Totally Flexible. Sonically Superior. Modular Audio Processing System

Five wart hogs gossips, and tickets incinerated two partly schizophrenic Macintoshes. Afghanistan comfortably tickled aardvarks, even though umpteen dwarves ran away. One quite irascible ticket very drunkenly bought the pawnbrokers. Umpteen speedy tickets comfortably tastes two obese subways, however five pawnbrokers annoyingly telephoned the almost speedy elephant. Two mats quite drunkenly auctioned off the sheep.

Black Series  < The Dark Art >
Character of sound. Clarity of purpose.

Black Series redefines the art of creating a classic signal path.

The exceptional transparency of David Dearden’s audio path design has been married to unique transformer coupled, discrete Class A technology, to provide the ultimate tool for creating and controlling classic character and complexity.
**Black Pre** features transformer balanced Mic and Line inputs and a discrete, single ended Class A signal path. A front panel mounted 1/4” jack is provided for the high impedance Instrument/DI input. There are separate switched gain controls for the Mic and Line inputs, as well as a 10dB range fine trim gain control. A continuously variable, 12db/octave high pass filter, polarity switch, 48V phantom power and peak level indication via a 12 segment LED display are also provided. The proprietary “HMX” control adds musically relevant harmonics, providing a character reminiscent of classic vacuum tube designs.

**Black Comp** is a Class A, transformer balanced optical compressor/limiter. Overcomp allows a large amount of pre-compression to be added to the signal, with some stunning results possible where an increase in the “energy” of the signal is desired. Smooth switches the side chain characteristic into a dual mode where a relatively slow RMS sensing circuit allows a gentle levelling of the signal while a peak sensing stage pulls down any peaks that pass through. Gain reduction or output level can be monitored via the VU meter and a link mode allows 2 or more Black Comp modules to form a stereo or multi channel compressor/limiter.

**Black EQ** features switched frequency, “Enhanced Slope” HF and LF shelving controls, a switched frequency (1.5kHz/3kHz) Presence band and a sweep frequency Lo Mid band. The Lo Mid and Presence bands can be switched between reciprocal and Constant Q modes to allow either wide band equalisation or wide band boost with narrow band cut (notching) characteristics. Overtone adds an LF band specific harmonic colouration, providing definition to the low frequencies whilst letting the high frequencies pass through unaltered. Glo adds a side chain compression path to the LF band to dynamically “tighten” or “thicken” the bass content. The 3 position Tilt switch provides a subtle change to the tonal balance by gently sloping the overall frequency response allowing a “lightening” or “darkening” of the tone.

**Black ADC** uses the latest Super High Performance converter technology to provide 24 bit/192kHz conversion in a compact form that fits into Black Rack. Black ADC can be used as a stand alone converter for external devices as well as for the analogue modules within the rack. On the rear panel, the module has analogue inputs as well as an AES/EBU output XLR and a Wordclock input. On the front panel, SPDIF, Toslink and an additional AES/EBU XLR connector are provided.

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**Black Series < The Dark Art >**
**Black Pre**
- Discrete Class A circuitry
- Transformer Balanced Mic and Line inputs and unbalanced Instrument/DI input
- “HMX” - Harmonic Sculpting feature
- Variable high pass filter
- Polarity invert switch
- 12 segment display

**Black EQ**
- Discrete Class A circuitry, 4 band EQ
- Transformer balanced input
- “Enhanced Slope” HF / LF shelving, Hi Mid Presence/Absence, sweep Lo Mid
- “Overtone” - LF band specific harmonic enhancement
- “Glo” - LF band specific dynamic equalisation
- “Tilt” - shifts overall tonal balance around 1kHz

**Black Comp**
- Discrete Class A circuitry opto-compressor
- Transformer balanced input
- VU meter- switched between gain reduction and output level
- Switched Ratio, Attack and Release controls
- “Auto” - Release function
- “Overcomp” - Fet based over-compression circuit
- “Smooth” - Switches to dual time constant mode for overall mix bus compression
- “Link” - to link modules for multi channel use

**Black ADC**
- Latest Super High Performance converter circuit
- Up to 192kHz sampling frequency at 24 bit resolution
- AES, Spdif and Toslink outputs
- 12 segment level display with OD BFS and Over LEDs
- Discrete inputs - allows the module to be used as a stand alone converter

**Black Rack BR – 10**
- The BR-10 can accommodate up to 10 Black Series modules. The integrated rear connector panel allows the modules to be freely installed in a sequence that suits the user’s requirement. Power to the Black Rack is provided via the external Black PSU power supply.

## Black Series Specifications

### Black Pre
- **Mic Input**
  - Gain: +10dB to 60dB in 10dB steps
  - THD: Typically better than 0.1% at 1kHz, at +10dBu out
  - EIN: Better than -127.5dB at 60dB gain, ref 150 Ohms
  - Frequency response: +/- 0.3dB, 20Hz-20kHz, at 30dB gain
  - CMRR: Better than 80dB, 20Hz-20kHz
  - Input Impedance: > 1kOhms, transformer balanced

- **Line Input**
  - Gain: -10dB to +15dB in 5dB steps
  - THD: Typically better than 0.1% at 1kHz, at +10dBu out.
  - Noise: Typically better than -93dBu at 0dB gain
  - Frequency response: +/- 0.3dB, 20Hz-20kHz, at 0dB gain
  - Input Impedance: > 10kOhms, transformer balanced

### Black EQ
- **THD:** Typically better than 0.1% at 1kHz, at 10dBu out.
- **Noise - EQ out:** -98dBu. EQ in: -86dBu
- **Frequency response:** +/- 0.3dB, 20Hz-20kHz, set flat
- **Input Impedance:** >10kOhm, transformer balanced
- **Output Impedance:** <100Ohms, single ended impedance balanced
- **Maximum input level:** +21dBu
- **Maximum output level:** +21dBu

### Black Comp
- **THD:** Typically better than 0.1% at 1kHz, at +10dBu out.
- **Noise - Compressor out:** -100dBu. Compressor in: -95dBu at 0dB gain
- **Frequency response:** +/- 0.5dB, 20Hz-20kHz
- **Input Impedance:** >10kOhms, transformer balanced
- **Output Impedance:** <100Ohms, single ended impedance balanced
- **Maximum input level:** +21dBu
- **Maximum output level:** +21dBu

### Black ADC
- **Sample rates:** 44.1, 48, 88.2, 96, 176.4 and 192kHz
- **Outputs, front panel:** AES/EBU, SPDIF coaxial and Toslink
- **Outputs, rear panel:** AES/EBU
- **Word Clock input:** BNC
- **Dynamic range:** 109dB
- **THD:** <0.004%

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