

Artera



QUAD

the closest approach to the original sound

THE WORLD



Classics For The Modern Age

Quad gave its team of designers and engineers a specific brief for Artera: combine the qualities that have made Quad one of Britain's most revered hi-fi marques for many decades with fresh industrial design and the very latest high-performance audio technologies. To this end, Quad enlisted the help of Rodney Mead, the man responsible for the styling of many classic Quad products in the 1970s, '80s and '90s, to brainstorm design concepts that would lead to Artera – a Quad component range fit for 2015 and beyond.

Artera's crisp, clean aesthetic both evokes Quad's past and looks forward to the future, with a textured aluminium front panel, thick glass top and CNC-routed heat sinks on either side. The housing provides a rugged structure that resists interference from external vibrations, and the Artera Play's fascia incorporates an intuitive touch-sensitive control that contributes greatly to its sleek design.



◀ *Quad Artera Play & classic Quad 405 Power amp from 1975 - then and now.*

Hi-Res Compatability

Despite their attractive simplicity, both Artera components deliver exceptional sophistication beneath the skin. At the heart of the Artera Play nestles the ESS Sabre32 9018; a 32-bit, eight-channel hybrid multi-bit Delta-Sigma DAC considered by many to be the finest D/A converter chip available for stereo sound. This is Quad's first component to utilise the ESS Sabre DAC, and external digital sources can benefit from its exceptional quality via a range of digital inputs. These include USB, with support for PCM data up to 32-bit/384kHz and also DSD64/128/256, ensuring the Artera Play is fully equipped to make the most of today's hi-res music formats, as well as future advances in ultra-highdefinition digital sound.

DSD
Direct Stream Digital





Filters To Suit Every Ear

For CD replay, a new slot-loading mechanism buffers data from the disc before feeding it asynchronously (in order to minimise time domain errors known as ‘jitter’) to the DAC section. Four digital filter options enable users to tailor the Artera Play’s sound, with both CDs and external digital sources, to suit personal taste and the nature of the source material.

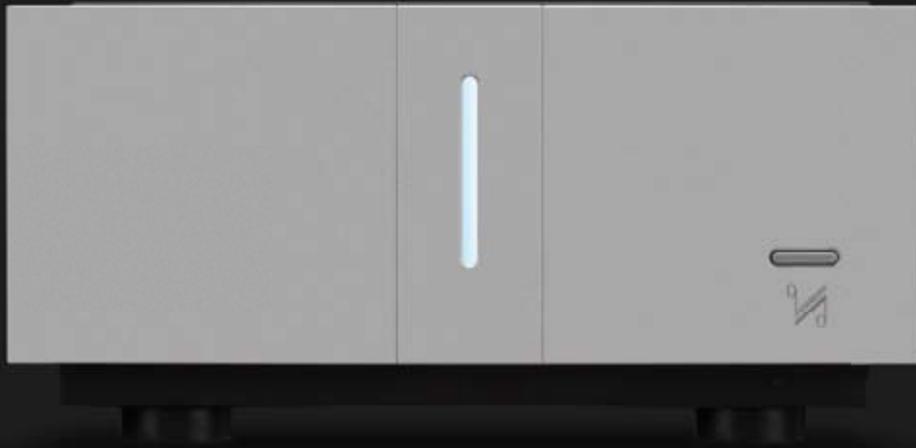
The Artera Play’s preamp section boasts a balanced Class A output stage. Two coaxial and two optical inputs cater for external digital sources alongside the USB input, with a pair of RCA phono inputs handling analogue sources. Analogue outputs are supplied in both single-ended RCA and balanced XLR varieties; a pair of digital outputs (optical and coaxial) and a 12V trigger output complete a comprehensive array of connectivity options.

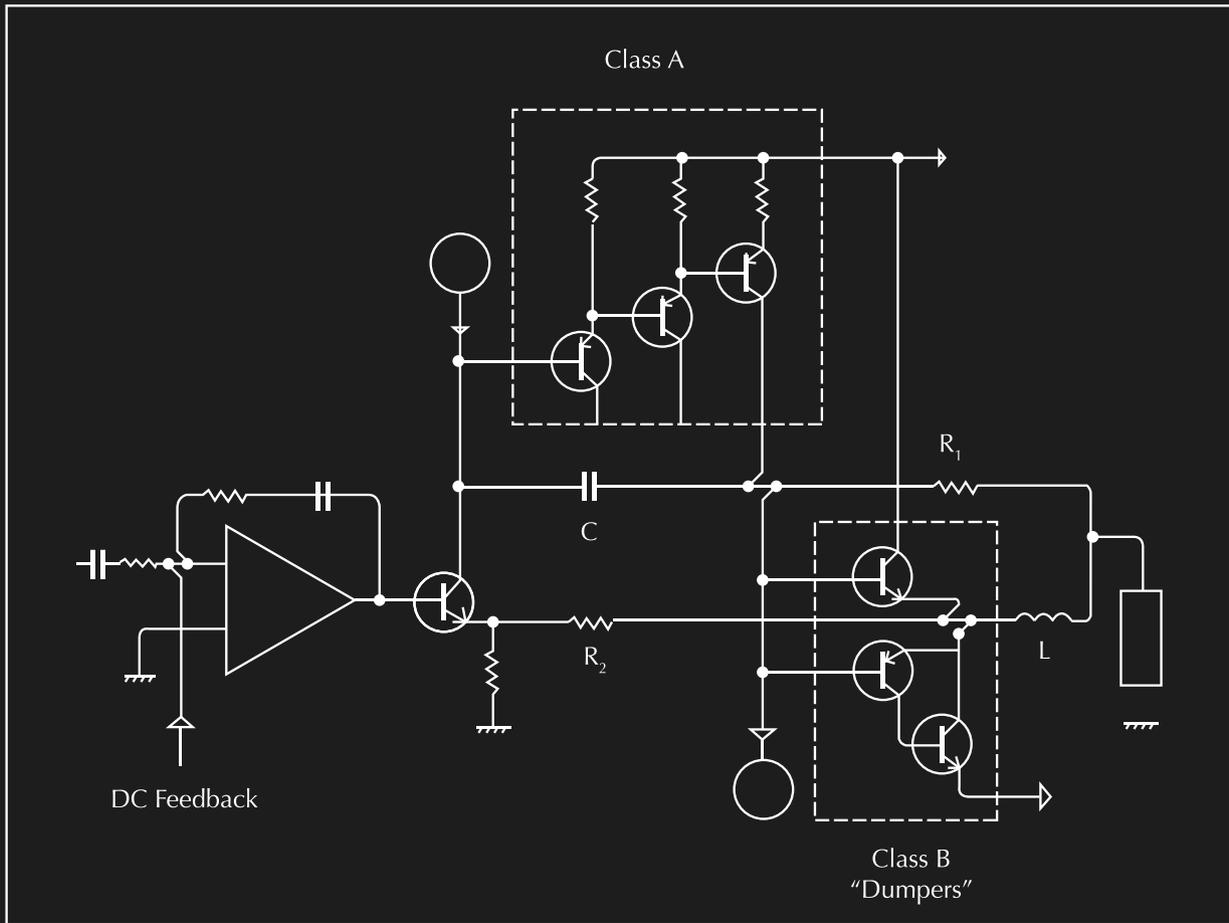


Iconic Amplifier Technology

The inclusion of full analogue/digital preamp functionality means the Artera Play can be connected directly to a power amplifier, and its perfect partner in this regard is the Artera Stereo. This compact yet potent power amp sports the latest iteration of Quad's famous Current Dumping topology, first introduced in the legendary Quad 405 – one of the most lauded British audio components of all time and still the only amp design to have earned a Queen's Award for Technological Achievement.

Current Dumping is essentially a method of marrying the superior sonic purity of Class A amplification with the greater efficiency of Class AB. An extremely high-quality, low-power Class A amplifier provides the signal quality, while a highpower current dumping section delivers the muscle to keep the speakers under control. These two amp circuits are combined via a precision network to perfectly impose the finesse of the Class A output onto the power of the current dumper. The result is a relatively compact and cool-running power amp capable of delivering a captivating combination of dynamic power, vice-like grip and sumptuous sonic detail.





"Bridge": L, C, R & R_2
 Bridge is balanced when $L = R_1, R_2, C$



Drive The Most Demanding Loudspeakers

The Artera Stereo's power output is conservatively rated at 140W per channel into eight ohms and 250W into four ohms, ensuring any speakers – including Quad's classic ESL electrostatic designs – can be driven with ease. Connectivity options comprise single-ended RCA and balanced XLR inputs, a 12V trigger input and high-quality speaker binding posts. Simple, solid and classy on the outside and devilishly clever within, the Artera Stereo maintains Quad's traditional place at the forefront of modern amplifier design.



“Lush, gorgeous – choose whatever adjectives you like:
The Artera duet respects the music.”

Ken Kessler, Hi-Fi News (November 2015)

“The traditional spirit of Quad has always been to cater for the latest developments in music storage and playback, whilst continually striving to meet the standards inherent in the company’s motto, ‘the closest approach to the original sound’. Thus, the Artera series of components includes full digital and analogue playback capabilities with the resolution and accuracy to replay all current and future high-resolution audio sources with the most musical presentation.

However, today’s consumers are often bewildered and confused by the multiplicity of inputs and controls on modern hi-fi equipment. At Quad, we have never believed that you have to be a ‘hi-fi geek’ to be able to play music at the highest performance level. Artera therefore simplifies the user interface, leaving an uncluttered appearance that is welcoming to all users as well as looking beautiful in the home.”

- Peter Comeau, Acoustic Director



Combining the assurance of tradition with the buzz of innovation, Quad Artera is the lifeblood of highperformance audio entertainment for modern music lovers. The Artera Play and Artera Stereo are available now, with a choice of black or silver front panels.





Specifications



Model	Artera Play
General Description	CD Player & DAC
D/A Converter	ESS ES9018 32bit DAC
Output Level (1kHz)	0 - 2.5 Vrms (PRE Outputs) 0 - 5 Vrms (Balanced Outputs)
L/R Channel Difference	±0.02dB (1kHz)
Frequency Response	-0.2dB (20Hz-20kHz, 1kHz)
Total Harmonic Distortion	<0.001% (20Hz-20kHz)
Linearity	±0.01dB (20Hz-20kHz)
Signal to Noise Ratio (S/N)	>110dB (1kHz) >118dB (Weighted, 1kHz)
Channel Separation	>100dB (1kHz)
USB Input	1 × USB (Support HID)
USB Input Sampling Rates	44.1kHz, 48kHz, 88.2kHz, 96kHz, 176.4kHz, 192kHz, 384kHz
USB DSD	DSD64, DSD128, DSD256
Digital Audio Inputs	2 × Optical TOSlink 2 × RCA (DIG1, DIG2)
Digital Audio Outputs	1 × Optical TOSlink 1 × RCA (DIG)
Digital Inputs & outputs Sampling Rates	44.1 - 192kHz
Analogue Inputs	2 × RCA(AUX1, AUX2)
Analogue Outputs	2 x XLR, RCA (PRE)
Dimension (W x D x H)	320 x 320 x 105mm
Weight	8.5 kg



Model Artera Stereo

General Description	Power Amplifier
Rated Output Power	140W 8 ohm (<1% THD, 1kHz)
Total Harmonic Distortion	<0.003% (100W, 1kHz) <0.03% (100W, 20Hz-20kHz)
Frequency Response	-0.5dB (20Hz-20kHz, ref. 1kHz) -3dB (20Hz-70kHz, ref. 1kHz)
Input Sensitivity	980mV(RCA line in)
Input Impedance	10kohm (Balanced) 15kohm (Unbalanced)
Signal to Noise Ration(S/N)	115dB (A weighted, ref. 140W)
Maximum Power Consumption	750W
Inputs	2 x XLR, RCA
Outputs	Speaker A+B
Standby Power Consumption	<0.5W
Dimensions (W x H x D)	320 x 158 x 338mm
Weight	15kg



QUAD

IAG House, 13/14 Glebe Road, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, PE29 7DL, UK
Tel: +44(0)1480 452561 Web: www.quad-hifi.co.uk