

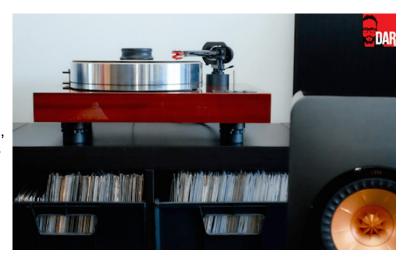
## **Pro-Ject - Xtension 10 Evolution**

Review "Digital Audio Review" 07.2015

## Pro-Ject Xtension 10 Evolution: where vinyl can better digital

John H. Darko 20.07.2015

Renaissance. Back in the early noughties, at the dawn of the iPod and iTunes, vinyl's comeback could've been foreseen by almost nobody. The mainstream consumer was busy embracing a digital audio word, albeit a lossy one. Audiophiles were ripping their CDs to lossless formats.



Diehards kept the vinyl faith and a decade later the big black disk almost inexplicably returned from its status as a marginal interest in an already marginal audiophile world. Those diehards now sip nightly from the chalice of vindication; so sweet the taste of saying "We told you so" out loud.

...

The Xtension 10 Evolution is a big table with a mighty sound. The low end isn't so much bombastic or fat as it is weighty. I wrote this in my notepad: "music sounds like its tied to the core of the earth". Read literally it sounds silly but you can probably understand what I was driving at. I know not of a better way to connote how well this turntable creates the illusion of a presentation that seems anchored as opposed to one that's freefloating.

• • •

To say that the Xtension 10 Evolution sounds better than the Debut Carbon is to do it a gross disservice. It's not only better but – with the right phono pre-amplifier – an altogether different listening experience.

...

What sets the Pro-Ject apart from digital delivery is the manner in which transient attack is delivered. I hear this when I listen to the big Pro-Ject. Is that why it sounds so elegant in its conveyance of micro-dynamic drama?

Is this why vinyl heads complain that digital playback sounds uptight, stiff in the joints, and that vinyl is just easier to listen to for longer? Maybe.

...

At the higher-end, our digital vs. vinyl story brings a plot twist. The Pro-Ject Xtension 10 Evolution sees this fella's preference for digital lose its grip. More dollars dropped on a Pro-Ject project evens the playing field between digital and vinyl. Asked to choose only one rig I'd probably give the nod to the turntable-centric solution. How's that for unsettling? Did you feel the earth move as digital audio diehards across world over did their best Rumplestiltskin?

## DAR-KO award? How on earth could I not?

Full review:

http://www.digitalaudioreview.net/2015/07/pro-ject-xtension-10-evolution-where-vinyl-can-better-digital/



Update: DZ Date 01.12.2015