jack combo inputs for microphones or instruments, a 3.5mm stereo mini-jack for your phone or other devices, and built-in Bluetooth 5.0.

That means you can stream music wirelessly, and even link two SONAR speakers together with True Wireless Stereo (TWS).





The SONAR 115 Xi also features a smart DSP system that lets you adjust your sound with a 3-band EQ, volume controls, a low-cut filter, and more.

The control panel on the back is easy to use, and there's even a handy SONAR Remote app for your phone (available on iOS and Android).

From the app, you can fine-tune your sound without needing to stand behind the speaker.

If you're a DJ, a musician, or just someone who loves great sound, the HK Audio SONAR 115 Xi gives you the power, clarity, and control you need to sound your best. It's simple to use, built to last, and ready to handle whatever you throw at it.



# Power, Portability, and **Pure** Sound in One Compact Console

Midas HD96-AIR



# The Midas HD96-AIR is **making waves** in the world of live sound.

If you're a sound engineer, musician, or event professional, this new console is something you'll want to know about. It's the latest addition to the famous Heritage-D series, and while it's packed with professional features, it's designed to be lightweight and easy to transport—perfect for when you need big sound in a smaller, portable package.



So, what makes the HD96-AIR special? For starters, it's incredibly powerful. This digital console gives you up to 144 input channels and a 96 kHz sample rate, which means you can capture every detail of your sound with clarity and precision. It also has 123 mix buses that are time-aligned and phase-coherent, helping you keep everything sounding perfect, no matter how complex your mix.

One of the standout features is the massive 21-inch touchscreen. It's full color, super bright, and glare-resistant—so even in bright stage lights, you can see exactly what you're doing. The screen is also multi-touch, so you can use swipes, taps, and gestures to control your mix in a way that feels natural and fast.





Under the hood, the HD96-AIR has all the pro-level tech you'd expect from Midas. It features the same award-winning microphone preamps that are trusted by sound engineers around the world, giving you that warm, clear Midas sound.

It also supports both HyperMAC and AES50 networking, allowing for up to 480 inputs and outputs at a 96 kHz sample rate—perfect for large, complex setups.

Plus, with its dual network bridge, you get 128 bidirectional channels and sample rate conversion for easy system integration.

Despite all this power, the HD96-AIR is designed for portability. It's lightweight, flyable, and easy to transport. Whether you're setting up for a festival, a concert tour, or a corporate event, this console gives you the tools to handle any situation with ease.





And it doesn't stop there. The HD96-AIR also offers 24 VCA groups, 24 POPulation groups, up to 48 assignable 1/3 octave Klark Teknik graphic EQs, and up to 24 multi-channel digital effects engines. It's packed with smart features like touch-sensitive controls and dual redundant power supplies, ensuring you get reliability and performance every time you power it up.



In short, the Midas HD96-AIR is the next step in live sound. It's powerful, portable, and ready for the big stage. If you need a console that can handle anything you throw at it—while being easy to move and simple to use—the HD96-AIR is ready to deliver.

Midas has once again raised the bar.





# A Masterpiece for Vinyl Lovers

Introducing the Audio-Technica AT-LPA2 – the pinnacle of turntable design, combining modern aesthetics with unmatched analog performance.







Crafted from transparent acrylic for both beauty and function, this fully manual, belt-drive turntable delivers crystal-clear sound, minimizing vibrations and electrical noise for an unparalleled vinyl listening experience.

Whether you're new to vinyl or a seasoned audiophile, the AT-LPA2 brings your records to life with stunning clarity, precision, and warmth.

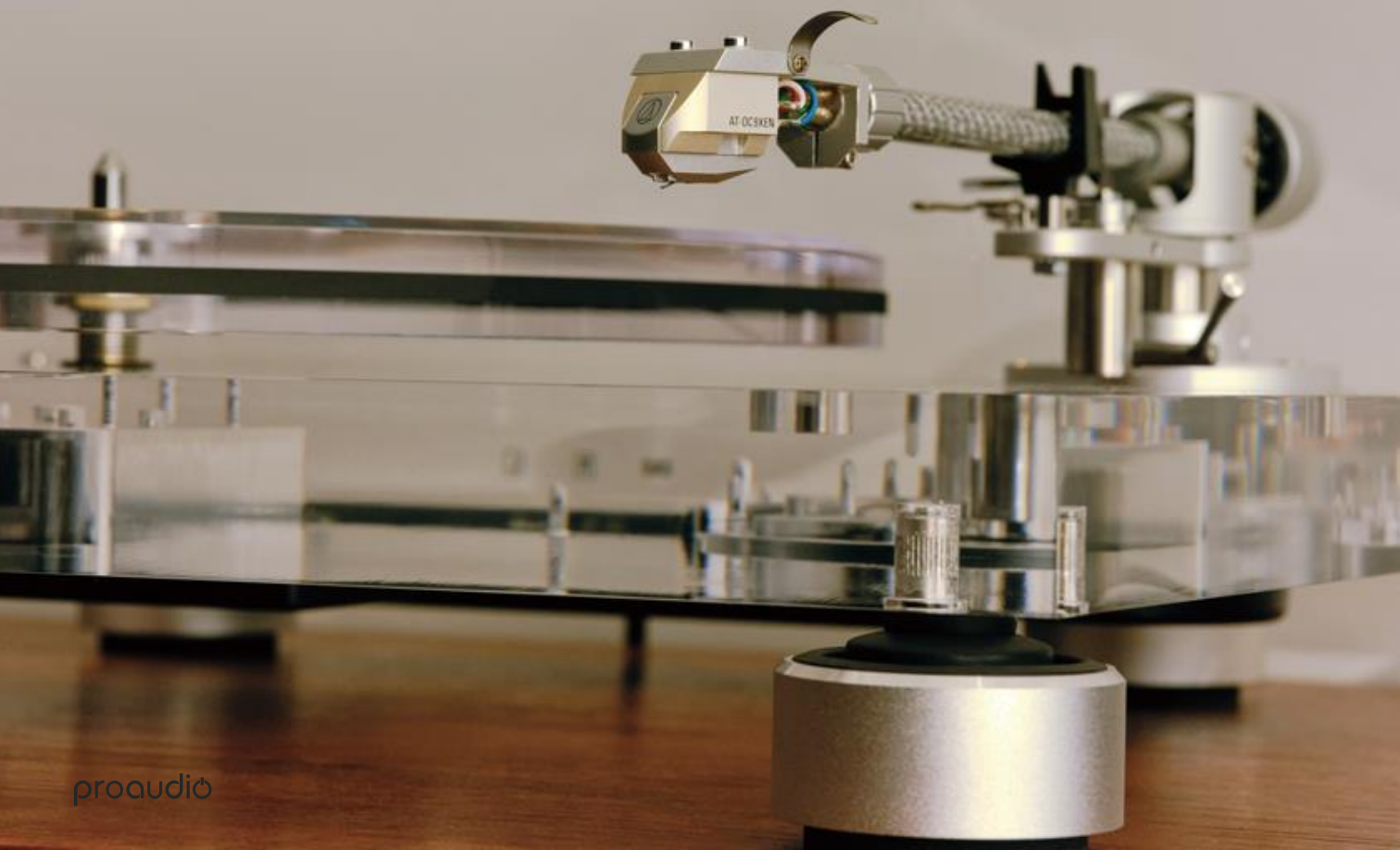


If you're passionate about vinyl and want a turntable that blends stunning design with incredible sound quality, meet the Audio-Technica AT-LPA2. This isn't just a turntable; it's Audio-Technica's finest creation yet—built to bring out the purest sound from your records.

At first glance, the AT-LPA2 is a showstopper. Its entire body is made from transparent acrylic, giving it a sleek, modern look that instantly draws the eye. But the beauty goes beyond the surface.

Acrylic isn't just for looks—it's the perfect material to reduce unwanted vibrations that can mess with your music. The heavy 30 mm chassis and 20 mm platter provide rock-solid stability, so you get clean, uncolored sound, free from interference.

Every detail of the AT-LPA2 is designed with sound quality in mind. The turntable sits on specially designed, heavy-duty feet that keep vibrations at bay. An optical sensor under the spindle keeps the speed steady at 33-1/3 or 45 RPM, ensuring your music plays exactly as it was meant to be heard.

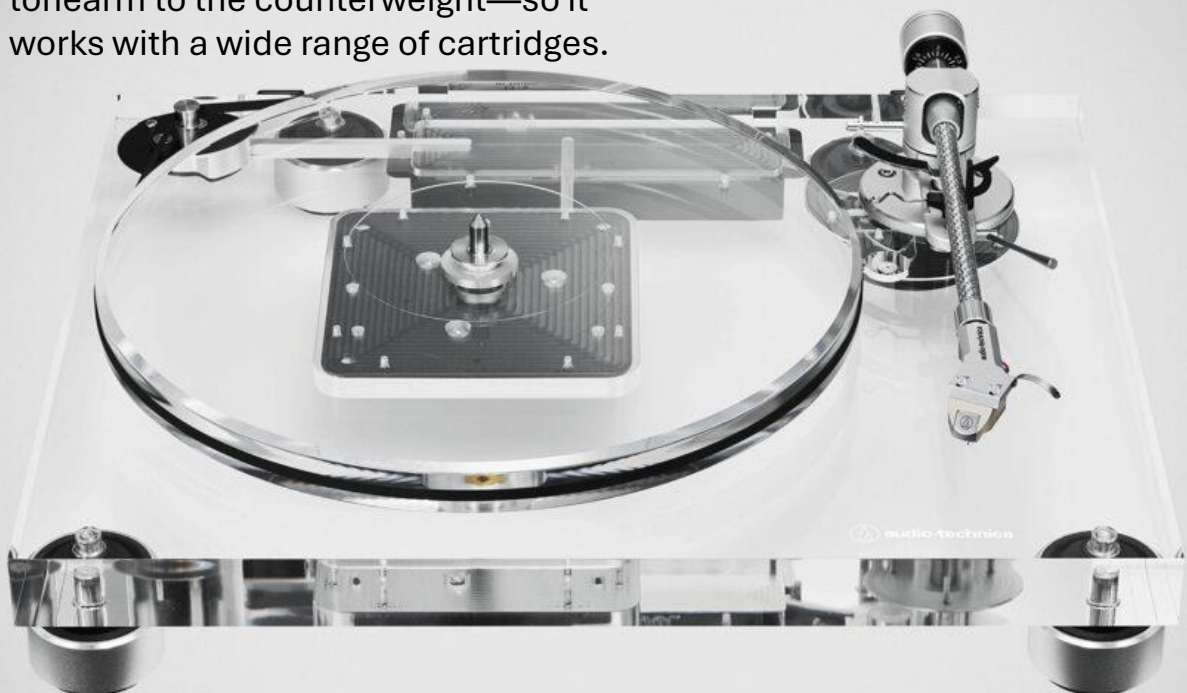


One of the standout features of the AT-LPA2 is how it handles noise. The controls and power supply are in a separate unit—something you usually only see in much more expensive models. This clever design keeps the delicate audio parts away from electrical noise, so you hear nothing but the music.

It also comes ready to go with a pre-mounted AT-OC9XEN moving coil cartridge. This little powerhouse is built for precision, featuring a nude elliptical stylus and ultra-pure copper coils. Together, they capture every detail and nuance of your records.

The lightweight, 8.8-inch carbon-fiber tonearm is engineered to track perfectly, and you can easily adjust everything—from the height of the tonearm to the counterweight—so it works with a wide range of cartridges.

The Audio-Technica AT-LPA2 isn't just a turntable. It's your ticket to the world of pure analog audio, where every note, beat, and breath is captured in crystal-clear detail. If you love music, you'll love what the AT-LPA2 can do.





THE SWIFF AUDIO WX520

# A Compact and Capable Wireless In-Ear Monitoring System



**MINI DESIGN  
EASY TO USE**

The transmitter is also a storage bag, which is easy to carry and not easy to lose.

**IN LIVE PERFORMANCES,  
a reliable in-ear monitor  
system can make the  
difference between a  
flawless show and a  
trainwreck.**

For musicians, DJs, and performers working on a budget, the **Swift Audio WX520 In-Ear Monitor Wireless System** offers a promising solution. It's an affordable, easy-to-use system that brings the essentials of wireless monitoring to your stage without breaking the bank.

The Swift Audio WX520 operates on the 5.8GHz frequency band, a less crowded space compared to the more commonly used 2.4GHz range. This helps to minimize interference from other wireless devices, which is a big plus in environments crowded with signals from smartphones, Wi-Fi routers, and other electronics.

With latency as low as 5 milliseconds, the WX520 ensures that your audio stays tight and responsive—exactly what you need when you're performing in real-time. The compact bodypack receiver is lightweight and designed to clip onto a belt or instrument strap, giving performers freedom to move without the drag of bulky gear.

**LED DISPLAY  
THE USE STATUS IS CLEARLY VISIBLE.**

LED display screen, you can see the use status of the receiver more intuitively.








**The WX520 offers both stereo and mono modes**, so you can tailor your sound based on your setup and preferences. A fully charged system delivers up to 8 to 10 hours of continuous use, thanks to its rechargeable lithium battery—a practical feature for long gigs and rehearsals.

One of the standout features of the Swift WX520 is its ease of use. Musicians who are new to wireless systems will appreciate its straightforward setup and intuitive controls. The system is designed to get you up and running quickly, leaving you more time to focus on your music and less on troubleshooting.





**That said,** the Swift Audio WX520 continues to deliver strong performance with practical features for everyday use. Its 5.8GHz frequency band minimizes interference, ensuring a stable and clear audio signal during performances.

The system is easy to set up, making it accessible for musicians and performers of all levels. The low latency, at just 5 milliseconds, ensures real-time audio feedback that keeps your timing on point. The rechargeable battery offers an impressive 8 to 10 hours of operation on a single charge, supporting long rehearsals and live events without the need for constant recharging.





Live performance



recording room



Band rehearsal



Teach



Conference speech



Camera recording





For those who need a straightforward, no-fuss solution for in-ear monitoring, the Swift WX520 is definitely worth a look.

It proves that wireless freedom doesn't have to come at a premium, and it's a system that lets you focus on what matters most—your performance.



**SWIFF AUDIO**  
**Asian brand spokesperson**  
**Shinichi Kobayashi**



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