



Press Release

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PM6003 integrated stereo amplifier

£299.90

New Marantz stereo amplifier design builds on award-winning predecessor

The PM6003 adopts Marantz's latest 'M1' design and readies itself to succeed the PM6002, the departing model that won numerous awards, and in the process redefined performance expectations from 'budget' hi-fi.

Replacing a hugely successful design can be a daunting process. However the first amendment Marantz's design team made to PM6002's replacement was a simple and immediate one: the PM6003 adopts the latest Marantz 'reference standard' chassis design and 'M1' front panel. These changes bring the new stereo amplifier into line with the rest of the Marantz product family. Cosmetically the PM6003 also now matches its siblings, adopting the M1's beautifully curved and classy fascia.

Once the new amplifier's exterior was agreed upon the Marantz team set about improving the interior workings. Taking the PM6002's winning sonic signature as the basis for the new amp's character, the designers delivered a lower impedance, case-shielded toroidal transformer. This addition was aligned to an advanced power transistor, one capable of handling a higher current than its predecessor. Marantz mounts these more powerful transistors to a new extruded aluminium heat sink, reducing resonances which can have a negative effect on ultimate sound quality.

Further internal work includes components individually customised to compliment one another. The ultimate aim, of course, of the design team's painstaking work, is to further improve the terrific sound offered by the outgoing PM6002 and here Marantz feels the operation is an absolute success. Listening time spent with the PM6003 reveals demonstrable sonic improvements, in particular the stereo engines powers out tight bass, paints a clear stereo image and unravels a beautifully wide sound stage – this amp may come at a relatively small price, but its sound character is by no means constricted. Nor, with the new engine firing out a healthy 2 x 45 watts of power, is there any shortage of music-making muscle.

On-board features cover six line-in audio inputs and here Marantz – as ever – remembers to

factor-in facilities for vinyl fans. One of the half dozen inputs is a high-quality moving magnet phono-stage, ready-and-waiting to dock a turntable. Also round the pack of the slinky chassis you find two pairs of gold-plated speaker connections, enabling speaker bi-wiring connection, and completing the package is the smart RC002PM system remote.

As stated earlier, replacing the best in class is no easy task, but the PM6003 demonstrates Marantz's commitment to continually upping the ante. The (budget) King is dead long live the (budget) King.

The Marantz PM6003 will be available from August 2009.

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The Marantz group has 628 employees in more than 50 countries. Marantz is a part of D&M Holdings Inc. The company can trace its roots back to the dawn of the first mono LP, when Saul Bernard Marantz, a native of New York, was unhappy with the equipment available to play his cherished record collection on. So he built his own! Saul officially founded the Marantz Company in 1953. Then, as now, the company's cornerstones were quality and innovation. For over half a century Marantz has been developing unique technologies and bringing landmark hi-fi and home entertainment products to market through its tireless and extensive R&D programmes. Such commitment to audio and video excellence ensures each Marantz design delivers class-leading performance. Additional information is available at www.marantz.com.

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