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Perreaux 255i

The spectacular return of the New Zealand National Amp

Johnny Lee 2017-11-01 | Issued to the Earth (November 2017 - See all)

Playing [Mahler's Symphony No. 2 in 1st movement](#) whose magnificent scale is unfolded. The output of 250W is absolute and holds the speaker firmly and reproduces the dynamics perfectly. The explosive energy and the detailed expression are both compatible and somewhat cozy. Its reproduction of soft tones with its luxurious texture captures the mind.

Before 1990 when the Winter Olympics and the World Championships were held, skiing was not of interest in Korea. How many ski resorts are there in Korea? What kind of figure skating is in the situation where the dance moves around like it does? But one day short track skating came on the scene and the Koreans fully embraced it fully along with gold medals for their efforts. In the process Korea created a star called Kim Yu-na. Korea eventually came to hold the Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang. Countries like Korea should concentrate on small breaks and small areas to make achievements. In the same vein, this is the case in Korean archery at the Summer Olympics.

Now let's turn our eyes to New Zealand isolated in the South Pacific. When it comes to wine, especially when it comes to the genre of ice wine, like our short track ice skaters, you can't miss New Zealand. This genre is said to have surpassed brands such as the old-fashioned lyric. In particular, manufacturers such as Cloudy Bay are receiving a lot of enthusiasm by many enthusiasts.

Why? New Zealand cool climate is close to Antarctica. Therefore, not the normal region for grape cultivation, but the maximum harvest is delayed to increase the sugar content. This is especially conducive for sweet and detailed tastes of dessert wines. New Zealand has a niche specialty position with its desert wines.

New Zealand has a population of only 4.5 million people, and a very small audio industry. Perreaux amplifiers occupy the same specialty niche position as New Zealand does in specialty wines. Their focus is primarily on exports not on domestic sales. Therefore, they focus on producing very high quality specialty items. It is not an exaggeration to say that Perreaux has succeeded with that concept.

The company, led by Martin van Rooyen, has now released their newest integrated amplifier called the 255i. Basically, it is an integrated amplifier, but the pursuit of quality and function of this high-end product, and the expansion options available (Phono and DAC) is a very fresh concept. By being able to add modules, you do not need the complete system when initially purchasing this unit. Another way of looking at it is, you can purchase only the optional modules you require and not unnecessary functions.

The theme of the 255i is minimalism. As you can see from the exterior, it is very simple and elegant. The large knob in the center and the display on the right are eye-catching, however, if you look at the user functions and interaction, you will find that it has a very intuitive feel.

Perreaux seeks to transmit a short, clean signal, so their capacitors do not pass through the signal path. This is of particular importance with integrated amplifiers.

Perreaux has invested heavily in volume control, and working to overcome the disadvantages of sound quality degradation during adjustments, and at the same time focusing on improved accuracy by allowing the desired volume to be obtained at that time.

The output stage utilise MOSFET devices, and as such it has all the characteristics of warmth that you can hear in tube amplifiers. That said, the 255i is capable of delivering a massive 250W into 8Ω. This means it can drive any loudspeaker load!

On the other hand, pursuing such a simple signal path can cause problems on the protection side. This unit has been fully equipped to protect the DC fuse immediately and immediately when it goes out or transients are present. On the other hand, it is also interesting to offer phono and DAC module as a separate option.

The source for this review centered on Norma Audio's Levo DAC-1, and the speakers used were PMC's latest offering. The first song I heard was directed by [Chung Myung-hoon, Mahler's Symphony No. 2 in 1st movement](#). Once its magnificent scale is unfolded the output of 250W is absolute. It grips the speaker firmly and reproduces the dynamics properly. The explosive energy and the detailed expression are both simultaneously reproduced. Somewhat cozy, soft tone captures the mind with its luxurious texture.

This was followed up by [Duke Ellington's The Star-Crossed Lovers. In the legendary Paris performance](#), a brilliant brass section follows the concise and fascinating piano intro. A wide variety of musical instruments follow the swing rhythm. Then, when Hodgson's tenor saxophone emerges, the spotlight is reflected naturally. A natural ensemble with a natural sound, and a deep bass. It seems that even if I take the advanced level of PMC, it demonstrates its ability sufficiently.

Finally, 'Southern Rain' of cowboy jung kiss. The lightweight, comfortable guitar intro is followed by a massive bass line. While the breathing of all members is steady, the intellectual nuances of the vocals quietly captivate their hearts. When I hear it, I do not even know how to breathe out and close my eyes easily. Such a relaxing feeling. The band's nickname is '3a.m. Band'. It seems to appeal enough even if I hear it with a small volume at dawn. It is also New Zealand's national amplifier.

Agent Dadam International (822) 705-0708

Price 9500 won (phono / DAC options) Effective output 250W (8Ω), 500W (4Ω) frequency response 20Hz-20kHz (+ 0dB, -0.1dB , Amplifier) output voltage 52V (Amplifier) Channel separation 105dB or more (Amplifier) Distortion 0.001% (8Ω) S / N ratio 95dB Damping factor 800 Gain 28.8dB Dimension (WHD) 42.5 × 14.3 × 36.3cm Weight 19.5kg