



Acoustic Signature TA-10000 Neo Tonearm

\$65,999 and up

Fundamentally, the TA-10000 Neo, the new flagship offering from Acoustic Signature's Gunther Fronhöfer, is a considerably more sophisticated advance over his (superb) TA-9000. Building upon the TA-9000's exceedingly well-damped multi-structure aluminum arm tube, the TA-10000 Neo adds frictionless, pre-tensioned, high-precision DLC-coated (diamond-like carbon) ball bearings that are said to ensure perfect tracking, a more rigid stainless-steel tonearm axis, on-the-fly VTA adjustment, gearbox-adjustable azimuth, brass counterweights that can be tweaked-in and clamped with super precision, 4N-silver internal wiring, and a supplied 1.5m Atlas Equator 5-pin phono cable. While its price makes it unattainable for many audiophiles, you folks with the moolah (you know who you are) need to

audition it. Carefully set up on Gunther's fabulous Invictus Neo turntable, the TA-10000 Neo achieves a level of neutrality and resolution I've simply never heard before with other tonearms. Small details (like the number and timbre of backup singers potted into a recording) that have always been a bit blurred in the past are suddenly rendered as clearly as if they were individually miked. Through a high-resolution loudspeaker, the results are thrilling. Like the M&S Papillon (to which it bears a marked sonic resemblance), the TA-10000 Neo challenges the notion that you've heard all there is to hear on old-standby LPs. And it does this without ever sounding dry, flat, or overly analytical. Indeed, it not only makes old records sound new; it also breathes life and light into the presentation, just like the ARC 330M, making it, far and away, the finest pivoted tonearm I've heard in my system. (Forthcoming)