

proaudio

2nd Edition | February 2024

sound PRESS

Are you mixing with the right company?

LATEST TECH

- OMNIS-DUO
- WAVE-EIGHT
- NEXT-GEN Air-Pods
- Cutting-Edge MIXERS
- PRO NX Series Speakers
- NEW NORD Grand 2

Featured Artists

- TRADEMARC
- MAX D STEEZY
- AARON THE DJ
- ESSENTIAL GROOVE

Pioneer DJ

(now AlphaTheta)

What is the latest news and what can we look forward to seeing?

Proaudio has a
NEW MI Showroom

Some of the **BIGGEST** Brands in the world on display.

BEST OF SHOW 2024

And many other great brands featured at the Namm show in the USA



proaudio

nord stage 4



WELCOME

to the
FEBRUARY 2024 EDITION
of
proaudio
Sound Press Magazine!

This month, we celebrate the universal love of music by bringing you an exclusive look at the latest products showcased at the NAMM Show in the USA.

From cutting-edge technology to timeless craftsmanship, our feature on the NAMM Show highlights the most innovative musical instruments and equipment hitting the market this year. Get ready to be inspired by the latest offerings from leading brands, as we dive into the world of musical excellence.

In this issue, we also shine a spotlight on the impressive range of mixers from PowerWorks. Whether you're a seasoned sound engineer or a passionate enthusiast, PowerWorks mixers promise to elevate your audio experience with their advanced features and intuitive design.

But that's not all – we're thrilled to give you a sneak peek at the upcoming MI showroom at Proaudio Sandton. With exclusive preview pictures, you'll get a glimpse of the unparalleled selection of instruments and equipment from top brands like Nord Keyboards, Epiphone guitars, Ashdown amplifiers, Meters headphones, and Blackstar amplifiers.

And for all the vinyl enthusiasts out there, don't miss our feature on turntables, where we explore the resurgence of analog sound and the latest trends in vinyl playback technology.

Plus, we dive deep into the world of live sound with a comprehensive comparison of the RCF NX Series, helping you choose the perfect speakers for your next event or performance.

With so much to discover and explore, we invite you to join us on a journey of musical discovery in this month's edition of Proaudio Sound Press Magazine.

HAPPY READING!
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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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Love NOTES:

CELEBRATING VALENTINE'S DAY
with Music and Pro Audio Equipment

As Valentine's Day approaches, hearts around the world beat to the rhythm of love. But for many, the melody that truly strikes a chord isn't just romantic; it's the pulse of music, the harmony of sound, and the allure of DJ equipment that ignites passion.

In South Africa, where vibrant cultures converge and music is woven into the fabric of everyday life, Valentine's Day takes on a unique resonance—a celebration not only of love between partners but also a deep affection for music and the tools that bring it to life.



For DJs and music enthusiasts alike, Valentine's Day offers an opportunity to express their devotion to the art form that moves them. It's a day to cherish the melodies that have become the soundtrack of their lives and the beats that have stirred their souls. And what better way to honor this love affair with music than by indulging in the latest Pro Audio equipment?

In the world of DJing, where innovation meets passion, Pro Audio equipment is the heartbeat of every performance. From the iconic turntables to state-of-the-art mixers and controllers, these tools are more than just instruments; they are extensions of the artist's creativity, allowing them to craft sonic landscapes that captivate audiences and evoke emotions.

On Valentine's Day, DJs across South Africa will be embracing their love for music with fervor, spinning tunes that speak to the heart and soul. Whether it's a sultry R&B set, an electrifying dance mix, or a soul-stirring selection of jazz classics, the power of music to unite and uplift will be on full display.

But the love affair doesn't end there. For audiophiles and sound enthusiasts, Valentine's Day is an opportunity to immerse themselves in the world of high-fidelity audio. From premium speakers and headphones to cutting-edge amplifiers and processors, Pro Audio equipment offers a gateway to sonic bliss—a world where every note is crystal clear, every beat is felt in the bones, and every crescendo sends shivers down the spine.

In South Africa's bustling cities and laid-back coastal towns, music is a universal language that transcends boundaries and brings people together. And on Valentine's Day, that language takes on new meaning as lovers serenade each other with soulful ballads, DJs set the dance floor ablaze with pulsating rhythms, and audiophiles lose themselves in the sublime beauty of sound.

So, as Valentine's Day draws near, let us raise a toast to the music that fills our hearts with joy, the Pro Audio equipment that amplifies its beauty, and the love that binds us all together. Whether you're dancing under the stars or cozying up with your favorite headphones, may the music of love surround you and uplift your spirit on this special day.

After all, in a world where words sometimes fall short, music speaks volumes—and on Valentine's Day, its message is clear: *love is in the air, and it sounds sweeter than ever.* ❤️



pro audio

Epiphone

nord stage 4

pro audio



INTRODUCING

The New MI Showroom

at Proaudio Sandton

Get ready to immerse yourself in a world of musical innovation and excellence with the upcoming launch of the MI (Musical Instrument) showroom at Proaudio Sandton. This exciting new addition promises to be a haven for music enthusiasts, offering a curated selection of premium products from renowned brands.

Step into the showroom and discover a treasure trove of musical instruments and equipment from industry-leading brands such as Nord Keyboards, Epiphone guitars, Ashdown amplifiers, Meters headphones, and Blackstar amplifiers. Whether you're a seasoned musician or a budding artist, you'll find everything you need to unleash your creativity and elevate your musical journey.

From the cutting-edge technology of Nord Keyboards to the timeless craftsmanship of Epiphone guitars, each product in the showroom is carefully chosen to inspire and delight musicians of all levels. Whether you're in search of the perfect instrument for your next gig or upgrading your studio setup, the MI showroom at Proaudio Sandton is your ultimate destination for musical excellence.

Stay tuned for the grand opening of the MI showroom at Proaudio Sandton, where passion for music meets unparalleled quality and innovation. Get ready to experience the power of music like never before.



Blackstar
AMPLIFICATION



Blackstar
UNITY
BASS
U500
EMINENCE
2x10" 15" SPEAKERS





AlphaTheta

ALPHATHETA BRAND INTRODUCTION

AlphaTheta Corporation, the designer and developer of products under the name Pioneer DJ, is pleased to announce new products under the brand AlphaTheta.

Since the introduction of the CDJ-500 in 1994, Pioneer DJ has built a strong legacy of state-of-the-art products, becoming a leading brand for professional DJs while also providing a pathway for people to begin their DJ journey.

Now, with products launching as AlphaTheta, we've created a brand that will propel us into the future, while also maintaining the quality and innovation that you've come to expect from us.

The name AlphaTheta directly refers to the brain wave frequencies achieved in optimal performance. Music often guides us into these extremely powerful states of mind. Our aim is to use our innovative technologies in sound and music creation to enable and enrich these peak moments.

Central to our mission is our collaborative relationships with a worldwide network of DJs, artists, and creators who've helped shape our products. We're indebted to this community, and we look forward to deepening our relationship with all our industry partners.

AlphaTheta embraces diversity and inclusion, and celebrates the playfulness of DJing and producing music. We look forward to growing alongside you, the community who are connected by a passion for music and its culture.

Together, all of this helps to form our guiding principles as we move forward.

One Through Music.

New Products Launched



The NAMM Show
the MUSIC begins here

January 25-28, 2024 • Anaheim Convention Center

proaudio

#djlife

OMNIS-DUO

Portable all-in-one DJ system



Turn over to see more!



FEBRUARY 2024 | **soundpress**

PORTABILITY AND PLAYABILITY:

Turn any location into a party venue instantly

Easily slide the OMNIS-DUO into a good-sized backpack and carry it anywhere thanks to the compact size, modest weight, and rounded corners of the unit. The system's 2-deck + mixer layout will look familiar to everyone and feel great when you're DJing. And there are 2 modes for the touchscreen – Light and Dark – which you can instantly switch between so you'll always be able to see the displayed information, even in bright outdoor settings.

BUILT-IN BATTERY:

Means no power supply needed and less gear to transport

Play for up to 5 hours without plugging into the mains. When it's time to top up the power, you can connect the AC adapter or plug in a compatible power bank (45W or more) to the dedicated USB Type-C terminal. Need to keep the music going? Switching to Eco mode extends the life of the battery and the party. And if you combine the OMNIS-DUO with the new battery-powered WAVE-EIGHT speaker, which features ultra-low-latency SonicLink technology, you can enjoy wireless DJing for total freedom.

FLEXIBLE AUDIO:

Output options to play anywhere – there's no limit

As the first-ever all-in-one DJ system to feature a Bluetooth audio output function, the OMNIS-DUO opens up brand-new possibilities. Whether you want to play on a campground, at the beach, or even connect to the sound system in a vehicle, there's no limit to the places you can hold a party. And when the time comes to play in a venue like a bar, you can use the professional XLR output, while the RCA terminals are perfect for plugging in monitor speakers at home.

OMNIS-DUO

Portable all-in-one DJ system





BLUETOOTH AUDIO:

Input enables the crowd to join in your set

Never disappoint a friend again when they request a song. Instead, invite them to connect their phone to the OMNIS-DUO via Bluetooth function and you can drop the track into your set. Thanks to the system's Bluetooth Playback function, you'll have control of the audio on the deck. You can adjust the volume and EQ, apply effects to the sound, change the tempo, use Hot Cues, and scratch, just like you would with tracks loaded from a USB stick or SD card. With the OMNIS-DUO and Bluetooth audio input, you can enjoy collaborating with friends and expand your musical experiences.

SUPPORT:

For multiple music sources to suit your DJ style

Play your music from almost any source. USB Type-A drives and SD cards can be plugged straight into the OMNIS-DUO, as well as a PC/Mac via the USB Type-C terminal if you want to use rekordbox Performance mode. The Wi-Fi® function means easy access to tracks on a PC/Mac, smartphone, or the cloud without a wired connection.

BRAND-NEW DESIGN:

That looks great in any environment

The OMNIS-DUO looks at home everywhere you take it – from professional events to spontaneous outdoor parties. Its new indigo color is inspired by denim jeans, a classic and hugely versatile fashion item, and the unique curves of the unit create a sleek silhouette. The printing on the top plate is minimal too, helping to create a sophisticated look.

Take a look at it here...









WAVE-EIGHT

8" portable DJ speaker with SonicLink



FASTER AND EASIER:

Cable-free DJing without sound delays is now possible with the WAVE-EIGHT thanks to SonicLink.

This new ultra-low-latency technology wirelessly transmits audio much faster than a Bluetooth connection so only a fraction of a second passes between pressing play on the decks and hearing the track through the speakers, which lets you mix without missing a beat.

Take the included transmitter out of its storage compartment on the WAVE-EIGHT and connect it to your DJ gear, and you can instantly create a wireless connection, enabling you to throw a DJ party anywhere you want. And if you combine the WAVE-EIGHT with the new OMNIS-DUO portable all-in-one DJ system, which features battery power, you can play cable-free for total freedom.

PROFESSIONAL SOUND:

With effortless setup with a highly efficient Class D amplifier.

A newly developed 8-inch driver, and a Vortex Bass Accelerator which delivers clear and powerful bass, the WAVE-EIGHT will bring the vibes and the punch to your party's sound, even in outdoor settings. To cover larger events and spaces, you can easily add more units to your setup with the SonicLink connection: e.g., using 2 speakers in stereo for an expansive experience, or with a third added as a dedicated subwoofer for a club-like heavy bass sound. There are even several modes you can change between with a single switch to create the type of sound you need, including Mono, Stereo, and Subwoofer mode.

Take a look at it here...





BATTERY POWER:

Waterproof design for outdoor events

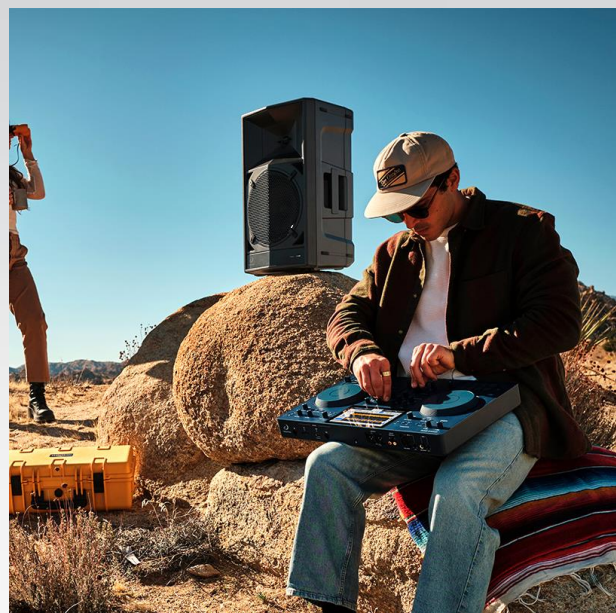
A full battery charge gives you 8 hours of music on the WAVE-EIGHT so you can keep the tunes going throughout the evening and night. The unit is also waterproof, with an IPX₄ rating, so it's ideal for using outdoors. And, if you need to charge your phone or another device, you can plug it into the USB Type-C port.

FIND PARTY VENUES:

Wherever you go.

The extendable handle, casters, and additional grab handles make it easy to carry the WAVE-EIGHT to any location on your own. There's a pole socket built-in too, so you can mount the speaker on a stand for extra height, making it ideal for use in a variety of locations.

Amplifier output: 110 W





MIDAS

HD96-AIR-CC-TP

Redefining Live Sound Mixing at NAMM 2024



At the NAMM Show 2024, Midas unveiled its latest masterpiece, the HD96-AIR-CC-TP Ultra-Lightweight Live Digital Console. This cutting-edge console redefines the standards of live sound mixing with its exceptional features and innovative design, making it a game-changer for touring professionals, large venues, and performance spaces.



BEST OF SHOW 2024



Unmatched Performance

The Midas HD96-AIR-CC-TP sets a new benchmark in live sound mixing with its staggering capability of up to 144 simultaneous input channels and a 96 kHz sample rate. This ensures pristine audio quality and unparalleled clarity, allowing engineers to capture every nuance of the performance with precision.

Hyper-Lightweight Design

Weighing in at less than 23 kg, including the flight case (not included), the HD96-AIR-CC-TP is remarkably lightweight and flyable, making it ideal for touring applications where portability is paramount. Despite its compact size, this console packs a punch with its powerful performance capabilities.

Intuitive User Interface

Featuring a 21" full-color TFT high-brightness screen with capacitive touch sensing, the HD96-AIR-CC-TP offers an advanced and multi-gesture touchscreen user interface. This intuitive design allows engineers to navigate the console effortlessly, ensuring seamless operation even in high-pressure live environments.

Exceptional Connectivity

Equipped with dual HyperMAC and AES50, the HD96-AIR-CC-TP offers unparalleled connectivity, allowing for up to 480 inputs and outputs at a 96 kHz sample rate. Additionally, the dual network bridge format converter provides up to 128 bidirectional channels and asynchronous sample rate conversion, further enhancing flexibility and compatibility.

Versatile Applications

From touring and live sound to large venues, hospitality spaces, and performance venues, the HD96-AIR-CC-TP is designed to excel in a wide range of applications. Its versatility, reliability, and unmatched performance make it the perfect choice for professionals seeking uncompromising audio quality and control.





MIDAS

UNVEILS *COBALT*

HyperMac to USB3 Converter at NAMM 2024



The NAMM Show 2024 witnessed the debut of Midas COBALT, a groundbreaking HyperMac to USB3 Converter designed to redefine audio connectivity in live sound and performance environments. Packed with innovative features and cutting-edge technology, COBALT promises to revolutionize the way audio is transmitted and processed in a wide range of applications.

Advanced Connectivity with HyperMac

The Midas COBALT features a single USB-C connection, offering seamless integration with compatible devices. Equipped with dual redundant HyperMac inputs and outputs, COBALT ensures reliable and uninterrupted audio transmission, making it ideal for critical live sound applications where signal integrity is paramount.

Compact and Portable Design

Crafted with portability in mind, the COBALT boasts a compact form factor that makes it perfect for on-the-go setups. Its blue brushed aluminum chassis not only enhances durability but also adds a touch of elegance to any audio rig. Whether in a professional studio environment or on tour, the COBALT's sleek design makes it a versatile addition to any setup.

High-Fidelity Audio Performance

With 24-bit audio operation and switchable 96/48kHz sample rates, the COBALT ensures pristine audio quality and unparalleled clarity. Its ability to handle up to 192 bidirectional channels enables users to capture and transmit every nuance of their audio with precision and detail, making it an indispensable tool for demanding audio professionals.

Versatile Applications

The COBALT is tailor-made for a wide range of customer applications, including hospitality venues, performance spaces, stadiums, convention centers, and touring setups. Whether in casinos, cruise ships, hotels, worship spaces, or live performance venues, the COBALT delivers unmatched performance and reliability in any environment.

Technical Specifications

- Material: Category L1 Mixers, L2 I/O Interfaces, L3 Digital Converters
- HyperMac Port Count: 1
- USB Port Count: 1
- USB Port Type: USB-C
- Channel Count: 192 Bi-directional
- Rack Height: 1U
- Bit Rate: 24
- Sample Rate: 96kHz / 48kHz





THE POWERWORKS MERCURY P15.2

A powerhouse of sound engineering designed to take your audio experience to new heights.



With its formidable 800-watt active 2.1 PA system, integrated DSP, and Bluetooth connectivity, this system redefines versatility and performance for musicians, DJs, conference setups, houses of worship, and solo entertainers alike.

Unmatched Power and Precision

Delivering an impressive 1,600 watts of total output (Peak Power) and boasting a frequency response of 30 Hz to 20 kHz, the PowerWorks MERCURY P15.2 ensures crystal-clear audio reproduction across the entire spectrum. With a sound-level pressure of 132 dB (peak), this system commands attention and fills any venue with rich, immersive sound.

Comprehensive Configuration

The heart of the system lies in its meticulously engineered components. The subwoofer features a robust 15" woofer complemented by three amplifier modules, driving the subwoofer and two passive 8" satellite speakers individually. This configuration ensures a balanced and dynamic sound experience, whether you're pumping out bass-heavy beats or delivering clear vocals.



Flexible Control and Connectivity

With intuitive controls and versatile connectivity options, the PowerWorks MERCURY P15.2 puts you in command of your audio setup. Adjust master output and master reverb levels with precision, and choose from four preset modes—Music, Live, DJ, and Speech—to tailor the sound to your specific needs. The system also features two line inputs (XLR/6.3mm Jack Combo) and two link outputs (XLR), providing seamless integration with other audio equipment.

Effortless Portability and Setup

Designed for easy transportation and assembly, the PowerWorks MERCURY P15.2 strikes the perfect balance between power and portability. The system consists of a subwoofer and two mid/high passive speakers, weighing a total of 46.3 kg. Whether you're setting up for a gig, conference, or worship service, the PowerWorks MERCURY P15.2 ensures fast and hassle-free installation.

Seamless Bluetooth Integration

Experience the convenience of wireless streaming with built-in Bluetooth connectivity. Simply pair your smartphone, computer, or tablet with the PowerWorks MERCURY P15.2 to stream your favorite music effortlessly. Whether you're DJing a party or delivering a presentation, Bluetooth streaming adds a new dimension of flexibility to your audio setup.

Reliability and Protection

Built-in protection circuits ensure reliable operation, safeguarding your investment for years to come. Whether you're pushing the system to its limits or using it for everyday applications, the PowerWorks MERCURY P15.2 delivers consistent performance and peace of mind.



METERS MUSIC OV-1-B-CONNECT PRO

The Ultimate in Wireless Audio



At the forefront of audio innovation, Meters Music unveiled their latest offering, the OV-1-B-Connect Pro headphones, at the NAMM Show 2024. These cutting-edge headphones combine wireless aptX HD Bluetooth technology with upgraded 50mm drivers to deliver professional-grade audio performance that sets a new standard in the industry.



Unparalleled Wireless Performance

The OV-1-B-Connect Pro headphones utilize the latest Bluetooth technology, enabling superior wireless transmission of up to 24-bit High-Definition (HD) audio directly to your headphones. This ensures a listening experience that surpasses traditional CD quality, providing rich, immersive sound without the constraints of cables.

Extended Playback Time

Experience hours of uninterrupted music with the OV-1-B-Connect Pro headphones, boasting an impressive 16 hours of playback on a single charge. Whether you're on the go or indulging in an extended listening session, these headphones offer unparalleled battery life to keep up with your musical journey.

Complete Control with Meters Connect

Enhance your listening experience with the Meters Connect app, available for iOS and Android devices. This innovative app allows you to customize your OV-1-B-Connect Pro headphones with RGB LED control, enabling you to adjust the color and brightness of the dial to suit your preferences. Additionally, the app features a 5-band parametric EQ for fine-tuning your audio, ensuring optimal sound quality tailored to your liking.

Convenient Side Controls

Navigate your music effortlessly with the intuitive side controls on the OV-1-B-Connect Pro headphones. Easily stop and start music playback, skip tracks, adjust volume, and answer or end phone calls with the touch of a button, providing seamless control over your Bluetooth-enabled devices.

aptX HD Technology

Meters Music incorporates Qualcomm® aptX™ HD audio technology into the OV-1-B-Connect Pro headphones, guaranteeing a High-Definition listening experience. This advanced technology preserves sound data during transmission, delivering audio quality that exceeds the standard CD format for a truly immersive sonic journey.

Active Visual Monitoring

Stay aware of your music's volume level with the integrated VU meter on the left and right ear cups of the OV-1-B-Connect Pro headphones. These line-level signal indicators provide a visual representation of your music's intensity, ensuring responsible listening habits while maintaining optimal sound quality.

DJM-750MK2

4-channel performance DJ mixer

Few names carry as much weight as Pioneer DJ. Renowned for their innovative and performance-driven products, Pioneer DJ continues to push the boundaries of what is possible in the world of DJing.

THE CLUB-STYLE MIXER FOR PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCES

The DJM-750MK2 is more than just a mixer; it's a gateway to the ultimate DJ experience. Designed with input from industry professionals and inspired by the acclaimed DJM-900NXS2, this 4-channel mixer seamlessly integrates into any club-style setup, delivering exceptional sound quality and intuitive performance features.

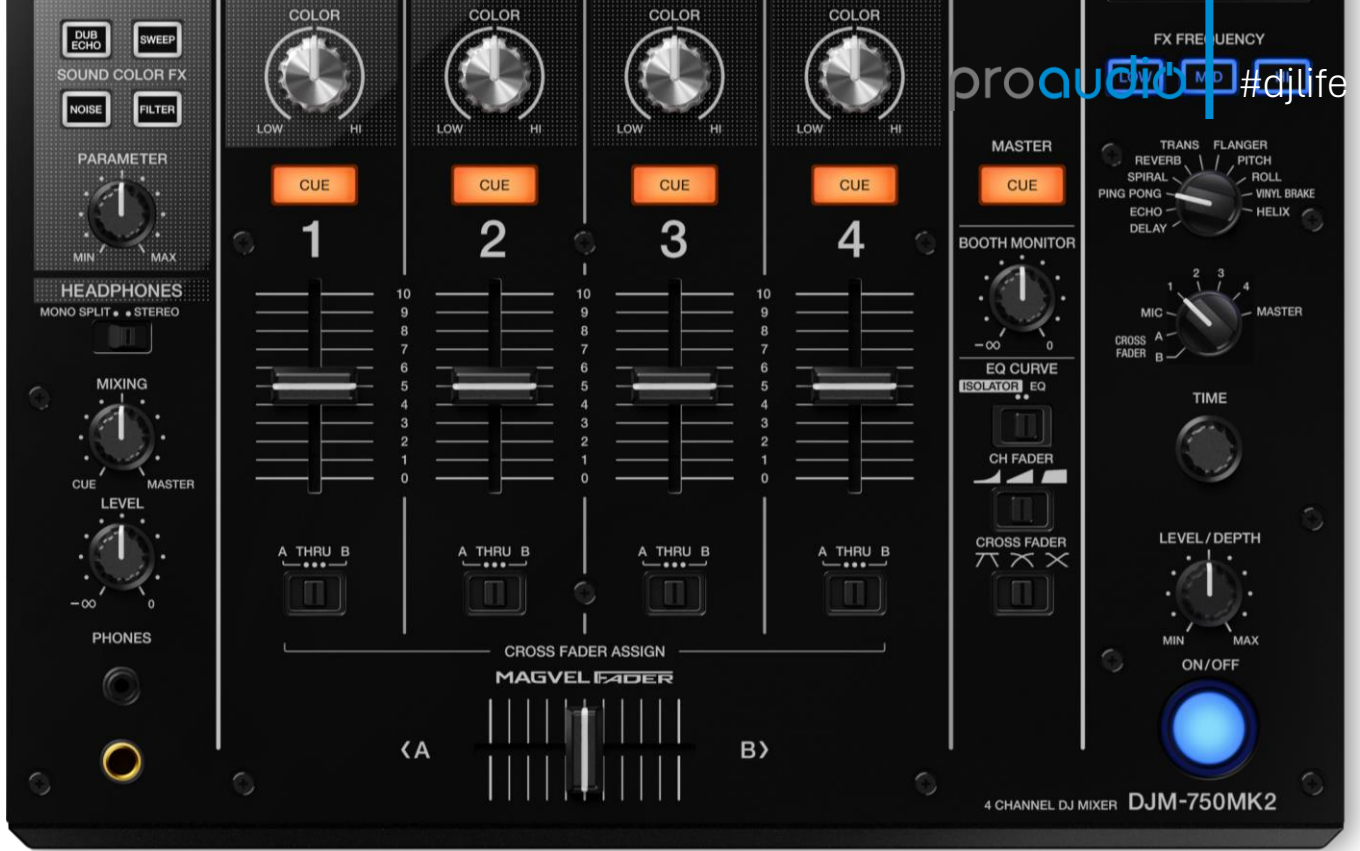
In this article, we will

explore two of their
standout offerings:

the DJM-750MK2 4-
channel performance DJ
mixer and the versatile
TRAKTOR DVS control
system.

At the heart of the DJM-750MK2 lies a 64-bit digital signal processor and dithering technology, ensuring pristine audio reproduction whether you're working with digital or analogue sources. The mixer's smooth EQs and channel faders, reminiscent of those found on the DJM-900NXS2, provide precise control over your mix, while the Magvel crossfader offers unparalleled response and durability, making it ideal for even the most demanding scratch techniques.





One of the standout features of the DJM-750MK2 is its Pro FX section, which includes professional effects inherited from the DJM-900NXS2.

With two effects units offering Sound Color FX, Beat FX, and FX Frequency control, DJs have the freedom to add texture and flair to their mixes while maintaining complete control over the sound.

The DJM-750MK2 also boasts flexible connectivity options, including independent send/return channels for connecting external FX units and iOS devices, as well as TRAKTOR DVS control for seamless integration with Native Instruments' TRAKTOR PRO 3 DJ software. Additionally, the mixer features two headphone outputs, allowing for easy back-to-back performances, and an independent microphone section for added versatility.



TRAKTOR DVS Control: Unleashing Your Creativity

For DJs looking to take their performances to the next level, the TRAKTOR DVS control system offers unparalleled flexibility and control. Compatible with Pioneer DJ mixers like the DJM-750MK2, TRAKTOR DVS allows DJs to intuitively control and scratch digital audio files stored on their computer using control vinyl or CDs.

With low-latency performance features and seamless integration with TRAKTOR PRO 3, DJs can unlock a world of creative possibilities, from smooth scratching to dynamic beat juggling. Whether you're a seasoned professional or a bedroom enthusiast, TRAKTOR DVS puts the power of digital DJing at your fingertips.

The DJM-750MK2 and TRAKTOR DVS control system represent the pinnacle of DJ technology, combining professional-grade performance features with intuitive design and unmatched flexibility. Whether you're performing in a club, at a festival, or in the comfort of your own home, these innovative products empower you to elevate your DJ experience and captivate audiences like never before.

Here's a summarized version in bullet points:

DJM-750MK2:

- 4-channel performance DJ mixer
- Inspired by DJM-900NXS2 for club-style setups
- Smooth EQs and faders for seamless mixes
- Pro FX section with Sound Color FX, Beat FX, and FX Frequency control
- Independent send/return channels for external FX units and iOS devices
- High-quality sound with 64-bit digital signal processor
- Magvel crossfader for precise response and durability
- TRAKTOR DVS control compatibility for intuitive scratching
- Two headphone outputs for back-to-back performances
- Independent microphone section for added versatility

TRAKTOR DVS Control:

- Intuitive control of digital audio files with control vinyl or CDs
- Low-latency performance features for smooth scratching
- Seamless integration with TRAKTOR PRO 3 software
- Unlock creative possibilities with dynamic beat juggling
- Compatible with Pioneer DJ mixers like the DJM-750MK2



4 CHANNEL DJ MIXER **DJM-750MK2**

Pioneer DJ

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Audio-Technica

Launches Next-Generation True Wireless Earphones



proaudio



Experience the future of personal audio —coming soon to South Africa. Stay tuned for updates on availability

Audio-Technica, renowned worldwide for its cutting-edge audio technology, is set to redefine the true wireless earphone experience with the upcoming launch of the ATH-TWX7 model in South Africa. With a focus on delivering high-fidelity audio and unparalleled user convenience, the ATH-TWX7 earphones promise to revolutionize personal audio enjoyment.

At the heart of the ATH-TWX7 earphones lies a dedication to superior sound quality. Leveraging the acclaimed 5.8mm high-resolution drivers from Audio-Technica's flagship ATH-TWX9 model, these earphones ensure immersive and detailed music playback that captures every nuance of your favorite tracks.

One of the standout features of the ATH-TWX7 is its advanced digital hybrid noise-cancelling technology. This innovative technology effectively eliminates unwanted external noise, allowing users to immerse themselves fully in their music or conversations without distraction. Additionally, the earphones offer customizable audio experiences through easily accessible hear-through and talk-through functions, as well as a unique soundscape function that provides soothing sounds for concentration, meditation, or relaxation.

The ATH-TWX7 earphones are designed to excel in any environment, thanks to built-in MEMS microphones and beamforming technology in both earbuds. These features ensure crystal-clear call quality, even in noisy surroundings. Users can further enhance call clarity with two selectable call modes: Natural for quieter settings and Noise-Reduction for noisier environments.

Comfort and convenience are paramount with the ATH-TWX7 earphones. Featuring a secure and comfortable fit, these earphones offer approximately 6.5 hours of playback time on a single charge, with an additional 20 hours provided by the non-slip portable charging case. Furthermore, the IPX4 water-resistant rating ensures durability, allowing users to enjoy their music even in challenging conditions such as rain, water splashes, or sweat.

The Audio-Technica CONNECT app enhances the user experience by offering access to additional functions, including low latency mode, ambient control, EQ settings, touch sensor customization, and more. Available in Ash Black (BK) and Rich White (WH), the ATH-TWX7 earphones also come in the exclusive color Stone Gray (GY), available solely through Audio-Technica's website.

Key features of the ATH-TWX7 earphones include:

- MEMS microphones and advanced noise-cancelling processor for stellar noise-cancelling performance
- Beamforming technology and two selectable call modes for crystal-clear call quality
- Soundscape function for customizable audio experiences
- 5.8mm high-resolution drivers for extended high-frequency range and improved sound detail
- LDAC codec compatibility for high-resolution audio playback
- Private Timer function for advanced personal time management
- Multipoint pairing function for simultaneous connection to two Bluetooth devices

INTRODUCING (1/2) **PowerWorks R602BTU**



Meet the PowerWorks R602BTU, a cutting-edge 4-channel mixer engineered to revolutionize your sound management capabilities. Packed with an array of features designed to enhance performance and versatility, the R602BTU stands out as a formidable companion for both professionals and enthusiasts alike.

Your Creativity:

At the heart of the PowerWorks R602BTU lies a powerful engine that fuels your creativity. With 4 channels at your disposal, including 2 dedicated microphone inputs, you have the flexibility to craft intricate soundscapes with ease. Whether you're orchestrating a live performance, recording sessions, or hosting events, the R602BTU offers the versatility to adapt to any audio scenario seamlessly.

Precision Control:

Equipped with a 3-band EQ on each channel, the R602BTU empowers you to sculpt your sound with precision. Tweak frequencies to perfection, fine-tune your mix, and achieve optimal clarity and balance with every adjustment. Additionally, the inclusion of +48V phantom power ensures compatibility with a wide range of microphones, catering to diverse recording needs with professional-grade quality.

Seamless Integration:

Integrating modern connectivity options, the R602BTU offers Bluetooth functionality, enabling wireless audio streaming directly to your mixer. With the ability to effortlessly pair your devices, you can seamlessly incorporate backing tracks, playlists, or music from external sources into your mix, expanding your creative possibilities and enhancing your performance capabilities.

Advanced Features, Enhanced Performance:

The PowerWorks R602BTU doesn't just stop at basic mixing capabilities—it goes above and beyond with a host of advanced features tailored to elevate your audio experience. Dive into a world of sonic exploration with 16 DSP effects, enriching your mix with reverbs, delays, choruses, and more. The inclusion of a karaoke delay function adds an extra layer of fun and entertainment, perfect for parties, events, and karaoke nights.

Intuitive Design, Maximum Efficiency:

Designed with user convenience in mind, the R602BTU features a sleek and compact form factor, ensuring easy portability and seamless integration into any setup. The digital display and MP3 input via USB enable hassle-free playback and recording, while the dual 7-band EQ and 6-band level display for main output provide visual feedback for precise control and monitoring.

INTRODUCING (2/2) PowerWorks R902BTU



Enter the PowerWorks R902BTU, a robust 7-channel mixer designed to meet the needs of professionals and enthusiasts alike. With its comprehensive feature set and cutting-edge technology, the R902BTU stands as a testament to innovation and performance in sound engineering.

Unmatched Versatility:

With 7 channels, including 4 dedicated microphone inputs, the PowerWorks R902BTU offers unmatched versatility for any audio mixing scenario. Whether you're leading a live performance, recording sessions, or hosting events, this mixer provides the flexibility and control necessary to achieve pristine sound quality and seamless integration.

Precision Control:

Featuring a 3-band EQ on each channel, the PowerWorks R902BTU puts precision control at your fingertips, allowing you to fine-tune your mix to perfection. With the inclusion of +48V phantom power, compatibility with a wide range of microphones is ensured, enabling you to capture every nuance of your sound with professional-grade clarity and fidelity.

Seamless Connectivity:

Equipped with Bluetooth functionality for wireless audio streaming and USB input for direct playback from external devices, the PowerWorks R902BTU ensures seamless connectivity. Whether you're incorporating backing tracks, playlists, or music from external sources, this mixer expands your creative possibilities and enhances your performance capabilities.

Advanced Features, Enhanced Performance:

Dive into a world of sonic exploration with 16 DSP effects, ranging from reverbs and delays to choruses and beyond. The inclusion of a karaoke delay function adds an extra layer of entertainment, perfect for parties, events, and karaoke nights. Dual 7-band EQ and 6-band level display for main output allow you to monitor and adjust your mix with precision and ease, ensuring optimal sound quality at every stage of production.

Intuitive Design, Maximum Efficiency:

Designed with user convenience in mind, the PowerWorks R902BTU features a sleek and compact form factor, ensuring easy portability and seamless integration into any setup. The digital display and MP3 input via USB enable hassle-free playback and recording, while the REC and headphone monitor outputs provide additional versatility for monitoring and recording applications.

SUPER WIDESTEREO

IMMERSE YOURSELF.



ID: CORE V4

AWARD-WINNING programmable guitar amps



PLAYING

- Free Architect software for deep editing & patch sharing online.
- Incredible tones; from pristine cleans to crunch and high gain overdrive.
- 12 built-in effects, all in immersive Super Wide Stereo.
- Patented ISF control for unlimited tonal flexibility.
- Comes with a built-in chromatic tuner.

PERFORMING

- Direct-to-phone TRRS audio for high quality livestreaming or recording videos, making content creation with the ID:CORE V4 simple and intuitive.
- Store and recall your saved patches directly from the Architect software.
- The PB-1 powerbank (sold separately) allows for up to 9 hours of portable use with your ID:CORE V4.
- Power reduction down to 1W allows you to play at lower volumes without sacrificing tonal quality.
- The ID:CORE V4 40 is now louder than ever thanks to advancements in both hardware and software voicing.

RECORDING

- Features direct USB recording, making your amp double up as an interface.
- Comes with the fully customisable 'CabRig™ Lite', Blackstar's very own advanced speaker simulator that allows you to fine tune your recording sound.
- Now uses USB-C connectivity.

Smart Styling

Combining Audio and Aesthetics

The LPW4oWN was designed to give you optimal high-fidelity audio reproduction with smart styling.

Here's what makes the AT-LPW4oWN stand out:

1. **Manual Operation:** This turntable is fully manual, meaning you have complete control over the vinyl playback process. It's belt-driven for smooth operation and optimal audio reproduction.
2. **Anti-Resonance Design:** The AT-LPW4oWN features an anti-resonance MDF plinth with a simulated walnut wood veneer. This design helps reduce unwanted vibrations and feedback, ensuring clear and accurate sound.
3. **Precision Motor:** A sensor-monitored motor ensures that the platter rotates at the correct speeds of $33\frac{1}{3}$ and 45 RPM. This means you can enjoy your records with confidence, knowing that they're playing at the right speed.
4. **High-Quality Components:** The turntable comes with a straight carbon-fiber tonearm and an AT-HS4 universal headshell. It also includes an AT-VM95E Dual Moving Magnet phono cartridge, known for its versatility and performance.
5. **Built-In Phono Preamp:** With a built-in selectable phono preamp, the AT-LPW4oWN allows you to connect directly to audio components with or without a dedicated phono input. This makes setup hassle-free and gives you more flexibility in your audio setup.



Smart Styling

Combining Audio and Aesthetics

The LPW40WN was designed to give you optimal high-fidelity audio reproduction with smart styling.

Optimal High-fidelity Audio Reproduction

Stylish Wood Turntable

A stunning addition to any system, the AT-LPW40WN features an anti-resonance plinth with simulated walnut wood veneer to limit low-frequency acoustic feedback.



NX SERIES

Masterfully engineered wooden speakers with remarkable audio performance and extended versatility for professional audio applications.



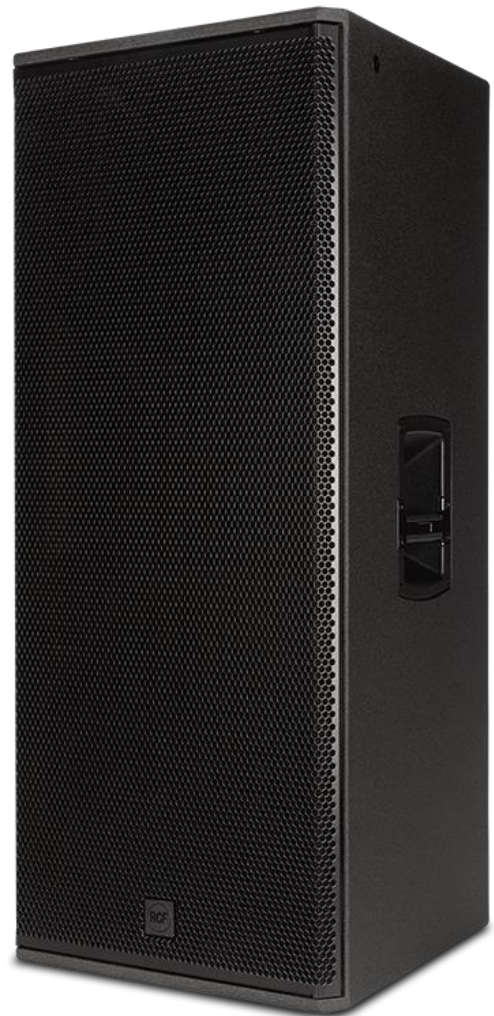
A COMPREHENSIVE COMPARISON

of RCF NX Series Speakers

When it comes to professional audio equipment, RCF has long been synonymous with quality and innovation. Among their extensive range of speakers, the NX Series stands out for its exceptional performance and versatility. In this article, we will compare four prominent models within the NX Series: NX 985-A, NX 915-A, NX 912-A, and NX 910-A, highlighting their features, specifications, and ideal applications.

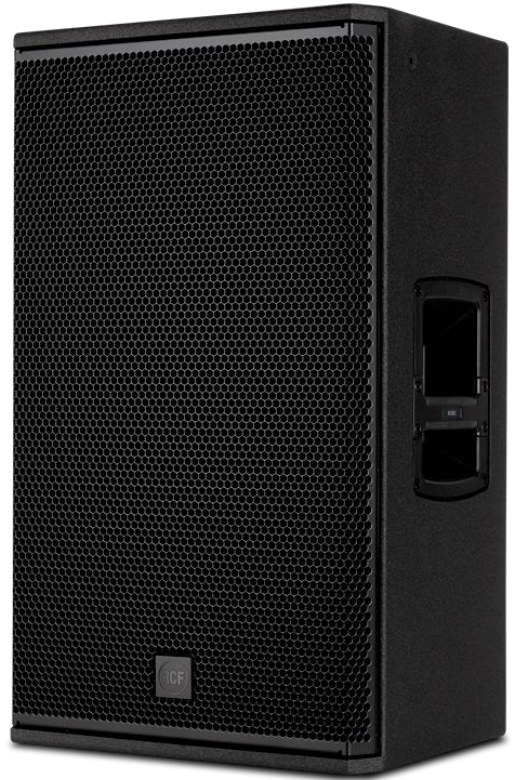
NX 985-A: The Powerhouse Performer

The NX 985-A is a three-way active speaker designed to meet the demands of large venues, clubs, and rental companies. Boasting an impressive 138 dB SPL and a linear frequency response from 40 Hz to 20 kHz, this speaker delivers distortion-free sound with precision and clarity. With a 1.75" neodymium compression driver, an 8" midrange, and a 15" high-power woofer, it covers a wide frequency range effortlessly. Additionally, features like Bass Motion Control and FIRPHASE processing ensure optimal performance in any environment. Whether used as a standalone speaker, flown, or paired with a subwoofer, the NX 985-A excels in delivering extreme SPL output with reliability and consistency.



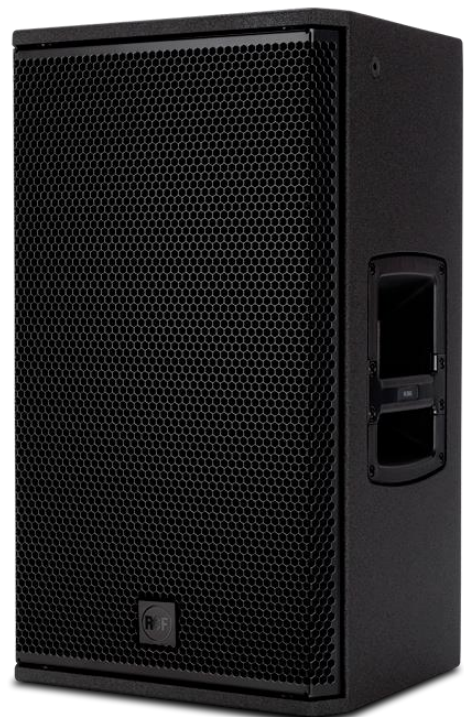
NX 915-A: Versatile and Compact

The NX 915-A offers similar performance to its larger counterpart, the NX 985-A, but in a more compact form factor. With a maximum SPL of 131 dB and a frequency response from 45 Hz to 20 kHz, it provides clear and balanced sound suitable for solo musicians, bands, and DJs. Equipped with a 1.75" compression driver and a 15" woofer, this speaker delivers coherent coverage with minimal distortion. The integration of FIRPHASE technology ensures precise phase response, while Bass Motion Control manages woofer excursion for deep and powerful bass reproduction. Whether used as a FOH speaker, stage monitor, or flown system, the NX 915-A offers versatility and reliability in a portable package.



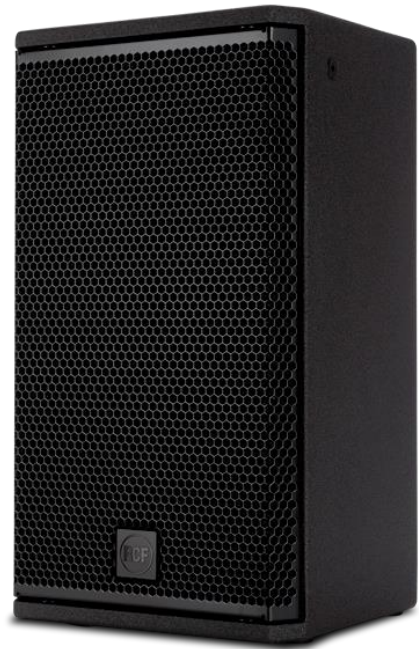
NX 912-A: Compact yet Capable

Similar to the NX 915-A, the NX 912-A is designed for applications where space is limited but performance cannot be compromised. With a maximum SPL of 130 dB and a frequency response from 50 Hz to 20 kHz, it delivers clear and balanced audio suitable for various live sound setups. Featuring a 1.75" compression driver and a 12" woofer, this speaker offers a balanced combination of high-frequency clarity and low-end punch. The inclusion of FIRPHASE and Bass Motion Control technologies ensures precise sound reproduction with minimal distortion, making it an ideal choice for small to mid-sized venues and events.



NX 910-A: Compact Performance

The NX 910-A completes the NX Series lineup, offering similar performance to its siblings in a more compact package. With a maximum SPL of 130 dB and a frequency response from 50 Hz to 20 kHz, it provides clear and balanced sound suitable for a variety of applications. Equipped with a 1.75" compression driver and a 10" woofer, this speaker delivers consistent coverage with minimal distortion. Like other models in the NX Series, it features FIRPHASE and Bass Motion Control technologies for optimal sound quality and reliability. Whether used as a standalone speaker or part of a larger system, the NX 910-A offers professional-grade performance in a compact and portable design.



The RCF NX Series speakers offer a range of options to suit different needs and preferences. From the powerhouse performance of the NX 985-A to the compact versatility of the NX 910-A, each model is masterfully engineered to deliver stellar audio performance in any setting. Whether you're a professional musician, DJ, or audio engineer, the NX Series speakers provide the clarity, power, and reliability you need to elevate your sound to the next level.



Wireless Headphones

ATH-CKS50TW

When it comes to truly wireless headphones, Audio-Technica stands apart by prioritizing sound quality above all else. Prepare to elevate your listening experience with the ATH-CKS50TW earphones, where rich, full-range audio meets deep, powerful bass for a truly immersive soundstage.

Powered by specially designed gmm drivers, these earbuds deliver crystal-clear audio with an emphasis on robust bass, enhanced by innovative acoustic ducts integrated into the drivers. Say goodbye to compromise and hello to unparalleled audio fidelity.

But convenience is just as crucial as quality, and the ATH-CKS50TW earbuds deliver on both fronts. Enjoy extended listening sessions with best-in-class battery life, offering up to 20 hours of continuous use on a single charge. Need a quick boost? The fast-charge feature provides approximately 90 minutes of playback with just a 10-minute charge—perfect for when you're on the move.

Experience crystal-clear calls with Qualcomm® cVc™ Generation 8.0 technology, ensuring improved microphone performance for natural-sounding conversations. The sidetone function lets you hear your own voice during calls, enhancing communication clarity whether you're in the office, at home, or on the go.

With multifunction buttons on each earbud, controlling your music, adjusting volume, and managing calls is effortless. Plus, toggle between noise-cancelling and hear-through functions to block out distractions or stay aware of your surroundings with ease.



Designed for reliability and convenience, the ATH-CKS50TW earbuds feature a rain and splash-proof design with an IPX4-equivalent JIS protection rating. This means you can enjoy your music worry-free, even in unpredictable weather or during intense workouts.

Customize your listening experience with the Audio-Technica Connect app, offering a range of features including codec selection, equalizer presets, and volume control. Never lose your earbuds again with the app's locate function, ensuring your music is always within reach.

With Qualcomm® TrueWireless Mirroring technology, enjoy uninterrupted listening with stable connectivity, even in crowded environments. The automatic power-on and fast pair feature ensures seamless connectivity with your Android or Google device, while LED indicators keep you informed of your charging status at a glance.



Experience the future of sound with Sony's 360 Reality Audio certification, bringing the creator's vision to life in stunning detail.
—a true masterpiece of sound engineering.

Best-in-class Battery Life

Up to 20 hours* of Power on a Single Charge

Using the ATH-CKS50TW earbuds with the charging case allows for as much as 50 hours of playback (20 hours in the earbuds + an additional 30 hours with the charging case)**, so you can enjoy 1.5 hours of music every day for a whole month without needing to recharge. Plus, gain 90 minutes of power from just 10 minutes of charge time.

Get lost in music

Noise-Cancelling Mode

Simply press the built-in button on the left earbud or activate noise-cancelling via the Audio-Technica Connect App. A handy hear-through function can be activated with one tap of the button on the right earbud, for a momentary return to your surrounding environment before getting lost in music again.



Long-lasting comfort

Innovative, Comfortable, Earbud Design

The newly developed earbud design ensures a secure and stable fit that prevents the earbuds from falling out of the ears, even during intensive workouts. CKS50TW comes with four pairs of soft silicone eartips, allowing for a deeper audio performance and superior, long-lasting comfort.

Creator of the Month

Michael O.K.

Meet Michael—an online luminary whose journey began with art but found its resonance in his voice. His creative odyssey started with sharing art and tutorials, but it was his vocal talents that truly captivated his community.

Driven by an innate susceptibility to ideas, Michael's creative endeavors initially revolved around art, photography, and videography. However, it was his voice that emerged as his signature, earning him recognition and requests for readings and vocal renditions.

Beyond content creation, Michael is committed to guiding others on their creative paths. Through tutorials and insights, he empowers individuals to explore their artistic inclinations freely.

In his daily pursuits, Michael relies on quality equipment, including Audio-Technica products, which he discovered serendipitously and has since become integral to his craft.

Across platforms like TikTok, Michael's presence resonates deeply, with his community responding eagerly to his content. His advice for aspiring artists is simple: engage with your audience and stay true to your vision.

Outside of creation, Michael finds solace in his craft, seamlessly blending work and leisure into a harmonious continuum. As for the future, he remains focused on personal growth and fostering a supportive community.

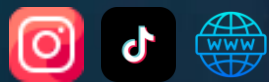
Michael stands as a beacon of authenticity, his voice echoing across virtual realms, inspiring and uplifting all who encounter his artistry.



ATH-M20x



AT2020





nord grand 2

Nord, renowned for its commitment to excellence in crafting premium stage pianos, has once again raised the bar with the introduction of the Nord Grand 2. Building upon the success of its predecessor, the Nord Grand, this latest iteration boasts a plethora of enhancements and features designed to inspire musicians and elevate their performances to new heights.

At the heart of the Nord Grand 2 lies the latest generation premium Hammer Action keybed from Kawai. This keybed, revered for its responsive feel akin to that of an acoustic grand piano, provides musicians with an unparalleled playing experience.

Whether delicately expressing the softest pianissimo passages or commanding the full force of fortissimo, the advanced hammer mechanism with triple sensors ensures accurate tracking of every nuance of the performer's touch.

One of the most exciting features of the Nord Grand 2 is its dual-layer architecture, seamlessly integrating two distinct worlds of sound: Piano and Sample Synth. With advanced layering capabilities allowing for the combination of two pianos or two sample synths, or even a blend of both, musicians have unparalleled flexibility in sculpting their sonic landscapes.

EFFECT SECTION



The **Nord Grand 2** features the latest generation premium Hammer Action keybed from Kawai.

Combining the responsive feel of an acoustic grand piano with our world-renowned Sound Libraries and a tactile user interface, the sleek and elegant Nord Grand 2 offers a genuinely unique experience.

PIANO SECTION



SAMPLE SYNTH SECTION





Each layer comes equipped with its own dedicated effects section, empowering performers to tailor their sounds with precision.

The Sample Synth section of the Nord Grand 2 is a playground for sonic exploration, offering two independent layers with expanded memory for the Nord Sample Library. From wind and brass to strings, basses, guitars, and classic analog tones, the possibilities are virtually endless. Innovative features such as Unison, Tru-Vibrato, and round robin sampling ensure rich, expressive sounds that rival their acoustic counterparts.

Performance is further enhanced with dedicated LED faders for each layer, allowing for intuitive control over volume levels during live performances. Additionally, the Nord Grand 2 features 7 Split Points with LED indicators, facilitating seamless transitions between split zones for added versatility on stage.

The effect section of the Nord Grand 2 has been meticulously crafted to provide musicians with a comprehensive palette of sonic colors. From lush reverbs and dynamic delays to gritty amp simulations and modulating effects, the possibilities for sonic experimentation are boundless.



Beyond its cutting-edge features, the Nord Grand 2 remains true to its heritage, offering an extensive collection of grand pianos, uprights, and electric pianos from the exclusive Nord Piano Library. With state-of-the-art sampling techniques capturing every nuance and character of the source instruments, the Nord Grand 2 delivers unparalleled realism and expressiveness.

The Nord Grand 2 represents the pinnacle of stage piano innovation, marrying the timeless elegance of acoustic grand pianos with the limitless possibilities of modern synthesis. Whether on stage or in the studio, the Nord Grand 2 empowers musicians to unleash their creativity and captivate audiences like never before.

THE INSIDER

with Pablo Lundall

Renowned as a Professional Producer/DJ under the moniker Weston & Engine, Pablo is a pivotal figure in the music and entertainment industry. His journey spans a rich tapestry of roles: as Co-Founder and Partner at OFF Centre Agency, a Talent Agency representing South Africa's top electronic music talent on the precipice of greatness; as the visionary behind EL Momento SA, a groundbreaking experimental boutique festival that pushes boundaries; and as Co-Founder and Partner at WE R Records, a dynamic Record Label shaping the music landscape and Radio Presenter at Mix93.8 with his show The Dance Cartel every Friday.

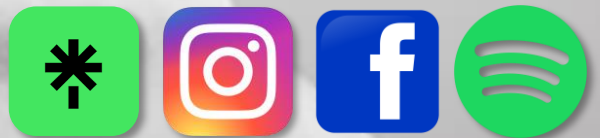
Since 2007, Pablo has immersed himself in diverse facets of the industry, curating a comprehensive portfolio that encapsulates every aspect of the scene. His commitment to each project he undertakes defines him—a professional DJ and producer, a community leader, a promoter, and a visionary. His involvement in any concept is a testament to his unwavering belief in its potential.

At OFF Centre Agency, alongside his esteemed partner Guy Herman, Pablo cultivates a platform for South Africa's finest DJs and producers. The agency stands as a springboard for these artists, propelling them onto the grandest stages nationally and establishing their global footprint through groundbreaking music releases.

An aficionado in event orchestration, Pablo co-owns and founded the avant-garde El Momento boutique festival, a testament to his innovative approach. He collaborates with some of South Africa's premier shows—from the likes of It's Personal, Oasis, Sunburn, and Wonder to Ultra Fest. Additionally, the Off Centre Agency continues to elevate its stature, revolutionizing showcases and introducing novel concepts nationwide by featuring iconic artists from across the globe.

Under the guise of Weston & Engine, Pablo partners with Sean Phillips as a prolific DJ duo. Their decade-long journey has seen them release across diverse international music hubs such as Berlin, Serbia, the U.K., and Ukraine. Their versatility has propelled them to secure 13 global top 100 positions across House, Minimal, Deep Tech, and Melodic House and Techno genres. They grace the stages of renowned festivals including Rocking the Daisies, H2o, It's Personal Picnic, Rage, Lush, Mieliepop, We Love Summer, and Oppi Koppi, among others.

Photo Cred: Alkamy Productions



VOTED THE BEST FEMALE ARTIST IN 2023 AT THE MUSIC ON THE HILL AWARDS!

MAKING MOVES

DJ Buhle

DJ Buhle, a Johannesburg native, is a multifaceted talent in the electronic dance music (EDM) scene, excelling as an events curator, music producer, and record label owner since the early 2000s. Notably, she clinched the Best Female DJ award at the 2019 DMASA Awards and is recognized as one of Africa's top 10 Deep House female DJs.

With a discography boasting five EPs and over 15 tracks, DJ Buhle collaborates with global EDM producers and launched Bezulu Records in 2022, featuring successful EPs like #AshesEP and #DoofEffectEP, including her first international collaboration, #BeStilleEP, with Love Zone Records.

As a curator, DJ Buhle has orchestrated remarkable experiences at venues across Johannesburg, headlining festivals like Wolfkop Weekender and Oppi Koppi, and events such as Rocking The Daisies and Spring Fiesta. She holds residencies at top clubs and radio stations, showcasing her versatility and talent.

DJ Buhle continues to push boundaries in EDM, captivating audiences with her innovative sets and collaborations. Keep an eye out for her as she continues to leave her mark on the industry.



LADY DISCO MACHINE

CHASING DREAMS

Siyanda Sangqu

BOSS

Siyanda Sangqu born in 2001, Sandton JHB, affectionately known as Lady Disco Machine has been DJing for a year, developing her craft and expanding her collection of music in multiple genres including Afro, Techno, vocal house & disco. Siya has grown up with special challenges but nothing can stop her from living her dream of playing music to people from all walks of life.

Lady Disco Machine is in mentorship with DJ Lady Lea and has been working hard on all aspects of her music and brand. Her dream is to host and play to a captive audience at big events, sharing her unique sound and working with friendly venues with easy access for all.

Siya currently hosts a live stream on her instagram every Thursday, speaking to some of the countries best DJs and rising talents that are bubbling under. Names like Jordan Arts, Abby Nurock, Leeu, Laminin Music, DJ Buhle, Stephy Longueria, Illing, Vanco, Michael Glass and more have supported her channel.

Keep an eye on the name - Lady Disco Machine a true story that motivates that you can achieve anything when your heart and intentions align with your passion and commitment.

LADY
DISCO
MACHINE





An Interview With..

Proaudio Sound Press: TradeMarc, you have an impressive and diverse set of talents, from being a DJ to a sound engineer, music producer, multimedia designer, and even a golfer. How do these different passions and skills intersect in your life and creative work?

TradeMarc: Thank you for the compliment! I find that every aspect of my involvement complements and influences the next seamlessly. DJing gives me valuable insights into audience preferences, shaping my approach to music production. The precision of sound engineering also leaves its mark on my music production, and my time at the gym or on the golf course enhances my discipline and strategic thinking, providing a balanced perspective across all my pursuits. I would say to anybody that the synergy between all elements in your life is crucial in maintaining a cohesive and impactful lifestyle.

Proaudio Sound Press: As a qualified Sound Engineer specializing in Audio Post Production, could you share some insights into your educational journey and how it has shaped your music production and DJing career?

TradeMarc: I began my journey as a DJ and music producer a few years before pursuing sound engineering studies in 2012. The knowledge, technical skills, and practical experience I garnered during that time played a crucial role in shaping me into the DJ and music producer I am today.



Keeping myself up to date with the latest industry advancements, trends, and technology has always helped me keep my productions and DJ performances at the forefront.

Proaudio Sound Press: You recently completed a BSc Degree in Sound Engineering Technology at the Academy of Sound Engineering. What motivated you to further your studies in this field, and how do you see it benefiting your career?

TradeMarc: Returning to ASE and completing the Bachelor of Science degree was driven by a desire to deepen my understanding of the field and elevate my skills to a higher level. The BSc program enhanced my technical skills and broadened my creative opportunities in engineering, music production, and DJing. I view the completion of this degree as a solid foundation for continued career growth. I believe that it enhances my credibility, hopefully opening doors to opportunities that demand advanced expertise.

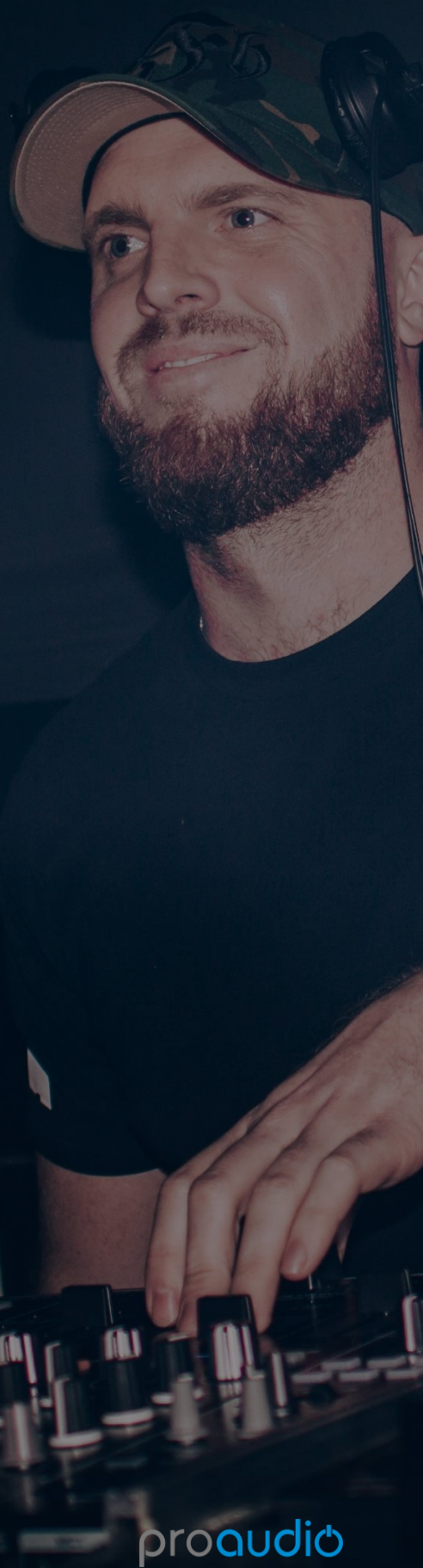
Proaudio Sound Press: Music seems to be an integral part of your life, with a wide range of interests from Hip-Hop to Rock and live concert performances. How do these varied musical interests influence your work as a DJ, music producer, and sound engineer?

TradeMarc: Music is the most important thing in my life after my family. My parents introduced me to various music styles from an early age, and each genre has played a role in my creative palette. Interestingly, my personal Spotify library is made up of over 15 custom playlists, covering genres ranging from Rock to Drum & Bass, House, and even Classical and Orchestral compositions - all for daily personal listening. Additionally, I have a custom playlist called 'Demo' that contains the best songs for setting up and listening to various audio systems. My diverse musical influences and frequent visits to live concerts around the world act as a constant source of inspiration and have helped shape my unique identity.

Proaudio Sound Press: You're well known for your organization when it comes to rekordbox and playlisting. Can you share your methods for staying so organized, and how it enhances your performances?

TradeMarc: Over the years, I have become known for my ability to use rekordbox and Pioneer DJ equipment to its fullest potential. In my opinion, every DJ should be using rekordbox. To ensure a smooth DJ performance, I prioritize organization, especially when it comes to rekordbox and creating playlists. I frequently update and categorize my music library by genre and energy levels for easy navigation during gigs. Creating playlists for different moods and venues allows me to be flexible, while the cue point, color, and rating features in rekordbox help me make quick decisions during live performances. I am a little over-meticulous when it comes to organization, but it makes me comfortable and confident behind any Pioneer DJ system, allowing me to deliver my best performance and create an immersive experience for the audience.

Proaudio Sound Press: You have a reputation for being able to play a variety of genres at a moment's notice. How do you maintain such versatility, and what do you enjoy most about being able to mix different styles seamlessly?



TradeMarc: Versatility is the heart of my DJing style. I have developed a knack for reading the crowd and adjusting accordingly. I am always on the lookout for new genres and emerging trends, keeping my music library diverse and up-to-date.

I perform at many different venues every week, so what I enjoy most about mixing different styles seamlessly is the unique connection it creates with the varying audience. Additionally, this allows me to create a unique musical story during each set. This versatility keeps my performances fresh and ensures that there's something for everyone on the dance floor.

Proaudio Sound Press: Could you tell us about your experience as a Truth Nightclub resident and how this role has contributed to your growth as an artist and DJ?

TradeMarc: Becoming a resident DJ at Truth was my ultimate goal when I started in this industry over 15 years ago. I worked very hard for years leading up to my debut set. When the opportunity finally came, I took it as a chance to prove myself and show why I was capable of being a member of such a tight-knit family. I have been a member of the Truth family for more than 10 years now. I have played on all the dance floors and have had the pleasure of performing alongside some of the biggest artists in the world.

Proaudio Sound Press: You're also a lifelong fan of Newcastle United Football Club. How does your passion for sports tie into your creative process and daily life?

TradeMarc: I feel like my passion for Newcastle United Football Club seamlessly intertwines with my creative process and daily life. I have always been involved in sports, and in my teenage years, I focused on pushing my swimming career to the limit. I'm in the gym daily, and there's nothing I enjoy more than playing a round of golf with friends. The discipline and teamwork in sports mirror aspects of my professional life, contributing to a focused mindset. Additionally, sports has created connections beyond music, enhancing both my personal and professional experiences.

Proaudio Sound Press: As a DJ and music producer, what challenges have you faced in your career, and how have you overcome them?

TradeMarc: Over the years, I faced several challenges such as adapting to industry changes, staying relevant to younger generations, and establishing a unique identity. To succeed in this field, I found it crucial to stay informed, believe in my abilities and embrace change. Despite the obstacles, my passion for music kept me going, and I turned these challenges into opportunities for growth. I have continuously refined my skills and strived to improve in all aspects of my career.

Proaudio Sound Press: Can you share some highlights or memorable moments from your career in the South African clubbing and music industry that have left a lasting impact on you?

TradeMarc: Becoming a resident DJ at Truth was a major milestone. In 2012, I secured the runner-up spot in the inaugural nationwide 5FM Ultimix@6 competition.

In 2013, I released my debut compilation album through F! Records and Soul Candi. My performance credits include major music and arts festivals across South Africa and Mozambique, with over twenty appearances at H2O events. I've held residencies across Gauteng, performed in numerous cities and towns, and toured extensively throughout South Africa. Throughout this journey, I've had the privilege of sharing my experiences and knowledge, making my career a source of gratitude and fulfillment.

Proaudio Sound Press: What are your favorite musical instruments to play, and do you incorporate any live instrument elements into your DJ performances or music productions?

TradeMarc: In my earlier years, I immersed myself in playing the piano and drums. I don't use any live instruments currently, mainly because I live in an apartment and I simply don't have the space. However, I own several keyboards, DJ equipment, and production-related products. I also have a Zoom H5 audio recorder, which I use to record my live DJ sets. Lately, I've used the H5 and have delved into Foley to integrate live elements into my music production. Over the past five years, I've made significant investments in various plugins, a move that has greatly elevated my proficiency in music production.

Proaudio Sound Press: You're known for your down-to-earth and easy-going personality. How do these qualities affect your approach to working with fellow artists and collaborators in the industry?

TradeMarc: Thank you for the kind words! At the end of the day, I'm just being myself. If my personality can shape or influence a positive and collaborative atmosphere around me, then I'm happy.



I prioritize open communication and building relationships based on trust and respect. I hope that a similar approach from other artists can contribute to a supportive industry culture.

Proaudio Sound Press: Are there any upcoming projects or collaborations you're excited about that you can share with your fans and the audience?

TradeMarc: In recent months, I've been working on loads of new music under a new production alias. When the time is right, I'll reveal all.

Proaudio Sound Press: With your extensive experience in the industry, what advice would you give to aspiring DJs and music producers who are just starting their journey?

TradeMarc: My advice for aspiring DJs and music producers is to embrace passion, persistence, and respect for others. Develop a diverse skill set, build strong networks, and keep up to date with industry trends. Embrace challenges as opportunities to learn, stay true to your authentic style, avoid following the crowd, and invest in continuous education. Seek feedback, enjoy the journey, and believe in your ability to make a meaningful impact in the music world.

Proaudio Sound Press: In the ever-evolving music industry, how do you stay inspired and keep pushing the boundaries of your creativity?

TradeMarc: In the dynamic music industry, I stay inspired by exploring diverse influences, attending live experiences, embracing new technologies, collaborating with other artists, committing to continuous learning, being adaptable to change, and regularly reflecting on my artistic journey.

Proaudio Sound Press: What do you believe sets you apart from other DJs and producers in the industry, and what is the TradeMarc signature sound or style?

TradeMarc: My varied experience as a DJ, music producer, sound engineer, and multimedia designer provides a unique perspective, allowing me to seamlessly integrate technical and creative aspects. This diversity also grants me complete control of my brand and career. For 15 years, I have handled everything from graphic design and video/audio editing to booking management. While my signature style is rooted in underground house music, it's best described as a fusion of diverse genres and influences.

Proaudio Sound Press: Lastly, what's the ultimate goal or aspiration you have for your career in the world of music, sound engineering, and multimedia design?

TradeMarc: 2024 will mark the 15th anniversary of TradeMarc! I have a few life-changing opportunities coming up, but I want to continue pushing boundaries and leaving a lasting impact on the scene. Hopefully, I can inspire the next wave of artists, by sharing what I've learned. I would also like to continue learning and focusing on my personal development. Over time, I've discovered that in the realm of entertainment, the possibilities are limitless with passion and creativity.





An Interview With..



Proaudio Sound Press: Can you share a bit about yourself and your journey as DJ Max D Steezy? When and where did you start your career professionally?

Max D Steezy: I'm Letsatsi "Max" Dithale, professionally known as Max D Steezy. A DJ/Producer born in Debrak village but currently residing in Mogwase Township. I started DJing in 2013 when I was in Grade 12 using Virtual DJ but professionally started to DJ in 2015 when I joined a DJ Society in UJ (Mixx Masterz University of Johannesburg). From there I kept on pushing, playing in different spots to gain fans and experience.

Proaudio Sound Press: What government initiatives or support have you received since the start of your career, and how have they impacted your journey as a DJ?

Max D Steezy: Since 2018, I received assistance from Business and Arts South Africa (BASA) with a catalyst grant, providing mentorship to shape artists into making businesses from their arts. During Covid-19, I utilized opportunities from the Department of Sport, Arts & Culture to submit proposals for projects aligned with Covid-19 regulations.

Projects like WeLive Sessions, virtual Heritage events, and music workshops received funding from the National Arts Council (NAC). These initiatives have made a significant impact on my career, allowing me to showcase my talent while generating income.

Proaudio Sound Press: The COVID-19 pandemic has had a profound impact on the music industry. How did it affect your musical career, and what strategies did you employ to navigate the challenges it presented?

Max D Steezy: With mentorship and skills acquired from BASA and the DJ and Music Production Institute, I focused on monetizing my career through virtual projects like WeLive Sessions and private events. Venturing into film production using my musical skills further diversified my income streams. These strategies helped me adapt to the challenges presented by the pandemic and continue pursuing my passion.

Proaudio Sound Press: Are there specific artists you look up to, and how have they influenced your musical career?

Max D Steezy: I look up to Black Coffee for his business approach and brand identity. Incorporating elements like branding, merchandise, and investments into my work has been inspired by him. His success motivates me to explore various avenues within the music industry.

Proaudio Sound Press: You won a DJ course at the DJ and Music Production Institute. How did that experience shape your skills and career trajectory?

Max D Steezy: Winning the DJ course was life-changing. It set me apart from other DJs and elevated my career, leading to recognition and opportunities like playing at Ayepyep Lifestyle in Menlyn. The knowledge gained from the course and relationships built in the industry contributed to the success of events I hosted. Certification from the DJ and Music Production Institute opened doors for sponsorships and endorsements, further enhancing my career.

Proaudio Sound Press: Having benefited from a DJ course, have you engaged in mentorship or initiatives to help others kickstart their careers in music?

Max D Steezy: Yes, I've conducted music workshops focusing on the business side of the music industry. I've also collaborated with other artists, providing them with opportunities to benefit from sponsorships and initiatives like WeLive Sessions. Supporting newcomers in the industry is crucial for its growth, and I'm committed to giving back and sharing knowledge.



Proaudio Sound Press: How would you describe the evolution of your musical style since the beginning of your career?

Max D Steezy: Over the years, I've evolved my musical style by mixing different genres to create a unique sound. Learning harmonic mixing and simplifying production techniques have been integral to my growth. Exploring new genres and elements keeps my music fresh and engaging for the audience.

Proaudio Sound Press: Can you share some of the highlights of your career so far?

Max D Steezy: One of the biggest milestones was hosting a virtual festival during the pandemic, showcasing my administrative skills and musical talent. Scoring sponsorship for film projects further solidified my presence in the industry. These achievements have had a significant impact on my community and career trajectory.

Proaudio Sound Press: What are your aspirations for the future?

Max D Steezy: I plan to produce a digitally-focused album and expand the WeLive Sessions initiative internationally. Exciting projects like film productions sponsored by NFVF are on the horizon, promising to make a positive impact on my community and career.

Proaudio Sound Press: What advice would you give to aspiring DJs, especially those who may be facing challenges or uncertainties in pursuing a career in music?

Max D Steezy: Study the business side of the music industry and seek unique opportunities to differentiate yourself. Invest in equipment and create initiatives that generate income during low seasons. Patience and perseverance are key to longevity in this competitive industry. Stay unique, stay patient, and keep pushing forward.



IS LIVING





An Interview With..

[AARON] THE DJ

Proaudio Sound Press: Aaron, you recently completed a DJ course at the DJ and Music Production Institute. Can you share your journey into the world of DJing and music production and what inspired you to pursue this path?

Aaron: My journey as a professional DJ and music producer started way back in 2018. I used to work for Tuks FM at the time as a sports broadcaster and an economics content creator. We hosted many parties at Loftus, a popular stadium in Pretoria, especially pre and post-Bulls games. Initially, I was the MC, but I realized I could become one of the DJs. My interest in DJing grew further when I joined 5FM and worked with Roger Goode.

Proaudio Sound Press: Techno and Afrotech mixes are known for their unique and intense vibes. What draws you to these genres, and how do you approach crafting your mixes to create a distinct sound?

Aaron: Afrotech is a beautiful blend of techno, tech house, and traditional African music. It merges melodic techno with African vocals and beats, creating a unique sound. It's about combining international techno elements with a distinctly African flair.

Proaudio Sound Press: Playing at some of Gauteng's best nightclubs is a remarkable achievement. What experiences or moments from your DJing career stand out as particularly memorable or impactful?

Aaron: A highlight for me was being part of the MTN Springbok Fan Parks in 2023 during the Rugby World Cup. Playing at the after-parties, especially after the Springboks won, stands out. The energy and joy were unforgettable.

Proaudio Sound Press: Congratulations on your team's four nominations at the 2023 SA Radio Awards! Can you tell us more about your role at 5FM and the work that led to these nominations?

Aaron: At 5FM, I'm the executive producer of the Roger Goode show and handle the weekend sports desk. Working behind the scenes with Roger ensures a great listener experience. Our nominations were for various categories, and winning the Best Afternoon Drive Show was a proud moment.

Proaudio Sound Press: You've recently embarked on TV and broadcasting training. What motivated you to diversify your skills and explore this new aspect of media and entertainment?

Aaron: Continuous personal development is key for me. Investing time and energy into TV and radio broadcasting courses reflects my commitment to growth. In this industry, staying relevant means evolving and mastering new skills.

Proaudio Sound Press: You're known to be a big sports fan, particularly of rugby and soccer. How do your passions for sports and music intersect, if at all? Have you ever considered incorporating sports-related themes into your DJ sets?

Aaron: My passion for sports complements my DJing gigs at sports events. Being able to entertain and share my sports knowledge with the crowd adds to the atmosphere. Loftus is a prime example of where sports and music intersect.

Proaudio Sound Press: Balancing multiple passions and pursuits can be demanding. How do you manage your time effectively to excel in both your media career and your music endeavors?

Aaron: Time management is crucial. Setting a weekly schedule helps me prioritize tasks and focus on what's important. Whether it's managing the sports desk or working on music projects, planning is key to success.

Proaudio Sound Press: Looking ahead, what are your goals and aspirations in the fields of DJing, music production, and broadcasting? Are there any exciting projects or collaborations on the horizon for you?



Aaron: In 2024, I aim to collaborate more with local musicians and release an EP early in the year, followed by my first album towards the end. Continuing to evolve as a DJ, music producer, and broadcaster is my focus, with an eye on long-term growth and impact.

Proaudio Sound Press: Health and wellness seem important to you. How does staying fit complement your career in media and entertainment?

Aaron: Staying fit enhances my performance in both media and entertainment. It boosts energy levels and mental focus, enabling me to handle the demands of my schedule effectively. Fitness also instills discipline and patience, crucial qualities for success in any field.





An Interview With..



Proaudio Sound Press: As a Leo, known for your energetic and vibrant personality, how do you infuse your star sign's qualities into your DJ persona, particularly as Essential Groove?

DJ Essential Groove: I feel that my Leo star sign definitely aligns with the character of Essential Groove, the lion of the zodiac which is known to take things easy during the day and at night comes out to play. I love to make people happy and truly enjoy expressing my happiness through music.

Proaudio Sound Press: Essential Groove is renowned for playing an extensive range of genres. How do you decide which genres to incorporate into a set, and is there a particular genre you find most challenging or rewarding to mix? How has your music style changed over the years?

Essential Groove: Essential Groove has always embraced all genres of music and was never married to one. I would say in the early days I played more deep house but that evolved to playing literally all genres. For me, the key element to a successful set is reading the crowd.

I never plan an exact set unless it is for a genre-specific event at a larger festival type setting. Most of the time, I would come prepared with a range of music and different genres which my main goal is to seamlessly transition between. I always talk of when the stars align on the night, which is when I have properly read the crowd and they are just loving every track I play. That is what I strive for and what I find ultimately rewarding.

Proaudio Sound Press: Your commitment to playing vinyl in a digital age is noteworthy. What is it about vinyl that keeps you loyal, and how do you think it impacts your connection with the music and the audience?

Essential Groove: For me, vinyl is the reason I initially fell in love with DJing. I own a significant collection of vinyl records and will always jump at the opportunity to get to play them. I will never forget my roots of why I began this journey and love to return to the art of vinyl mixing regardless of advances in technology. The nostalgic value is extremely noteworthy for myself and also for party-goers from that era. For me, it is a romantic connection with the music, almost like an ode to a bygone time.

Proaudio Sound Press: How would you describe the essence of Essential Groove, and what do you hope listeners experience when they attend one of your sets or events?

Essential Groove: I would say I would hope one would experience a sense of nostalgia as I like to incorporate some nostalgic tracks into my sets, also a discovery of some new sounds, and just a general sense of music euphoria.

Proaudio Sound Press: Your birthday events are famous for featuring a big lineup of local DJs. Can you share the inspiration behind these birthday bashes and what makes them such a hit among your fans?

Essential Groove: The inspiration for my birthday events was to try and get all my friends within the industry to come and showcase a set, also to have a great time and celebrate my special day with me. I guess they have been running for so many years they have become a yearly feature to look out for.

Proaudio Sound Press: Being an outdoor enthusiast, how do your outdoor adventures influence the music you create and play? Are there specific environments that inspire certain genres or moods?

Essential Groove: I feel that different kinds of music insinuate different moods. If one had to go through my vinyl collection, you would notice it's mainly deep house which is perfect for a beach setting.

Proaudio Sound Press: Essential Groove is not just a name; it seems like a philosophy. How do you connect with your audience during a performance and create that essential groove that keeps them moving?



Essential Groove: I must make mention of my hair sponsor Francos International here, they make sure that besides connecting to the audience via the music I play, I also try to be easily recognizable and anyone who has seen me out with my different hair colors would attest to me being usually instantly recognizable. I would also say I am very interactive with people and before I play a set I make sure to greet as many people as I can and usually gauge the crowd I am playing for to see which direction of music I am taking that night.

Proaudio Sound Press: Balancing a career as a financial advisor with a thriving DJ career is quite a unique combination. How do these two aspects of your life complement each other, and do you find any unexpected parallels between finance and music?

Essential Groove: Going back to the first question and me being a Leo, my life definitely compliments my star sign. During the day I am a corporate individual and by night a party person, my job contradictions I guess are also portrayed by the different genres I like to play.

Proaudio Sound Press: Leos are often seen as natural leaders. How does your leadership style manifest in your role as a DJ, especially when organizing events and collaborating with other artists?

Essential Groove: I would say I am a people person and will never underestimate another person's potential. I have always been open to giving aspiring artists a chance and many of them have become some of the biggest names in today's scene. I think the number one important factor besides talent is to remain humble and give back to the scene and the people who contribute to it.

Proaudio Sound Press: You've played alongside some of the biggest names in the industry. Are there any collaborations or performances that stand out as particularly memorable or influential in your career?

Essential Groove: There are too many to mention here, I have been fortunate to have played at some incredible events with some incredibly talented artists local and international. Noteworthy sets I would say were the few times I opened for Black Coffee and the late Riky Rick.

Also playing for Paris Hilton and other international celebrities. A special mention to Mark Stent with whom I celebrated my birthday with for over 10 years where we brought over some incredible international artists and showcased some of the best local talent.

Proaudio Sound Press: As a Leo, ambition often comes naturally. What are some of your future ambitions and goals, both within the realm of music and beyond?

Essential Groove: I am blessed to still be doing what I love all these years later and able to watch aspiring DJs grow from strength to strength. I am hoping to still be showcasing my craft for a few more years then settling down and moving on to the next chapter of my life of starting a family and settling down.

Proaudio Sound Press: When it's all said and done, what legacy do you hope Essential Groove leaves in the world of music and DJing?

Essential Groove: I hope Essential Groove will be spoken about as an artist who truly loved music and the scene and hope the scene leaves any animosity behind and makes way for the reason we all go out... to have fun and unite with music and love.



HOME-GROWN MUSIC

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Kabza De Small & Mthunzi

Imithandazo FT Young Stunna, DJ Maphorisa, Sizwe Alakine & UmthakathiKush



South African singer and performer, Kabza De Small, has recently unveiled a captivating new song titled "Imithandazo". This latest release marks Kabza De Small's contribution to the music scene this year, following a string of previously released tracks. "Imithandazo" takes its place as the fourth track on Kabza De Small's nine-track project, "Isimo". The song showcases the artist's enchanting vocals and musical prowess, creating an immersive experience for listeners. Adding to the allure of "Imithandazo," Mthunzi, Young Stunna, Dj Maphorisa, Sizwe Alakine and Umthakathi Kush lend their exceptional vocal talents to the track. Their contributions elevate the song to new heights, resulting in a harmonious collaboration that captivates the senses.



Black Coffee

Wish You Were Here
ft. Msaki - (Remix)

Well respected SA music art Black Coffee have come through with this Remix titled "Wish You Were Here" featuring Msaki (Alyt MX Remix).

Cantrel

Drive

CANTREL

DRIVE

Cantrel is a South African Rock Band comprising of Neil Breytenbach from Prime Circle & his son Jesse Breytenbach. This dynamic Father & Son duo will leave you breathless. With their diverse style of Rock, Rap, Commercial Radio Songs & Acoustic tracks. This Cantrel duo became a reality during covid while Jesse Breytenbach was doing zoom classes for high school from Home. Cantrel's album called 'Drive' is set for release on Friday 19th January 2024 and will consist of 17 Songs. Which will be a perfect mix of their style of Rock, Rap, Radio Pop & Acoustic Songs.



Matthew Mole

Always By My Side

Matthew Mole dropped his latest single "Always By My Side", serving as the lead single from the album "Wake Up, It's Morning". He entrusted the songwriting and production to Ross Hamilton, who has worked with Ella Eyre and Nathan Evans. Hamilton's contribution marks Mole's entry into international songwriting and production collaboration. Following hits like "I'm With You," "Goodbye," and "See Me Again," "Always By My Side" maintains the songwriter's uplifting essence. Using personal struggles as a springboard, it leads to a brighter perspective, giving a lively and festival-friendly vibe. Matthew says of the song, "The song is about the battle in my mind of facing difficulty and knowing that I will make it through and be okay. Things can appear impossible and hopeless, and my thoughts can take me to a depressing place, keeping me awake at night. However, there is a miraculous grace that comes with each new day that gives me the strength to fight and see that there is hope."



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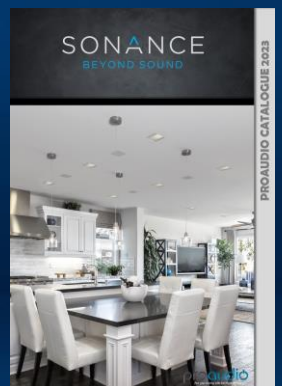
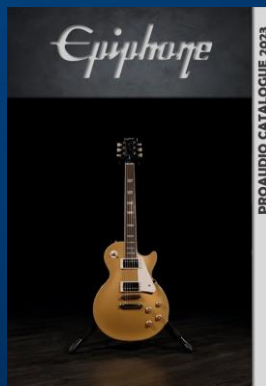
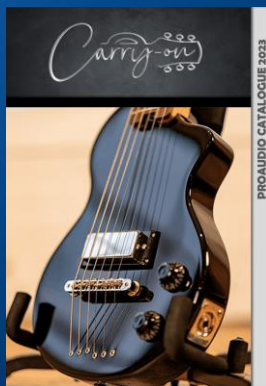
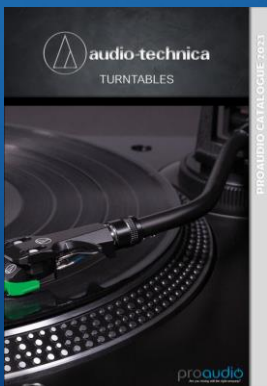
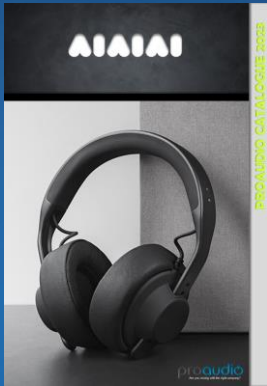
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