

# Power Amp Reviews



## ***Chakra Power Amplifier Range***

Stereophile, USA, November 2005, October 2005

The potency of these small amps knocked me out. Son of a gun! Tight, clean, and punchy, and not at the expense of any concomitant strain in the rest of the spectrum. This is important—the Chakras are among the most revealing and transparent amps I've used.....the Chakras related all the details of the music with a stability and transparency of soundstage that were notable. The Linn Chakra amplifiers are ideal for multichannel systems. They come with almost any useful number of channels on a single, compact, cool-running chassis, and, with the right speakers and/or bass management, are muscular enough for music and theater. More important, few other amps, at any price or weight, can outperform them in transparency and soundstaging.

## ***Klimax Chakra 500 Twin***

Lyd & Bilde, Norway, March 2005

"This Klimax combo is maybe this year's bargain. I hooked it up to B&W Nautilus 802d, picked a load of CD's to shake out the mystery of the Klimax and see its limits, I played very loud, so loud that drive units in B&W 802D almost threatened orbit around its cabinet, but the amp stayed as cool as ever and just played on. I played an organ record so loud, but the amp would not bend. This must be the most powerful and stable 100 watt amp on the market. With Chakra, Linn has improved an amplifier that in reality was so good that it did not need any improvements. Linn has improved this power amplifier and lowered the price, meaning that you as customer is the winner. In this combo you get musical reproduction and high-end performance in buckets for less money. "

## ***Klimax Twin***

Onsoundandmusic.com (USA), February 2004

"The "Twin" owns a majestic ability to make convincing representations of real sonic facts, complex as they may be...at the same time that it has an undismissible musical authority that lifts sonic truth to exciting levels of enjoyment. Perhaps my strongly affirmative impression of the "Twin" was most enhanced by the way in which it exposed the characteristic of various preamplifiers that I put in front of it. On the scale of zero to ten, the Linn is within the zone at the top reserved for only the best. It is a giant in a very beautiful small package. Would I want to own this amp and live it with a good long time to come? Yes."

## ***Klimax Twin***

Products Of The Year 2003, Stereophile, December 2003

"It's hard to believe that Linn could squeeze 100 wpc and so much goodness into the Klimax Twin's 20-lb 14" box. We're glad they did, helped by a switch mode power supply that substitutes smart circuitry for heavy iron. Art Dudley got to know how incredibly detailed the Twin was: 'Textures, inflections, nuances and even non-musical sounds were offered up clearly and organically,' while he never heard better in terms of dependably right pitches and timing."

## ***Klimax Twin***

SoundStage.com, August 2003

"Comes as close or closer than anything else I've heard to the ultimate goal of no intrinsic sound...superb definition, a lack of obvious character, and overall balance -- in spades. Those sonic characteristics not only separate the Linn amp from much of the field, but also place it among audio's elite

**Klimax Twin**

www.stereotimes.com (March/April 2003), March 2003

"With the unprecedented sophistication in sound and finesse in execution, Linn's Klimax Twin may qualify as a universal amplifier to audiophiles in its musicality and power. And to the generation growing up with electronics operating with this compact but potent power management system, the existence of present day's high energy-consumption, air conditioner-sized behemoths powered by large transformers would become incomprehensible. I reckon that no other amplification innovations would be as capable of creating the far-reaching ripple effect as with Linn's Switching Power technology. The \$9,000 Klimax Twin is unique in its avante garde technological marvels in a classy design statement, not to mention a sonic presentation as resplendent with audiophilia criteria as it is rich in musicality. "

**Klimax Twin**

Hi-Fi Choice, UK, Awards Issue, January 2003

Klimax Twin Product Of The Year Award "It's dangerously honest - don't expect a less than superb source or preamp to have its limitations smoothed over, the Linn is ruthlessly transparent. It's also quicksilver-fast and has seemingly titanic reserves of power. Don't let the elegance of the case fool you, this is a killer amp and it takes no prisoners."

**Klimax Twin**

Linn Klimax Twin Stereo Power Amplifier, On Hi-Fi Magazine, January 2003

"I certainly can't afford the Klimax Twin, but that doesn't change the fact that I'd own it in a heartbeat if I could. If you're not bound by such trifling considerations, put it on the short list for your next amplifier purchase -- and even if, like me, you could never aspire to such lofty heights, you should still audition it, if only to truly understand what is possible in audio amplification today."

**Klimax Twin**

AUDIOPHILE RECORD SERVICE 3/02, Autumn 2002, October 2002

"...The Linn Klimax Twin is one of the most beautiful and definitely best sounding amplifiers in its price range. It offers near perfect musicality, rhythm and timing and will easily satisfy the most discriminating customers. Who still buys amps with cooking pot transformers must do so for reasons beyond the music..."

**Klimax Twin**

Linn Klimax Twin Stereo Power Amplifier [www.Audiorevolution.com](http://www.Audiorevolution.com) USA, September 2002

"The Klimax Twin amplifier is my favorite solid-state amplifier that I have heard to date. It is a gem that will make audiophiles salivate without alienating the average enthusiast who doesn't want to get geeky about their music but still wants every single ounce of information possible. Overall, the high frequencies of the Twin were the best and most naturally open I have ever heard from an amplifier in any price range. The midrange was detailed yet incredibly sweet, reminiscent of tubes without the drawbacks associated. The low frequencies were well controlled and had great quickness. I was very impressed and considered the overall balance to be remarkable..In a world of incredible hulks, this unit is more like Bruce Lee. Anyone who appreciates modern design will be enchanted by the look of this audio component. At \$9,000 for two channels of amplification, this product is not cheap, which makes it perhaps the amplifier for those that can afford a life void of compromise

**Klimax Twin**

Klimax Twin Power Amplifier. Hi-Fi Choice, UK, August 2002, August 2002

"Gets closer to 'no amplifier sound' than most power amplifiers; built like a tank; blindingly fast and very powerful. Stunning, fast and powerful stereo power amplifier, one of the world's best."

**Klimax Twin**

Klimax Twin Power Amplifier Hi-Fi World Magazine, UK, May 2002

"One of the finest examples of a solid state power amp around. Clean sounding and very powerful, it's also super sleek and physically discrete. Get a listen!"

### ***Klimax Twin***

Linn Klimax Twin Stereo Power Amplifier, STEREOPLAY, Germany, January 2002; January 2002

"...Instead of fat transformers the Scots went for an intelligent solution. The Klimax Twin incorporates Linn's brilliant switching power supply and with truly thrilling results. This super-chic and very powerful amp sounds absolutely fantastic. Voices in particular come across with spooky naturalness..."

### ***2250 Power Amplifier***

Image hifi, Issue 48, November/December 2002, November 2002

"...With the 2250 Linn demonstrates to their whole competition what innovation really means. This amplifier, economically built yet created with extraordinary know-how, marks a significant step forward in sound quality but comes even cheaper than its direct predecessor. The 2250 is my future reference offering by far the best value for money I've seen in a long time..."

### ***2250 Power Amplifier***

STEREO magazine, Germany, October 2002

"THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES...Don't let its modest size and weight fool you. The Linn 2250 is a beast, a legitimate successor to the legendary Klout, and it offers excellent value for money. The 2250 is a powerhouse of an amplifier, full of energy, with incredibly voluminous yet controlled bass handling and a voice performance that will delight even the most dyed-in-the-wool audiophile. It boggles our minds to experience a couple of those pedal-to-the-metal amps in our home theatre system one day. Goosebumps guaranteed!..."

### ***AV 5125 5-channel Class V modular power amplifier***

Linn AV 5125 Amplifier and Linn 5103 System Controller Home Cinema Choice Magazine, UK, January 2002, January 2002

" So, how does it sound? The short answer is sublime. What would you expect from a company that founded its reputation on Hi-Fi? This system is just as pure sounding with two-channel music as with movies. It's also fast, with a lot of attack and drive. And judging by the dynamics on offer, Linn's maverick power amplifier design is clearly working. The steering and channel separation has to be heard to be believed - from the first chapter of Enemy at the Gates, you know you're in for a treat. It almost seems like the braying horse is in the room with you."

### ***AV 5125 5-channel Class V modular power amplifier***

Audio Video Magazine, South Africa, August 2001, September 2001

Linn AV5103 System Controller/Linn AV5125 Five Channel Amplifier Review "The bottom line here is that the debate about home theatre versus stereo is not relevant in the Linn multi-channel environment: here, both music and movies are sheer magic!"



***Klimax 500 Solo***

Ultimate Audio Magazine, January 2000

'Small Package, Big Sound'

Klimax 500 Solo Monoblocks Amplifiers,

By Wayne Donnelly, Ultimate Audio Magazine, January 2000.

The most immediate and startling characteristic of the Klimax sound is the sheer speed of the amplifiers. This speed is most obviously evident in the reproduction of percussion. The attack of either large scale (timpani, bass drum) or small-scale (triangle) was unexcelled by any amplifier I have listened to. The effect of this speed was not limited to percussion, it enabled a transparency that preserved the unique attacks of brass, woodwind and string instruments...Not surprisingly, the Klimax amplifiers' combination of transient speed and high power delivered a very wide dynamic range aided on the micro end of the scale by their immaculate quietness. The bass reproduction of the Klimax amplifiers is unsurpassed in my experience. They have not only as deep extension as the source material can demand, but also superb timbral accuracy and pitch definition...Given their speed and dynamics, it is no wonder that the Linn excel in preserving the pace and pulse of music..The Linns presented a wide and open soundstage. Within that stage, voices and instruments were firmly placed. I heard none of the wandering or changes in image size resulting from variations in frequency response which I have sometimes heard from lesser amplifiers....

***Klimax 500 Solo***

Stereoplay (Germany), November 2002

"...A musical dream..."

***Klimax 500 Solo***

Linn Klimax 500 Solo Power Amplifier with Linn 5103 System Controller, Widescreen Review, USA, December 2001., December 2001

".the Klimax sound was relaxed, full and expressive in addition to its breathtaking dynamics. Surround sound and multi-channel music was enveloping and immersing, and never harsh or grainy in any way. All of the Linn products reviewed here exhibit natural sound that is smooth and refined, an effect that is synergistically increased when all of the products are used together as a system. The Linn gear is always a pleasure to listen to, and it's always easy to forget about the components and listen to the music or movie."

***Klimax 500 Solo***

Linn Klimax 500 Solo Power Amplifier Positive Feedback Magazine USA October 2001, October 2001

"In general the Klimax amps are the most musical sounding amps I have ever been exposed to. Effortless and easy to listen to for hours on end. Huge power reserves and no wheezing out even on the most dynamic passages. Definitely Killer! "

***Klimax 500 Solo***

Home Theater Magazine, USA, February 2001

Great Scot! Linn CD12/Klimax/Linn AV51 Home Theater System.

" The CD12 CD Player and Klimax amplifiers are clearly at the very peak of what is available, as they should be for the price. The speakers and subwoofer combine to form a package of impressively high and consistent performance that's hard to beat at any price."

***Klimax 500 Solo***

Listener Magazine, USA, January 2000

"When someone offers you the keys to the audio equivalent of a Ferrari for a month or two, you'd have to be an absolute fool to say no.....I'm not exaggerating: I couldn't sit still in my seat. I've listened to this recording hundreds of times over dozens of systems, but it never sounded this completely realized, I was having -gasp- fun! Hey, reviewing is mostly hard work, but this is as good as it gets: I had a private Who concert...It's clearly a most faithful messenger, probably the most faithful ever...The Klimaxes seem to put me at ease with their musicality...I'm freed to make sense of the composer's intentions." Steve Gutenberg

***Klimax 500 Solo***

Stereophile Magazine, October 1999

"I could detect no sonic compromises anywhere. The amp's iron control and absolute grip, transparent midbass, full palette of blushing tonal color, extension from DC to ultraviolet, great slam and linearity, openness, sweetness, its inner light and beauty - I just loved it. In fact, I want a pair! Go forth and Linn!