

STEREO STEREO

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THE (SOUND)
DIE IS CAST!



With the new 'Statement' the 'Black Cube' series by audio engineer Norbert Lehmann from Cologne offers a sensational bargain for beginners

A smart black cube from Cologne has rocked the audiophile scene for some years in such a way that the name of its designer is now tantamount to great sounding phono preamplifiers 'made in Germany': Norbert Lehmann and his 'Black Cube'. The last to receive a well-deserved excellent review were the Black Cube SE and Twin models in STEREO 3/2002.

This is partly due to the outstanding price-to-performance-ratio of the equalizer amps which offer versatile adjustments to all kinds of pickup systems via DIP switches. Well, the audio engineer from the beautiful cathedral city is an especially busy person and hence always on the lookout for possible improvement. Therefore he is now updating his entire product range step by step.

The youngest member of the 'Edition 2006' is the 'Black Cube Statement' which actually does not differ in its appearance from its siblings at all. But in its price: barely 300 Euro for a device that is completely manufactured in Germany, with all known virtues of the Lehmann range, makes the audience take notice. And justifiably so, as we can state after our listening check. Like all high-quality phono pres,

LEHMANN AUDIO BL. CUBE STATEMENT

ca. €300

Warranty: 2 Years

Manufacturer: Lehmann Audio,

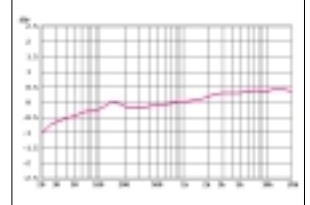
Tel.: +49-2203/932968

www.lehmannaudio.de

Chapeau! With his 'small' Black Cube, Norbert Lehmann delivers indeed an audiophile statement. This colourful and lively phono pre has got the groove.

LABORATORY

FREQUENCY RESPONSE



The favourably-priced Lehmann boasts with excellent measurement specs: stereo channel separation of max. 104 (!) decibels is quite sensational, S/N ratios of 80 dB (A) for MM and 60 dB (A) for MC also bear witness to solid workmanship. With only 0.0016% THD and 0.09 % intermodulation, the Statement behaves like a model pupil in any situation.

FEATURES

For such a bargain buy, this phono preamp is extremely versatile. Via DIP switches on the bottomside the following impedances may be selected per channel: 47 k ohm, 1 kohm, 100 ohm. Four gain factors can be selected between 31 and 61 decibels for MM and MC. Free slot for optional impedance, gold-plated connectors.

STEREO-TEST

SOUND LEVEL 91%

VALUE FOR MONEY



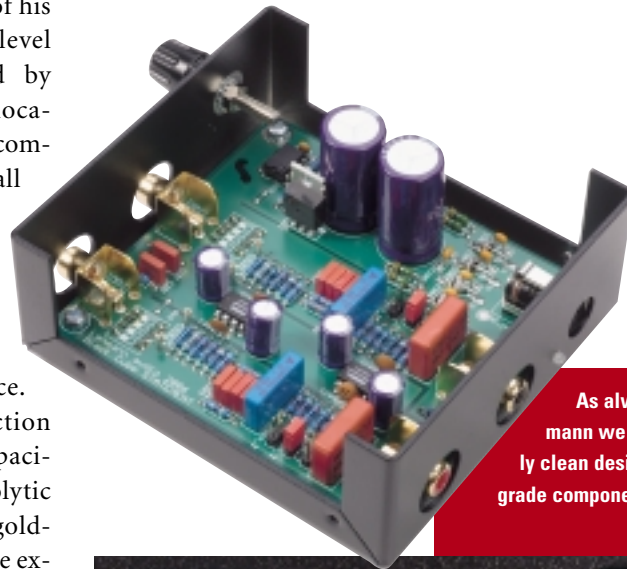
OUTSTANDING

the Black Cube also needs some 'warm-up days' on the mains net before it set off to work with an instantly palpable, incredibly vividly performance. The 'Statement' was sparkling with timbres, revealing a lively, homogeneous and harmonious character. The music came off the loudspeakers with a casual non-chalance that it was a pleasure to listen to the Cologne cube for hours. It could even beat our review candidate from 2002 hands down: the 'SE' with its much more elaborate external power supply for twice the price then. And that's quite a statement, Mister Lehmann!

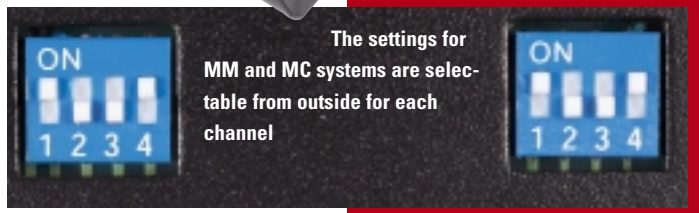
There is no sign of feature minimization, as one might expect in view of the favourable

price. Like all members of his gifted 'clan', the entry-level pre can be persuaded by means of DIP switches located on the bottomside to communicate with virtually all MM and MC systems on the market. Plus it offers another internal free slot for the solder-free installation of a customer-designed impedance. The component selection with high-grade film capacitors and low ESR electrolytic capacitors as well as the gold-plated connectors and the extremely clean, dual-sided pcb layout are also up to the highest standards. So we may confidently say it again: *Alia iacta est - the die is cast!*

Tobias Zoporowski



As always with Lehmann we see an extremely clean design with top-grade components



The settings for MM and MC systems are selectable from outside for each channel



Lehmannaudio®

Lehmannaudio, this is High End by an audio engineer for the demanding music lover or professional.

Numerous awards and countless positive reviews on all five continents as well as an unrivalled customer satisfaction worldwide clearly show the outstanding performance and product quality of Lehmannaudio products.

The Black Cube phono preamplifier redefined the phono stage market when introduced in 1995 and saw many imitations. The Silver Cube phono stage has been launched in 2002 and soon reached reference status in several Hifi magazines. The Black Cube Linear headphone amplifier is to be found in mastering studios and at broadcasting stations where reliable quality evaluation is the main objective.

This success has not been based on fortuity: solid engineering, the consequent consideration of sonically important details and an exceptional price to value ratio are the stable fundamentals of this truly unique success story.

All Lehmannaudio products are exclusively developed and manufactured in Germany.

Lehmannaudio, Black Cube and Silver Cube are registered trade marks of Lehmannaudio Dipl.-Ing. Norbert Lehmann Richard Zanders Str. 54 51489 Bergisch Gladbach
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Lehmannaudio products have been reviewed in the following magazines:

- ARS Magazin (DE)
- Audio (NO)
- Audio Video (ZA)
- AV-Magazin (DE)
- Australian Hifi (AU)
- Bound for Sound (US)
- DVD Home Theater (GR)
- evolver (AT)
- enjoythemusic (US)
- Extreme AV (GR)
- groovehouse (CA)
- headfi (US)
- Hifi Choice (UK)
- Hifi Critic (UK)
- Hifi News (UK)
- Hifi Design Jahrbuch (DE)
- Hifi Lehti (FI)
- Hifi & Musik (SE)
- Hifi & Records (DE)
- Hifi Video Test (NL)
- Hifi World (UK)
- Hörenlebnis (DE)
- Home Studio (NL)
- Image Hifi (DE)
- Listener (US)
- LP (DE)
- Mikrobitti (FI)
- Music emotion (NL)
- NXOS (GR)
- Positive feedback (US)
- Quebec Audio (CA)
- Sonic Review (HK)
- SoundStage! (CA)
- Stereo (DE)
- Stereophile (US)
- Stereoplay (DE)
- Suono (IT)
- The Absolute Sound (US)
- The Audiophile Voice (US)
- TNT-Audio (IT)
- Ultra High Fidelity (CA)
- WAM (KR)

