

Renaissance Mk III

Preamplifier

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Second only to the flagship Signature Preamplifier, the Renaissance Mk III has all of the performance and features needed in a top-class music system, including balanced inputs and output, home theater input, hand-wired Class A triode circuitry, remote control, external power supply, and optional MM/MC phono stage with variable loading. The dynamics, detail, and speed of this preamplifier bring music back to life most convincingly.



Features

Electrical Design:

The VAC Renaissance Mk III Preamplifier is a development of the preamplifier section from the highly regarded VAC Phi Beta Integrated amplifier and provides balanced and single-ended input and output capability. It is completely hand-wired, and all switching is accomplished via high-purity silver contact mechanical switches. The six active circuit elements are twin triode vacuum tubes, biased for Class A1 operation.

VAC's Cinema Bypass Mode:

The line stage also offers a fully buffered tape loop and, which allows your high-end stereo system to integrate seamlessly with home theater. The cinema bypass input is a fixed gain input that allows your source component to control volume, and passes this signal through to the stereo power amplifiers without further processing.

Remote:

The lacquered aluminum volume/mute remote control is standard. In the mute state, the VAC logo changes from blue to red. Uniquely, our remote system is implemented with

electromechanical switches and controls. This approach is considerably more costly than the usual digital interfaces, but has several major advantages. First, no VCAs, relays, or transistor switches (switched ladder networks) are used in controlling volume. This is mandatory for sonic purity. Second, VAC's careful implementation avoids the use of microprocessors, which generate significant noise signals that, while sometimes not audible directly, can do damage to the sound. .

Power Supply:

The heavy power supply is external, with a 6-foot detachable umbilical cable. The optional MM/MC phono stage uses six triode elements with passive RIAA equalization. Variable gain (42/62 dB) and variable resistive loading are provided.

Construction:

The standard fascia finish is black lacquer with gold metallic flake over a VAC-machined 10 mm aluminum plate. The faceted and domed countersunk aluminum knobs are also machined at VAC and finished in 10 micron gold. Silver with chrome is optional at added cost.

Reviews

... earned the "Select Audio Component" award. "... the VAC Renaissance Mk.3 boasts the most impressive combination of serious sound, first-class build, great looks, compatibility with a range of amps, and overall flexibility in its numerous features of any model I've yet had in my system. It won't be leaving any time soon." *UltraAudio, September 2010*
... Garrett Hongo



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Specifications

*Specifications subject to change without notice.

RENAISSANCE MKIII	
GAIN	22 dB
INPUTS	3 sets RCA line input 2 sets balanced/RCA selectable inputs 1 set RCA tape monitor input 1 set RCA cinema bypass input Optional MM phono and MC (or additional line input if phono is not fitted)
OUTPUTS	2 sets balanced 2 sets single-ended
TUBES	2x 12AU7 4x 12AX7
ABSOLUTE PHASE	Correct from all inputs to all outputs
FREQUENCY RESPONSE	Flat over audio band -3 db bandwidth 4 Hz - 200 kHz
THD	Approx. .04%
MAXIMUM OUTPUT	30 volts RMS single-ended; >30 volts RMS-balanced
OUTPUT IMPEDANCE	Via RCA jacks: 300 ohms; inverting from all sources to RCA main outputs only Via XLR connector: 600 ohms with positive phase on pin 2, negative phase on pin 3 ("pin 2 hot" EIA / RCA standard)
MAXIMUM INPUT	Infinite signal (attenuation precedes the gain circuitry)
RECOMMENDED OUTPUT LOAD	> 10000 ohms
POWER	External power supply, detachable umbilical cable, detachable IEC power cord
TAPE OUTPUT	Unity gain from selector, non-inverting for archival integrity
CINEMA BYPASS	Yes
VOLTAGE	May be ordered for 100v, 120v, 220v, or 230/240v operation
VOLUME CONTROL	A custom engineered VAC motor drive system allows the volume to be adjusted by remote control.
ILLUMINATION	Illuminated logo may be switched off
FINISH	Hand-rubbed gold-flake gloss black lacquer with chrome knobs standard. Hand-rubbed metallic gloss silver lacquer with chrome knobs special order with additional cost.
DIMENSIONS (H X W X D)	Audio chassis (including knobs and connectors): 5.5 x 17.9 x 15.3 in. (14 x 45.5 x 38.9 cm.) Power supply (not including cables and cable clamp): 4.75 x 6.75 x 14 in. (12.1 x 17.1 x 35.6 cm.)
SHIPPING WEIGHT	40 lbs. (18.2 kg.)

PHONO STAGE (OPTIONAL)	
TUBES	3x 12AX7
GAIN	462 dB MC, 42 dB MM (measured at tape output)
FREQUENCY RESPONSE	RIAA +/- .25 dB
CHANNEL SEPARATION	
MAXIMUM INPUT	Infinite signal (attenuation precedes the gain circuitry)
MC LOAD IMPEDANCE	Selectable, 470, 300, 250, 200, 150, and 100 ohms (also for MM x 100)
MM LOAD IMPEDANCE	Selectable 47k, 30k, 25k, 15k, and 10k ohms 100pF
OVERLOAD	117 mv @ 1 kHz = 8 volts RMS output; 460 mv @ 10 kHz
RESIDUAL NOISE	Less than 3 mv at output (S/N ratio greater than approx. 69 db)

Both MM and MC cartridges may be simultaneously installed, selected by rear panel switch



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