



COLUMNS

As We See It

11 Letters

Industry Update

21 Audio Corner

29 Listening

39 Gramophone Dreams

173 Record Review

180 Manufacturer Comments

186 Aural Report

INFORMATION

184 Audio Mart

182 Dealer Showcase

183 Advertiser Index



184 Audio Mart

182 Dealer Showcase

183 Advertiser Index



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Stereophile and have been found to be among the best available at a cost of four or five times their street price. They are recommended for their performance, reliability, and value. The list is intended to help you make informed purchasing decisions. It is not intended to be a complete list of all components available in the market. Components are listed in alphabetical order by manufacturer. The list is subject to change without notice. For more information, visit [www.stereophile.com/400](http://www.stereophile.com/400).

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184 Audio Mart

182 Dealer Showcase

183 Advertiser Index

the editorial, manufacturing and sales departments for information that we do not generally discuss. Stereophile's Recommended Components listing is aimed exclusively at consumers with product-oriented attitudes in the US through the staff's editorial offices.

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The ratings given components included in this listing are based on the following criteria: performance, reliability, value for money, and availability. Components are recommended for their performance, reliability, and value for money. The list is intended to help you make informed purchasing decisions. It is not intended to be a complete list of all components available in the market. Components are listed in alphabetical order by manufacturer. The list is subject to change without notice. For more information, visit [www.stereophile.com/400](http://www.stereophile.com/400).

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There is a new standard component list of 400 items that we publish in our magazine. This list is intended to help you make informed purchasing decisions. It is not intended to be a complete list of all components available in the market. Components are listed in alphabetical order by manufacturer. The list is subject to change without notice. For more information, visit [www.stereophile.com/400](http://www.stereophile.com/400).

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TONEARMS

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ABIS SA-1.2: \$1775 \$\$\$

The Japan-made Abis SA-1.2 is a high-mass 9" tonearm that began life as the Abis SA-1, famous for impressing AD and for having been withdrawn from an earlier edition of "Recommended Components"—by its importer!—while undergoing revision. The new SA-1.2 reflects a number of refinements: improved bearings, greater effective length (9.4" vs 9"), and slightly higher offset angle. The arm's basics remain: a precision-milled armtube of rectangular cross section, static downforce, and a removable headshell for easy cartridge changes. When he used the revised SA-1.2—also an HR favorite—with the perennially recommendable Denon DL-103 cartridge, the low compliance of which is well suited to such a high-mass arm, AD found it capable of pulling from his records "tremendous amounts of touch and force and impact." The SA-1.2 was so good, he declared, that it made his Thorens TD 124 sound more like his Garrard 301. (This, he suggests, is good.) Speaking of which, AD cautions that, to make the Abis more compatible with the unusually low-slung platter of the TD 124, the user must make one or two adjustments. His conclusion: "I'd put the combination of Abis SA-1.2 and Denon DL-103 up against all but their priciest competitors." (Vol.37 No.3, Vol.38 No.11, Vol.39 No.4 WWW)