

REX 100 OTL MONO TUBE AMPLIFIER (translation from review published in Croatia's largest daily newspapers – **"VECERNJI LIST"/ Summer 1999-issue**

THE KING OF HIGH FIDELITY SOUND

When some HI-FI component designed and made in our country, being reviewed shows to be equal, and even better than some raved and most expensive in the world, I get extremely happy. That is exactly what happened the last couple months when I was auditioning the REX 100 OTL. Behind this jewel amplifier are the stereo-minds of "VDN Elektronika", and the reviewed sample was given to me by their distributor -"MDM-TRADE"/Zagreb.

Being myself in dilemma whether I should write with the emphasis on the technical details of this design or just about its sound, I made the decision to go for the latter, since the technical side would demand much more space than from what I allowed to use in this newspaper. Yet, it is also important to at least mention that we're talking here about one of the most esoteric designs amongst tube amplifiers and which is chosen only from the most courageous designers; once that such design succeeded the ovation given by the critics, one cannot miss. Being led by my wish to describe this amplifier in the simplest way, I can tell you that REX 100 OTL is actually two mono-blocks, each having volume control on its front marble-made plate, as well as the line selector knob and the input jacks on the rear side; next to mains switch and the speaker terminals. Each weighs about 18 kgs and delivers 100 W at 8 Ohm load, out of which the first 10 W are of pure class A. The craft quality of the entire unit is also the sign of the class to which this amplifier belongs.

Once that the blocks are switched on, there is already a special feeling of adoration just by looking at those numerous tubes' magic glow; like you're looking at a Christmas Tree. But, the real "party" starts once that the sound came out and you soon realize that you're standing in front of the unit which minute after minute simply sneaks under your skin and conquers your spoiled HI-FI heart. I tried to be a little mean and looked for the amplifier's lacks but must admit that I was clearly defeated, in a very short time; REX 100 is simply a brilliant unit delivering the sound to which you must bend your knees.

Its 100 W sounds like 10 times more, the dynamics doesn't let you recognize your speakers, and the sound picture is colourful and detailed in such magnitude that the tears come to the eyes and the heart pumps faster. The separation amongst the instruments in large orchestras is simply magic, and the recording ambience is rich with air – generally the space reproduction is phenomenal. I really had a chance to audition numerous High End audio amplifiers, but the REX 100 OTL is the one I fall in love with. "He" is the real king of the high fidelity and that's what all people who heard "him" – can confirm, no doubts.

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