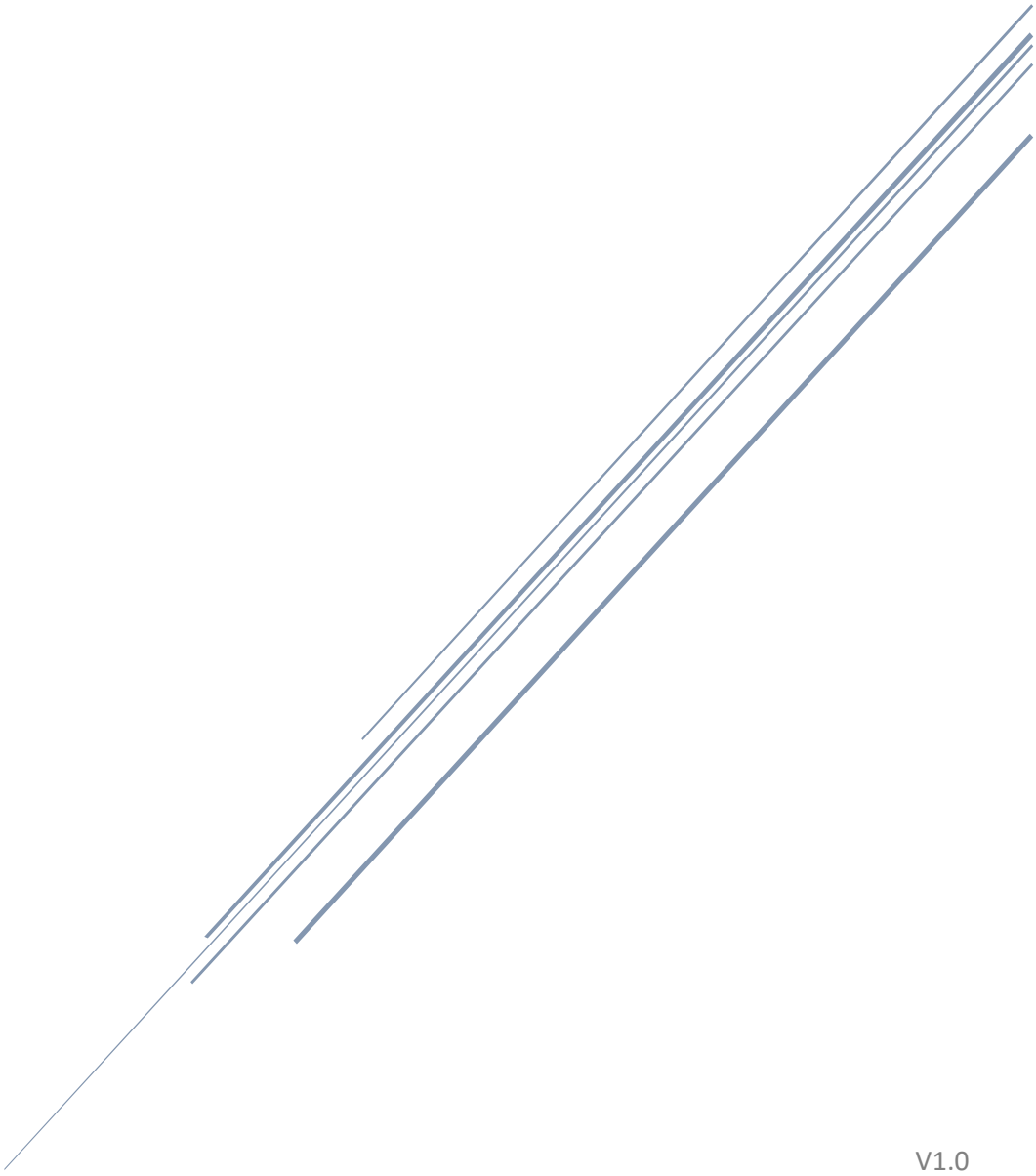
DENAFRIPS

ATHENA PREAMP

OWNER'S MANUAL



V1.0
19th Sept 2020

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1. INSTALLATION & SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

This PREAMP is designed and built to provide trouble-free performance, but as with all electronic devices it is necessary to observe a few precautions:

- Unpack the PREAMP carefully.
- Position the PREAMP on a stable, horizontal surface, i.e. sturdy rack.
- The PREAMP supports voltage 100-250VAC worldwide voltage. Please connect the AC power cord with earth(ground) pin unless it is absolutely required to reduce hum from the ground loops of the connected devices.
- Always ensure that when disconnecting and reconnecting your audio equipment the mains supply is turned off.
- Position the power cord and signal interconnects where they are not likely cause trip and fall hazard.
- Do not use the PREAMP near water, or place water-filled containers on the PREAMP. Entry of liquid into the PREAMP is hazardous and may cause electric shock and/or fire hazard.
- Do not place the unit under direct sunlight or heat source.
- Do not remove any covers or try to gain access to the inside. There are no user adjustments or fuses to change without qualification.
- Clean regularly with a damp soft cloth. Do not use any cleaning agents as it might damage the surface finishing.
- The electronics in modern hi-fi equipment is complex and may, therefore, be adversely affected or damaged by lightning. For protection of the audio system during electrical storms, disconnect the mains plugs.

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2. INTRODUCTION

Thank you for purchasing the DENAFRIPS ATHENA PREAMP.

The ATHENA PREAMP is our flagship full sized, True Balanced, Class-A biased preamplifier making its debut as the high-end linestage.

Equipped with the advanced microprocessor CPLD discrete relay based 60 steps volume control, coupled with current drive Darlington arrays network and the precision matched Military-specs Metal Film Resistors, yielded perfect channel balance, ultra-low distortion THD+N at 0.000120%.

The full discrete Class A output stage not only does it sounds full body, it reproduces transparent and spaciously sounding, literally the best of both worlds.

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3. OPERATING INSTRUCTION

3.1 Quick Start Guide

Package Contents

- ATHENA PREAMP
- Remote Control *– CR2032 battery is required*

Connection

- Power: Use a proper AC power cord, connect it to the PREAMP power socket.
- Inputs: The PREAMP comes with 4 switchable inputs (XLR1/XLR2/XLR3/RCA), and 1 volume controlled non-switchable input (XLR4). If you only have a single source, you may use XLR4 for purest sound quality.
- Output: All outputs are active simultaneously. Connect the output to the power amplifier

WARNING

- Please power off all equipment prior connection/disconnection of cables.

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3.2 Front Panel

Figure 1. Front Panel

(1) Standby Button

Press the button once to switch on the PREAMP, vice versa, press once to put the PREAMP into standby mode. The DISPLAY (3) shall be on when the PREAMP is in operating mode. The PREAMP takes about 3 seconds to start-up.

(2) Inputs Selection

Press the button to select the desired input XLR1/XLR2/XLR3/RCA. Please note that XLR4 is a volume-controlled direct non-switchable input. Should XLR4 input is connected and the source music playing, the music signal will output regardless of Input Selection

(3) Display

The LED display the current selected Input and Volume from 0-60

(4) Volume Control

Volume Control from 0(min, - ∞ - 70dB) to 60(max, 0dB). Each step is about 1-1.5dB. The ATHENA is a unity gain PREAMP with relays switching. There will be 'click' sound from the PREAMP as the relays switch on/off during volume adjustment.

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3.3 Rear Panel

Figure 2. Read Panel

Description:

(1) AC Power Supply

CAUTION! ATHENA supports worldwide AC mains, range from 100-250VAC. The Please use a good quality power cord with earth/ground pin connected

(2) Analog Inputs

Connected the input sources cable to the desire input XLR1/XLR2/XLR3/RCA. XLR4 is recommended for user with one source, i.e. DENAFRIPS DAC. The ATHENA is a true balanced PREAMP with XLR (Pin 2 Hot, Pin 3 Cold, Pin 1 Gnd).

(3) Analog Outputs

All outputs are active at the same time. Connect desire output to the power amplifier. When use with single-ended input source, the XLR outputs are active.

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3.4 Remote Control

- Power → Turn on/standby the PREAMP
- Vol +- → Volume Control
- Analog Source → Source Selection
- Mute → Mute
- Time → Dim Display

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4. SPECIFICATIONS

Description	Parameters
Highlight	Pure Class-A, True Balanced, Fully Discrete Flagship Line Stage
	60 Steps Microprocessor Controlled Relay Based Stepped Attenuator
	Precision Matched Military-Specs Metal Film Resistors & Components with Perfect Channel Balance and Low Distortion
	Remote Controlled
Input	IN1 - XLR
	IN2 - XLR
	IN3 - XLR
	IN4 - RCA
Input Impedance	Single-Ended 12.2K Ohms
	Balanced - 60K Ohms
Output	RCA at 2.0Vrms
	XLR at 4.0Vrms
Output Impedance	Single-Ended 200 Ohms
	Balanced - 400 Ohms
AC Power Requirement	100-240VAC, 50/60Hz (Worldwide Voltage)
Power Consumption	1W (Idle), 25W (Operational)
Frequency Response	10-85k (-0.3dB)
THD+N	0.00012%
S/N Ratio	127dB
Dynamic Range	>121dB

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5. WARRANTY

DENAFRIPS ATHENA purchased from the Authorized Distributor comes with 36 months of warranty from the date of purchase / delivery (whichever later).

Defective Within	Warranty Policy
First 30 Days	DENAFRIPS to bear both way shipping fee.
Within 1st Year	Customer to bear one-way shipping fee. DENAFRIPS shall cover the return shipping fee.
Out of Warranty	Customer to bear both way shipping cost. DENAFRIPS to provide repair / maintenance services at cost.

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