



DIE GROSSE LESERWAHL 2019
 Gewinnspiel: Preise im Wert von 250.000 Euro!

AUDIO

12/2018

Deutschland 6,90 € www.audio.de

LEGENDÄRE
Hörtest-CD!

- Über 78 Minuten audiophile Musik
- Referenz-CD mit Sammlerwert vom Top-Label MDG



KRAFT & DYNAMIK
VERSTÄRKER VON
GERMAN PHYSIKS

GROSSER KABEL-VERGLEICH
10 NF- UND
LAUTSPRECHERKABEL

PREIS-HITS
VON KLIPSCH
& DALI



KOPFHÖRER-VERSTÄRKER

5 TOP-
MODELLE
IM TEST



Österreich € 7,60 • Schweiz Sfr. 13,70 • Spanien € 8,95
 BeNeLux € 8,05 • Italien € 8,95 • Griechenland € 10,35
 Dänemark DKK. 79,00 • Finnland € 10,15
 Slowenien € 8,95 • Slowakei € 8,95



ONLY THE BEST, END OF DISCUSSION

We have a new superlative: No amplifiers have sounded better than these from German Physiks. Are we guilty of hyperbole? No. We have never heard our favorite music sounding more impressive.
■ Andreas Günther



TEST

Vor-End-Kombi

EMPEROR EXTREME PRE	17 850 €
EMPEROR EXTREME MONO POWER	23 950 €

If you want to do something special in the high-end audio industry, you need one thing in particular: money. A new product range can eat thousands of euros. The engineers want to get paid and new machinery and tooling have to be purchased. Even then success is not guaranteed. It is a very big risk.

This does not deter Holger Mueller. He is the owner of German Physiks. His loudspeakers are in great demand around the world and his coffers are full, but what to do with this money? Mueller has had a dream come true.

He wants to become a full-range provider. His loudspeakers, of

course, remain the basis of his business, but now he also has electronics: from the source to the amplifiers. A turntable is also planned, as well as an SACD player and a music server, but above all this he has plans for a new range of high-end amplifiers. The first samples of this new range is ready and playing in our listening room – a preamplifier and a pair of monoblocks.

Now, you might think, that if one is venturing out into uncharted territory, then one should progress discreetly and carefully. Not so German Physiks. They have pushed the boat out and made a very big splash.

Why? Because people from Hessen, the region of Germany where German Physiks is located, are obsessed with being the best. For German Physiks this means that their loudspeakers have to be the best and their electronics have to be the best. It is Holger Mueller who drives this philosophy. It is his obsession – he cannot stand that someone else is better. Consequently he makes no compromises to pander to the whims of the market, or to reduce costs by using cheap components from the Far East. Everything and I really mean everything in these electronics originates from Germany: the special internal wiring; the electrolytic capacitors; the custom wound toroidal



**NOT THE KING
BUT THE EMPEROR**



SIMPLE, BUT SUFFICIENT

The rear panel of the monoblock. Input via RCA or XLR and output via 2 pairs of large loudspeaker terminals.

analogue and direct.

THREE CASES OF ELECTRONICS

If you look inside the monoblocks and the preamplifier you will be amazed by the quality of the construction. Essentially the chassis comprises three housings nested within each other and this contains the electronics.

The circuitry is designed to the highest standards. Signal paths are kept as short as possible and the printed circuit boards use heavy duty copper. The power transformers are also deliberately over-size. The current drawn from the mains supply by the monoblocks can exceed the maximum available in some apartments. This rarely happens, but it shows the power potential of these amplifiers. This is why it is gratifying that in Germany, German Physiks also includes heavy duty power supply cables with these amplifiers.

There is nothing unusual in the configuration of the output stage. This is simply a class A/B design, but it is one with a level of power that we have not seen before. For anyone wanting to connect even the most demanding loudspeaker with a 2 ohms load – the Emperor monoblock will deliver 1,800W continuously and stably. As far as we are aware, the loudspeaker that this amplifier will not drive does not exist.

LEFT AND RIGHT MONO CONSTRUCTION:

The preamplifier has RCA and XLR inputs and outputs.

power transformers and of course the design. Holger Mueller can justifiably be proud of this. This is why the German Physiks logo is very prominently laser printed on the units' top panels. It cannot be made any bigger or any more eye catching. Is this vanity? No. This is legitimate pride. The dynamic range of the monoblocks is exceptional at 129dB. The preamplifier's dynamic range is just as impressive at 128.5dB.

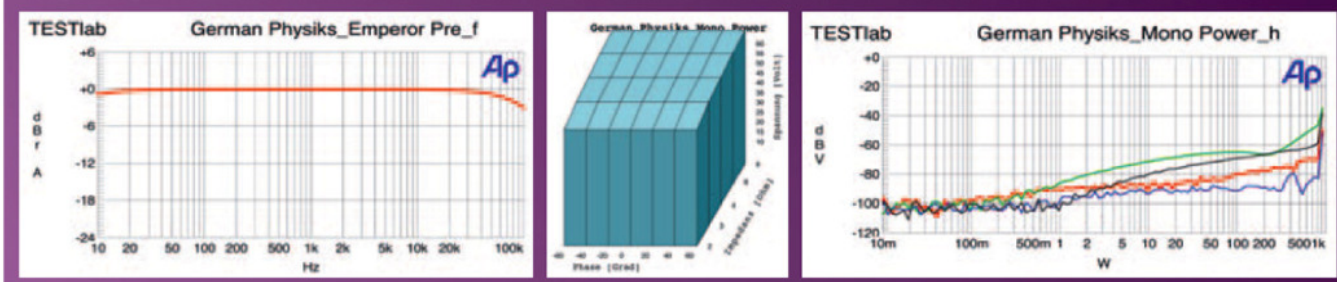
A dream team then. If you are sensible you will take advantage of the sophisticated balanced circuitry and connect the units together with XLR cables. And for the source? The customer still has to wait here. For the Spring of 2019 German Physiks has announced a SACD player and a phono stage. The preamplifier has deliberately been kept simple – it does not have a built in phono stage, or a streamer. Everything stays

MEASUREMENTS

The preamplifier performed its task inconspicuously: It amplifies the incoming signal by up to 9dB and adds very little noise (SNR 100dB). More impressive are the results from the huge monoblocks. These

performed flawlessly with loads offering impedances down to 2 ohms and large phase shifts. They delivered between 580W into 8 ohms and almost 1,800W into 2 ohms. Two units running at full load

load could exceed the 16A limit of some domestic mains supply circuits. Harmonic distortion is negligible. At idle one unit consumes 48W.



There is more to these products than just hard facts and figures. German Physiks supplies the user manual in an Italian fine leather bag. This is quite impressive and is how you build customer loyalty. In addition, units sold in Germany are supplied with German own PION brand power cable. This 2 metre cable, is also made in Germany and is fitted with high quality Furutech connectors. Alone this would cost 1,650 Euros.

There are many recordings to choose from, but none comes as close to the original dynamics as this one. We opted for the luxury of a 24 bit/96kHz version. The sound engineers at Deutsche Grammophon have captured everything from the delicate oboe, to the harsh

produced live – but here I stop and say: listening to a recording via these electronics is superior to the real concert hall experience. We have never had an experience like this before.

Let's change the genre – bold pop from Iceland. Many people may have have bought it as a CD, but there is also an SACD version that sounds dramatically better. The mix is dramatic, almost evil. Ultra heavy bass lines drive the room intertwined with the elven voice of Björk. This mix can cause both loudspeakers and electronics to struggle. This is

**BETTER THAN
A CONCERT!**

THE PRICE IS RIGHT

This brings us to the pricing. German Physiks has stated this clearly, but not hysterically - we know the market and are amazed at the still reasonable pricing. The preamplifier is 17,850 Euros and the monoblocks are 23,950 Euros each. That is a lot of money. Now comes the moment when you have to sit back, forget about the cost and listen. How does it sound? We recommend a recording by the Los Angeles Philharmonic – conducted by Esa-Pekka Salonen - as super-test music for these outstanding electronics: Stravinsky's "Sacre du Printemps.

crash on the big drum. With many systems, when listening to this recording, the concert hall shakes, the electronics struggle and a whimper comes out of the loudspeakers. Not so with these German Physiks electronics. Here you could experience what high-end audio can do in its most beautiful form. Normally, the author firmly believes that good music can only be

not the case with these German Physiks electronics - and our current test speaker, the Focal Kanta No. 3. Rarely has our listening room experienced such high sound pressure levels and such wide spatiality. Here we felt were not listening to a reproduction via a high-end audio system, but to the original – we cannot imagine a more beautiful listening experience.

TIDY: The main circuitry of the preamplifier is located at the back of the unit next to the terminals, allowing for shortest signal paths. The dual mono construction is clearly recognisable.

DETAILS

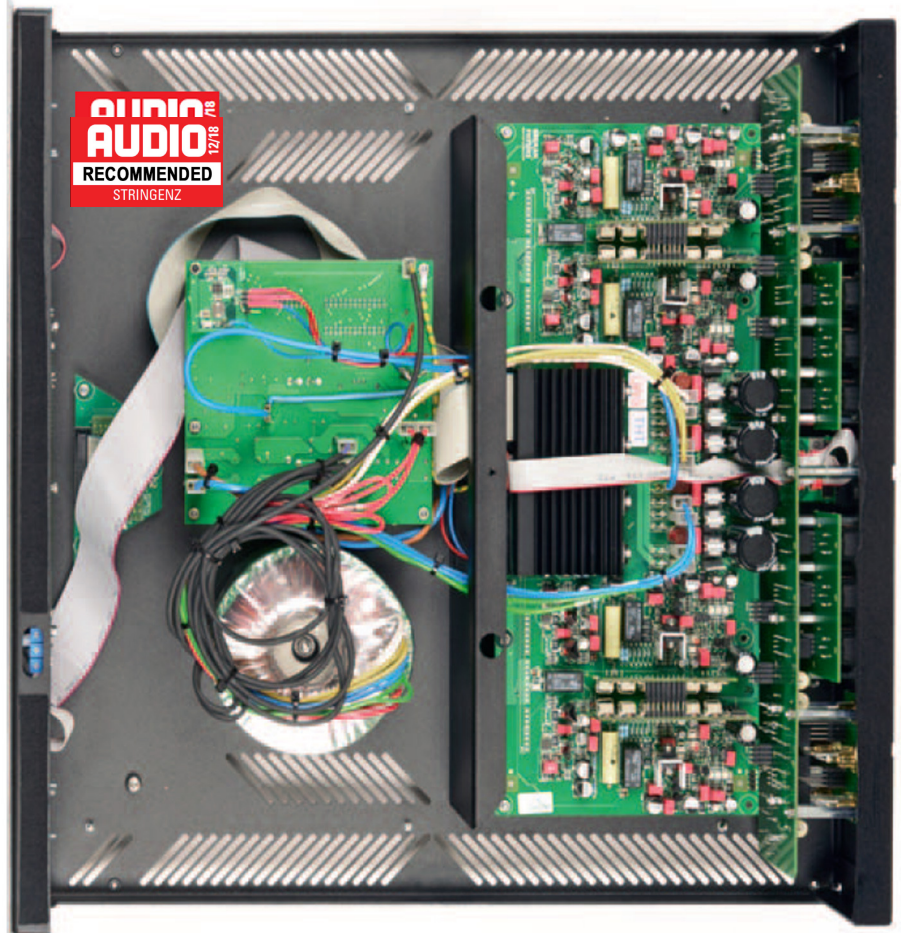
GERMAN PHYSIKS EMPEROR EXTREME PRE	
Manufacturer	DDD Manufactur GmbH Tel. 06109 5029823
www.	german-physiks.com
List price	17 850 Euro
Guarantee	5 years
Dimensions W x H x D	47,4 x 16 x 47,4 cm
Weight	n/a
CONNECTIONS	
Phono MM/MC	–/–
Inputs RCA/XLR	3/3
TapeOut	–
Pre Out RCA/XLR	2/1
FEATURES	
Record selector	–
Tone control/cancellable	•/•
Loudness	–
Other	–

VERDICT

AUDIO 12/2018

● Beautifully natural sound with outstanding resolution	● No phono i/p
● No digital i/p	
Sound quality RCA/XLR	134/136
Facilities	Very good
Ease of use	Very good
Quality of manufacture	Outstanding

AUDIO SOUND **136 POINTS**
PRICE/PERFORMANCE **OUTSTANDING**



TOTAL CONTROL

We continued to listen in depth. We thought that there must be some weakness somewhere, but even with the toughest test music, these electronics were not pushed to anywhere near their limits. This surprised and pleased us in equal measures. We tried many different loudspeakers and many different loudspeaker cables. There was no load too difficult for the German Physiks electronics. This was confirmed by our laboratory measurements: the preamplifier is revealing and the monoblocks powerful. Even with Stravinsky it was clear: there was no stress - the total control was astounding. But how do these electronics cope with a really complicated mix and how do they convey the feeling of an analogue recording? Recently we've been streaming a legend: The Beatles Sgt. Pepper in 24 bit/96 kHz. This has aroused considerable interest.

When listening to this recording we asked ourselves what quality should good electronics demonstrate? For want of a better word, they should be "smart". This is so that they can enable us to hear the analogue feel of the original source material, as well as the new detail revealed by the modern mix. Ultimately we had to form a judgement about the musicality of these electronics. Sheer power only partially satisfies us. The German Physics Trio had what was necessary for complete satisfaction. The very first seconds made it clear. The murmur of the expectant audience: then the vocal and the guitar riff. As powerful as these German Physiks are - they are also subtle and as we said, smart. We are already saving up.

THE X-FACTOR: The electronics of the monoblock have been arranged in a star form. The circuit follows the established class A / B principle. The chassis comprises several layers. Large cooling fins are located the sides.



CONCLUSION



Andreas Günther
AUDIO-Mitarbeiter

German Physiks have christened their new electronics "Emperor Extreme". The preamp is fast and sparkingly clean. The monoblocks are viscerally powerful, but they are also exceptionally transparent. Sonically we are faced with the Ultimate. No other electronics we have heard has displayed such presence, or provided such a huge amount of detail.

DETAILS

G. PHYSIKS EMPEROR EXTREME MONO POWER	
Manufacturer	DDD Manufactur GmbH Tel. 06109 502 98 23
www.	german-physiks.com
List price	23 950 Euro - Each
Guarantee	5 Years
Dimensions W x H x D	47,4 x 29 x 47,4 cm
Weight	n/a
CONNECTIONS	
Input	RCA/XLR 1/1
Channels	1
Remote power on	-
Power display	-
Special features	3 sound presets

VERDICT

AUDIO 12/2018

● Unbelievably powerful, ● None superbly engineered and very detailed sound.

Sound quality RCA/XLR	139/141
Facilities	Very good
Ease of use	Very good
Quality of manufacture	Outstanding

AUDIO SOUND PRICE/PERFORMANCE **141 POINTS OUTSTANDING**