

BRYSTON

A Lifetime of Music

MEMO: To All Bryston Customers

SUBJECT: Bryston BDA-3.14 Review France Special Award

March 2021



"Diapason d'Or Award"

Take a BDA-3 DAC, add a BDP network platform, communicate them via an I2S link - transport the data independent of clock signals to eliminate jitter, sprinkle a lot of entries and internal Manic Moose software, and you get the BDA-3.14. The 3.14 can also be used as a preamplifier as it is equipped with an adjustment volume by software, add the 3.14 to an amplifier or a pair of active speakers and you're done.

The BDA-3.14 can accommodate ten different sources, including 4 HDMI and 2 USB-B, 1 AES / EBU, 2 S / PDIF RCA and BNC, 1 Toslink. PCM signals are decoded up to 32 Bits / 384 kHz and DSD up to DSD256. The device is Roon ready and compatible with Tidal, Qobuz and stream radios Internet. Digital circuits and analog stages are supplied separately. The DAC works according to a dual mono architecture with AKM AK4490 chips and the output stages are pure class A, optionally unbalanced on RCA or balanced on XLR. In the latter mode, Bryston announces a rejected noise level at -140 dB ... Bryston has been manufacturing in Canada for more than 35 years audio equipment for the professional world as well as for the general public, and it shows. Simple, robust, efficient.

Listening: The BDA-3.14 is delivered with a remote control which combines the main functions, choice of sources, volume, playback controls. A wi-fi dongle is optional with a supplement of 120 €. To see

the source files displayed and to control the device more finely, it is necessary to connect an Internet terminal, and to launch the Manic Moose software on this browser. Once "The Manic Moose" is on the screen - everything is under control, file management, play queues, access to Tidal or Qobuz, choice sources, etc. The streamer is not the fastest there is, but it works smoothly.



And the sound: This is THE strong point of this apparatus. Whether in pure DAC or when playing streamed files, the BDA-3.14 makes you completely forget the technology and allows you to concentrate on background and on musical emotion and the multitude of sound elements entering in play. The most astonishing thing is that this multitude is deployed in a grandiose soundscape that completely shatters the classic geometry of the listening triangle, not only in its standardized dimension but also in its tone and dynamic capacity, able to rediscover your speakers as they transposed into a larger world, more ventilated and freer. An ... addictive experience

The perfect streamer + DAC match.