

# What's new?

2009 is a special year for Brinkmann—after all, one does not turn 25 years old every day ... To celebrate this special year, Brinkmann is showcasing no fewer than two and a half product debuts, one for every decade.



## DEBUT ONE: turntable "Balance Anniversary"

The "Anniversary" most probably is the best-sounding "Balance" ever. No small feat, considering that this turntable has been in production for 25 years. And that it is used—in its standard incarnation notabene—as an absolute reference turntable by renowned audio publications. Therefore, the "Anniversary" special edition, limited to 25 individually numbered turntables, counts only as half a debut. Which of course does not mean that Brinkmann is doing things by halves. Quite the contrary. The "Anniversary" consists of a "Balance" turntable equipped with a new tonearm base which for the first time (in 25 years!) allows the use of 12-inch arms on this turntable. Add to this a "12.1" arm, an "EMT-ti" cartridge, a tubed "Rönt" power supply for the drive circuit and a solid-state supply for the bearing heater plus a custom base built by HRS specifically for the "Anniversary". Moreover, Helmut Brinkmann has optimized the "Anniversary" in many details (for instance the ebony collar on the arm base or different caps in the drive circuit) until he was sure that in all those 25 years, no "Balance" has ever sounded better. And he takes pride in tuning each of the 25 "Anniversary" turntables personally. The "Balance Anniversary" turntable features its individual number engraved in the arm base, costs 30 200 EUR and is available as of now.



## DEBUT TWO: turntable "Bardo"

Pretty much the opposite, at least pricewise with a list price of 4999 EUR, is the new "Bardo" direct drive turntable. First looks are often deceptive, but the "Bardo" is in fact a Brinkmann "Oasis" turntable that has been reduced to its bare essentials. Which again is very promising as the latter has received accolades in every single review since its introduction last year. With the decision to forgo the wooden plinth, the screw-down record clamp and the crystal-glass platter surface, Brinkmann has created a turntable that sets itself apart from the bigger, heavier and more expensive Brinkmann turntables by a substantial margin when it comes to price, but only by a very little margin in terms of reproduction quality. One could also say that the "Bardo" is a turntable in the best Brinkmann tradition, but costs considerably less. And it seems noteworthy that a "Bardo" can be upgraded to full a "Oasis" configuration at any time by retrofitting the wooden plinth, the glass platter and the record clamp, either all at once or one by one. The "Bardo" turntable will start shipping in August 2009.



## DEBUT THREE: phono stage "Edison"

The new "Edison" phono stage is the perfect choice for all discerning audiophiles who a) want to extract maximum sound quality from their vinyl treasures and/or b) want to use more than one tonearm. The "Edison" offers three balanced inputs; each of them can be individually optimized in terms of gain (16 steps) and load (12 steps) for the attached cartridge. A 1:1 input transformer of superb quality can be switched in or out for each input. All the settings are saved in an EPROM when another input is selected (either by button or by remote control). The "Edison's" highly innovative circuitry uses bipolar transistors and selected NOS Telefunken tubes. The EQ is switchable from RIAA to IEC and is implemented partially as plate load and partially as feedback loop. The phase inversion for the balanced outputs is handled by a third tube stage. Visually as well as sonically, the "Edison" complements the "Marconi" line stage perfectly and will be available in late 2009.

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