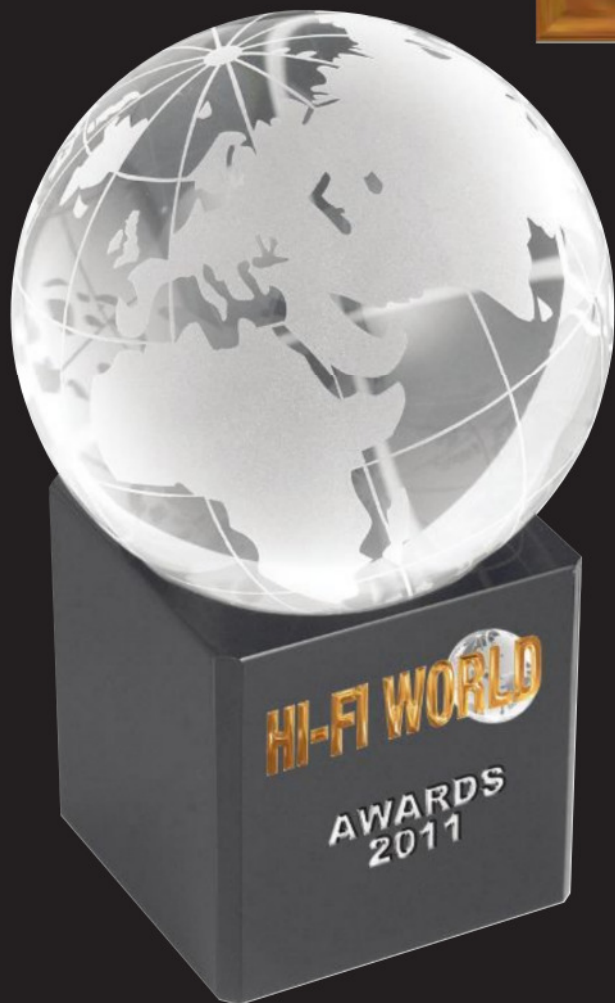


★ HI-FI WORLD AWARDS 2011 ★



Welcome to *Hi-Fi World's* Awards special! Here you'll find our favourite products reviewed over the past twelve months. Competition has been tough across a wide range of price points, but after much deliberation we're delighted to bring you what in our opinion are the year's finest offerings in specialist separates hi-fi...

| AWARDS 2011 | WINNER | |
|-----------------|----------------------------|-----|
| TURNTABLE: | ACOUSTIC SIGNATURE STORM | p18 |
| TONEARM: | ORIGIN LIVE ONYX | p19 |
| CARTRIDGE: | BENZ MICRO ACE S-CLASS L | p20 |
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| LOUDSPEAKERS: | MARTIN LOGAN ELECTROMOTION | p27 |
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HI-FI WORLD ★ AWARDS 2011 ★

THIS YEAR'S TOP ELEVEN PRODUCTS



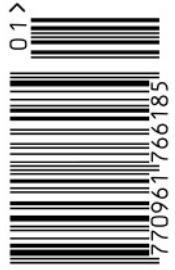
COMPETITION



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★ **BEST
TURNTABLE:
ACOUSTIC
SIGNATURE
STORM**

REVIEWED: JUNE 2011

Over the past few years, there's never been a dull moment in the wonderful world of the analogue LP. Along with stacks of reissued black plastic appearing on the market, we've got umpteen new turntables to play them on. That means it's a pretty tough market out there, and any winner of this section has got to be special. The German made Acoustic Signature Storm is *precisely* that. At £3,612, it sits closer to the bottom of the company's range, which extends all the way to £16,500 for the Grande Reference (it weighs 200kg, you get the picture)! The Storm is a more moveable 28kg, but still a serious piece of metalwork. Build is superlative, which isn't always the case at this price, with an aluminium base and platter, a precision bearing with sintered bronze inserts and an adjustable arm base able to accommodate 9 and 12 inch tonearms. The deck looks like a shiny spacecraft in miniature, but doesn't sound like it! Instead, you get a wonderfully smooth, even and open demeanour, which couldn't be more different to its 'Storm' soubriquet. Terribly assured, wonderfully refined, beautifully poised, it's innately musical yet mellow. A worthy recipient of the *Hi-Fi World* top turntable award, then.