

NEW PRODUCT ANNOUNCEMENT

Joule Electra LA-150 12/28/01

Joule-Electra is proud to introduce our newest pre-amplifier, the LA-150. This new line amplifier is based on the acclaimed LA-100, that has seen three distinct stages of evolution, and remains a mainstay in our product line. The new LA-150 retains all of the virtues of the LA-100, but prodigiously increases the sonic and musical performance throughout the audio spectrum. The LA-150 uses the same Mu follower circuitry that is the optimum environment for triode performance. The new radically remarkable tubes used in this circuit allow new performance benchmarks to be established. Another Russian military wonder tube has found its way into hi-fi realm: the 6C45-P. A major feature of this tube is the single triode in its glass envelope. Most high gain tubes found in audio have two triodes per glass envelope. The 6C45-P has the gain and power potential of fifteen 12AX7's operated in parallel (30 triodes paralleled). Remarkably this gain and power is attained from a simple design and robust construction. It is interfaced with the 6H30 as a Mu follower.

The Joule circuit with this tube match-up raises the performance bar considerably higher and does so, in part, by making the entire circuit even simpler. The 6H30, as Mu follower, provides the perfect environment for the 6C45-P gain tube allowing the primary output from the preamp to be taken from the plate of the gain stage. This means is that there is only one single vacuum (triode) in the signal path! This is the simplest and most elegant circuit possible for a tube amplifier. The results in greatly improved dynamics throughout the audio spectrum, notably improved bass drive and a clean and open presentation letting music emerge freely and effortlessly. And it has all the tonal beauty that only comes in a Joule.

The single triode output stage of the LA-150 has an output impedance of less than 400 ohms, which is low enough to drive all but the most demanding amplifiers, i.e., low input impedance and low voltage sensitivity power amps. If a lower output impedance is required, the output can be taken from the Mu follower section which has an output impedance of only 50 ohms letting it interface with any solid state power amplifier. Please contact us if you have questions regarding Joule component compatibility with other products.

As with Joule-Electra components, the newest preamp is hand built with optimized parts, unique construction techniques, and a full commitment to craft. All Joule-Electra preamps feature precision engineered power supplies with tube regulation and are available as a line stage preamplifiers or as a full function preamplifiers with phono stage. Older Mark III LA-100's and Mark II LAP-100's can be upgraded to the sonic equivalent of the 150 for a nominal fee. Preamps with phono will be more expensive due to major changes required in the power supply. Each upgrade receives the new tubes, a radically modified signal board and upgraded power supplies. In addition the serial number is reissued with a "UG" to designate the new model circuit topology.