

WHAT HI★FI? SOUND AND VISION

Linger over the Lyngdorf CD1

CD PLAYER
LYNGDORF CD1



£ 1895

FOR

Superlative detail resolution and dynamics; excellent build; sophisticated control system

AGAINST

It's a shame timing isn't just that bit crisper

VERDICT

Provided the CD1's abilities match your musical tastes, you'll not find better for the money

FOR SOME PEOPLE, this will be the best sub-two grand player on the market. If you value detail resolution and strong dynamics above all else, we can't think of another machine that does better.

Take a listen to Prokofiev's *Romeo & Juliet*, and the Lyngdorf's insight is quite stunning – in outright terms, this player isn't far short of delivering what our reference Naim CDS3 does.

Consider the Naim costs around ten grand with its outboard power supply, and you'll realise just how much of a compliment that is.

You can add a convincing tonal balance to the list of plus points, and plenty of punch, too. The Lyngdorf pulls off the tricky feat of

combining a weighty and powerful bass with class-leading agility: few rivals manage the same.

In fact, in every sonic respect this machine matches or betters the class leading players at this price level. Well, every respect

"In outright terms this player isn't far short of our £10k reference kit"

apart from timing, that is. Rhythm-driven music, such as Wyclef Jean's *Ecleptic* loses some momentum, and with it the ability to truly engage the listener. So if you mainly listen to rock, hip-hop

or anything upbeat, take a good long listen before you choose this player over its competitors. Concentrate on classical and other music that doesn't rely on timing for appeal, and we're sure you'll find none better at this price.

Rocks, but sensibly

Normally, we'd take a star off the overall rating for a weakness like this, but so good is the Lyngdorf in so many areas that it doesn't seem fair. Particularly when you consider the spectacular build, slick transport and clever control system that allows the user to fine tune the player's ability. If the CD1's measured approach to rhythms doesn't annoy you, buy with confidence.



Not a complete all-rounder, but the Lyngdorf's prodigiously talented even so