



LOUNGE OF THE GODS

Create audio Avalon and video Valhalla, with this ultimate audiovisual set-up

1/SIM2 GRAND CINEMA HT3000E £10,000

www.sim2.co.uk

SIM2'S NEW 1080P ten-bit-video-processing monster projector throws out a 30ft picture – that's the height of two horses piled on top of a giraffe. Thanks to the Giorgio Revoldini-designed body and Texas Instrument chips, images are stunning, with one billion colours radiating like the Northern Lights and no artefacts, motion blur or break up. It's worth every one of the million pennies it'll cost you.

T3 ★★★★★

2/PLANAR XSCREEN80 £1,400

www.csesolutions.co.uk

BEAMING IMAGES FROM a projector like the Sim2 onto a wall is like listening to Mozart through a bean tin and string. The framed XScreen80's Daytime Film technology ensures you get staggering images from your projector in all conditions. In daylight it's like watching a massive TV, with excellent contrast levels. Shut the curtains, and you have something a bit like having a religious epiphany during sex with someone who's made of caviar.

T3 ★★★★★★

3/CAMBRIDGE AUDIO AZUR 840A £750

www.cambridgeaudio.com

YOU JUST CAN'T separate the Azur 840A and 840C (right). Breaking them up would be like splitting Becks from Posh or Tom Cruise from that googly-eyed space-case he's hitched to. This amplifier mirrors the 840C's quality and craftsmanship. It's also crammed with a hell of a lot of features for the price, ensuring the sweetest sonics from the 840C, and no embarrassment when the editorial team of *Hi-Fi Choice* all come round to use your loo.

T3 ★★★★★★



Doesn't sound so trivial to us...

Trivia is the Roman goddess of sorcery, hounds and crossroads. It must have made sense at the time

THE KNOWLEDGE

Everybody Hertz...
The Pioneer below runs at 24Hz, the same rate as content on Blu-Ray discs. Most HD players output at 60Hz, which must then be recomputed to match what's coming off the disks, potentially causing grief



4/CAMBRIDGE AUDIO AZUR 840C £750

www.cambridgeaudio.com

THIS IS THE CD-playing Reggie to the Azur 840A's Ronnie, although hopefully they won't start demanding "protection money" from your TV before slaying your uplighter over a perceived lack of "respect". A supreme sonic performer, the 840C sports digital inputs for auxiliary sources, such as a DVD player, so they can also benefit from its sophisticated circuitry. The sound is uncannily natural, madly detailed and generally orgasmic in every way.

T3 ★★★★★

5/PIONEER BDP-LX70 £1,000

www.pioneer.co.uk

PIONEER'S FIRST BLU-RAY player looks hot enough to seduce even the most frigid and uptight AV aficionados. We're also turned on by all the up-to-date HD tech on the inside. Mmm, DLNA compliance for streaming files from a PC? Ooh, onboard support for Dolby TrueHD? With full 1080p output, films leave you drooling, and lossless-surround sonics are equally amazing. This is one high-class disc spinner. We want it, in the foulest way.

T3 ★★★★★

6/BOWERS & WILKINS 802D £8,000 PER PAIR

www.bowers-wilkins.com

STANDING OUT LIKE giant redwoods in a field of cress, the 802Ds are crafted from a single piece of 26mm-thick, veneered plywood, and house two 200mm bass drivers, with diamond-dome tweeters and Kevlar-coned mid-range drivers. With CDs, these are capable of thunderous bass, and treble that'll strip the enamel from your teeth. They're just as impressive with movies, handling sound levels that normally beg for a 5.1 system.

T3 ★★★★★

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