

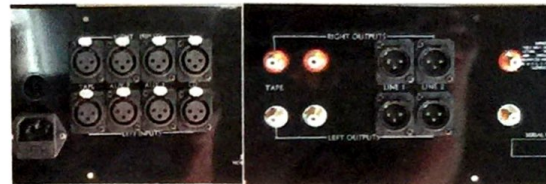
JOULE



ELECTRA

BALANCED LINE AMPLIFIER

Joule Electra began to build its first balanced line amplifiers in the Spring of 1999. These line amplifiers are custom design for the audiophile due to the specific nature of the features required. Our first unit, dubbed the LA-400S is pictured below and has following features:

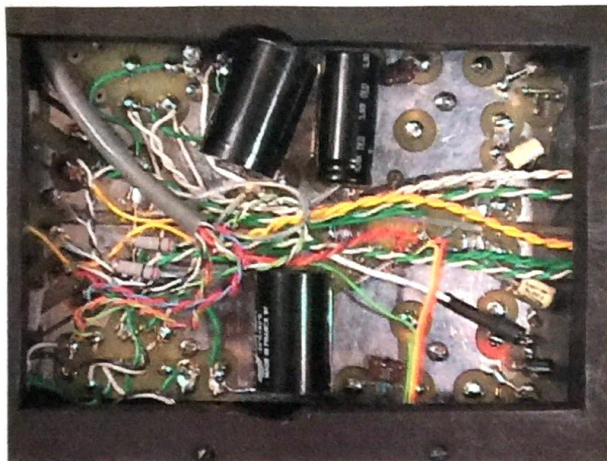


- Four balanced inputs'
 - A set of single-ended inputs
 - A single-ended tape loop - out
 - A single-ended tape loop - return
 - Four balanced outputs'
 - Remote selectable single-ended operation
 - Remote selectable balanced operation
 - Remote selectable stereo/mono operation
 - Remote volume and balance controls
 - Separate all tube power supply with detachable cable
- Female XLR connectors
 - RCA connectors
 - RCA connectors
 - RCA connectors
 - Male XLR connectors

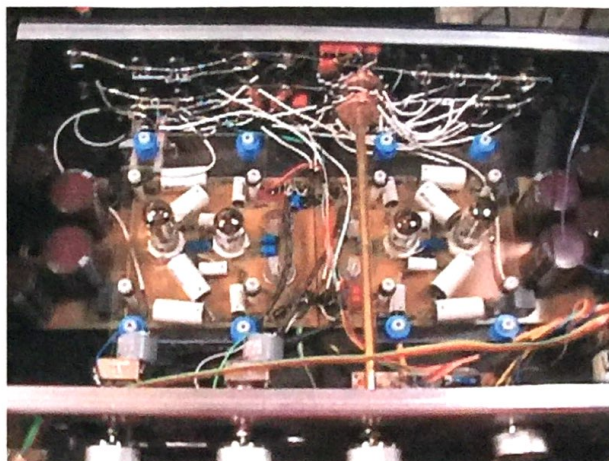
All the functions above were designed to be phase correct by using an elaborate relay system that reversed the phases when necessary to get the desired function. The remote control has 8 separate discrete control functions and the tape loop activation is manual.

The circuit of the LA-400 is essentially two LA-100 line stages in the same box with the appropriate control feature specified above. All the relays used dual contacts in the signal path and point to point component wiring, features that have been standard on all Joule Electra products. The status of the single ended versus balance operation as well as mono/stereo is shown by active LEDs. A standby/operate switch and status led is also located on the front panel.

The sonics of the LA-400 essentially duplicate that of the LA-100 in both balanced and single-ended configuration, in spite of the complex nature of this preamplifier. The pictures below will give you some idea of the advanced nature of the LA-400. It is a master piece of engineering for the discerning audiophile.



TOP VIEW OF BALANCED PREAMP
POWER CABLE HOOKUP



SIGNAL BOARD - BOTTOM

NOTE PURIST AUDIO SILVER WIRE

PREAMP DEVELOPMENT WORK

We have worked for many months with two new preamp designs pictured below. One incorporated eight (8) triodes in parallel per channel using 6SN7's and the second used twelve (12) parallel triodes per channel using 6DJ8's. While both of these preamps sounded very good, neither of them provided the musicality or ambience recovery of the standard Joule Electra LA-100. We are still looking for the grail but it does not appear to be in this topology!

