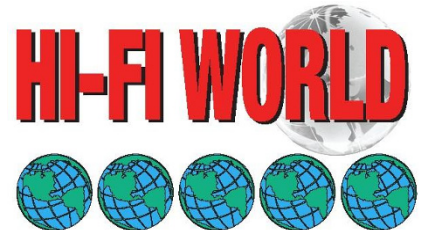


Discreet – and discrete!



www.hi-fiworld.co.uk

APRIL 2019 HI-FI WORLD



"presented with depth, dynamics and a naturally-wide soundstage"

VINYL SECTION



CONCLUSION

It's difficult to find fault in a phono stage that sells for £200 and sounds wonderful. It's sonic success is down to careful design and its ability to accommodate both MM and MC cartridges, as well as the use of discrete transistors rather than silicon chips. Fantastic sound and fantastic value!

PRO-JECT PHONO BOX S2 ULTRA
£200



OUTSTANDING - amongst the best

VALUE - keenly priced

VERDICT

This little phono stage does a wonderful job – Pro-Ject should be congratulated!

FOR

- excellent detail and dynamics
- very musical
- compact and practical design

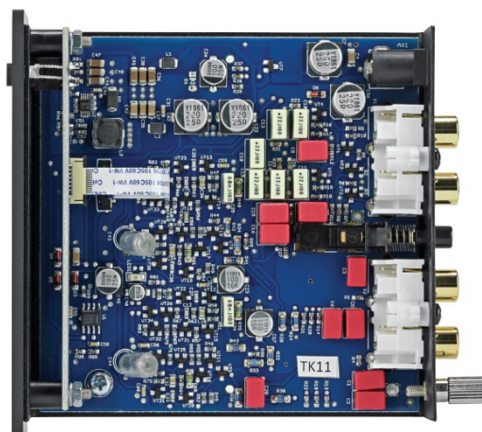
AGAINST

- DIP switches can be rather fiddly
- a 'table' of settings for cartridges would be welcome

Pro-Ject Audio Systems
+43 (0)1 544 85 80
www.project-audio.com



Two rows of recessed DIP switches – one per channel – enable Phono Box S2 Ultra to be 'matched' to whatever cartridge (MM or MC) you happen to be using. A tiny screwdriver is needed to flip each switch.



The circuit board of the Phono Box S2 Ultra is busy, full of transistors instead of generic op-amps. Decent-quality passive components, like polystyrene capacitors, are also in evidence. According to Pro-Ject "the split RIAA equalization" implemented with this collection of devices "enables a pin-point accurate representation of the RIAA curve" to be achieved. The unit's only chips are power supply components.