



LINN

## Unidisk Reviews



### **Unidisk 1.1**

Gramophone Magazine (UK) September 2005

"..the Unidisk 1.1 sets new standards for definition, weight, control and space with multichannel music, matching any dedicated SACD machine we know, whether with small-scale chamber and solo discs or large orchestral works. Weight, power and finesse are all much in evidence, but most appealing is the effortless sense of space and openness in the sound, really making the most of well-engineered SACDs. There's no sense of compromise here: the Linn is simply optimised for a number of tasks: That's a major achievement."

### **Unidisk 1.1**

Stereophile Ultimate AV, USA, Recommended Video Components , January 2005

"The Linn Unidisk 1.1 is one of the smartest, most versatile, most technologically advanced yet easy to use high-performance A/V products I've ever reviewed... the Linn Unidisk 1.1 might well be the best universal player available."

### **Unidisk 1.1**

Positive-Feedback.com, USA, Brutus Awards 2004 , December 2004

The world of universal players is crowded with entry and mid-priced contenders, but the Linn Unidisk 1.1 clearly sets the standard for the playback of multiple formats with minimal compromise and maximum quality... and this includes DVD video...as a universal player it's top of the heap!

### **Unidisk 1.1**

Downbeat Magazine, "Jazz, blues & beyond" (USA) , December 2004

"The Linn Unidisk 1.1 drew sharp contrasts between discs, revealing the musical personality of each performance with great expression and precision. For pure dynamics it beats almost any machine be it SACD or CD that I have heard. The Unidisk is all about resolution, detail, energy, pace, rhythm and timing. Music leaps from this player like an Olympic high jumper. It delights in elucidating cymbals, upper register piano, snare drum, conversaton, bells and percussion. Soundstaging, or the ability to render a lifelike event, was also among the best I have heard...a winner and a new benchmark in digital reproduction."

### **Unidisk 1.1**

Hi-Fi World (UK) , September 2004

" ..one of the best Linn products to date...superbly capable right across the format range, this machine brings hitherto unheard levels of CD fidelity to the aspirational do-it-all disc spinning class."

### **Unidisk 1.1**

Hi-Fi Choice, UK, The Collection issue , August 2004

"Linn Products is one of, if not the slickest manufacturer of high-end electronics in the UK. It works on a grand scale with state-of-the-art facilities and the sort of research and development budget that most hi-fi companies can only dream of. The Unidisk is Linn's answer to the conundrum facing every audiophile who wants to embrace new formats and take on the multichannel challenge. By making a truly universal player that plays all the major audio and video formats that are found on 5cm silver discs they have taken away the dilemma. The Unidisk's USP is the way it treats each type of disc separately - when it's playing one type it switches off the circuitry for the others...making it, in practical terms, four players on one box. The Unidisk is a fine player that does a remarkable job with everything you throw at it. A more than satisfactory CD player that also plays both high-resolution formats and delivers top-notch video is a rare thing, but to do it with such finesse in such a well-built and thought-out machine is a luxury."

## **Unidisk 1.1**

Hi-Fi News (UK) June 2004, May 2004

It is important not to underestimate the scale of the task undertaken by Linn in the engineering of its Silver Disk Engine and the Unidisk 1.1... this is a purist engineering solution and there's every opportunity for future software revisions through the RJ45/RS232 port using Linn's 'Linnstall' dealer utility... Only Linn's proprietary methodology give it full control over the performance of its product...there's nothing remotely generic about the guts of the Unidisk... In essence, the Silver Disk Engine represents a common formatting interface, developed in conjunction with both Sony and ESS...It's rather like having four players in one with dedicated streaming for CD, SACD, DVD-Video and DVD-Audio.. The real potential of the Unidisk lies in both its delivery of multichannel audio and pin-sharp video, the latter via both analogue and digital outputs. Indeed, the Unidisk's analogue video outputs enjoyed just about the flattest luma response and lowest noise that I have measured, features reflected in its fine and stable detailing with strong, accurately represented colours.... but neither does it leave you in any doubt as to the driving force behind the music.

## **Unidisk 1.1**

Fidelity Magazine Norway, March/April 2004, April 2004

"The pictures from the Unidisk are just fantastic. This is the best picture I have ever seen from the DVD format. The sound is far better than I ever expected or imagined possible. The Unidisk 1.1 is superior and the best multiplayer I have ever tested. It is the also the most expensive but the price reflects the superior quality the Unidisk 1.1 offers. An extremely advanced and successful work of engineering. And it is also the best CD player we know. We have ordered and purchased this machine to use as our one reference."

## **Unidisk 1.1**

The Absolute Sound (April/May) - USA, March 2004

You can feel the bounce and drive from this player with the guitar-driven assaults on David Bowie's Reality [Sony] on SACD and Frank Black's Show Me Your Tears CD [Spin Art]. With piano recordings on Mark Levinson's Live Recordings at Red Rose Music, Vol. 1 SACD, you can follow timing cues—for instance, the duration of the sustain pedal—to a startling degree. You also hear these cues with other players, but the Linn somehow gets them a little more right. Moving to high-rez PCM and DVD-A the Linn transforms its sonic signature to a degree I've not observed in any other player. Quite simply, I've never heard a more detailed, dynamic and holographically resolved DVD-A player.

## **Unidisk 1.1**

Stereophile Guide to Home Theater, March 2004

"The Linn Unidisk 1.1 is one of the smartest, most versatile, most technologically advanced yet easy to use high-performance A/V products I've ever reviewed. It's exceedingly attractive, surprisingly compact and lightweight (thanks in part to its switch-mode power supply), and a truly universal player that maximizes performance from all formats. Its DVD-Video performance was superb.." "Why the 1.1 is Worth \$11k: That you can play any kind of video or audio optical disc in the Unidisk 1.1 is a very attractive feature, but Linn built its reputation as a sound company, and the Unidisk was, first and foremost, designed to showcase the company's audio prowess. While the 1.1's video quality was merely first-rate, the audio quality on CD, SACD, and DVD-A was astonishingly good.....if you're an audiophile and a video enthusiast and you've got \$10,995 to drop, the Linn Unidisk 1.1 might well be the best universal player available." "If I had \$10,995, I'd buy a Linn Unidisk 1.1. It's light and small enough to be easily carried from my home theater to my 2-channel system, which makes it more of a \$5497.50, doubly "universal" player. Now that's a bargain I can live with."

## **Unidisk 1.1**

Home Theater Magazine (USA), January 2004

"By going through the effort to be the first high-end company to develop a universal player from scratch, Linn has raised the bar for what can be achieved without committing to a single format. Although the cost of entry is astonishingly high, there's no other player that can handle so many formats and deliver this level of performance. Linn's Unidisk 1.1 costs a bundle....and is worth every penny."





### ***Unidisk 1.1***

Image Home Entertainment (Germany), IHE Award 2004, February 2004

"This is the miracle machine we have all been dreaming of."

### ***Unidisk 1.1***

Stereophile, December 2003

"Easy - it plays everything! The Linn Unidisk 1.1 does everything that a player can be asked to do, and does it all superbly. It's nearly as good a CD player as exists on this planet (Linn, maker of the CD12, would probably concur on my hedging)..it's the smoothest-sounding SACD player I've yet used, and its DVD-Audio performance is as good..and don't forget — it plays almost everything else that comes on a 5" silver disc...I wouldn't be surprised if it was also the best MP3 player on Earth. Is the Unidisk 1.1 the answer to everyone's dreams? Well, if you don't need Dolby Digital and DTS (or you have an external decoder), and if another of your components provides multichannel and/or bass management, it might be. But if you just want a player that will play all stereo programs, regardless of format, with great sound, this is it. "

### ***Unidisk 1.1***

Electronic House magazine (USA), October 2003

"Simply put, the UNIDISK 1.1 is a true high-end machine. Its audio and video performance on CD, DVD and multi-channel music (SACD and DVD-Audio) is exceptional, besting literally every DVD player this reviewer has seen. Both its audio and video performance are jaw-dropping and make any movie watchable. On CD material, the UNIDISK 1.1 performs flawlessly, lending a rich, detailed sound that you never want to turn off. If you're looking for the best possible DVD player that will play any and all formats, look no further. This is one incredible piece of equipment, and quite an achievement for Linn."

### ***Unidisk 1.1***

AUDIO (Germany) - October 2003 Edition, September 2003

"...The UNIDISK 1.1 is a high-end dream come true: Playing SACDs, DVD A's or CDs, its performance is bettered by no player we know of, and believe us, we have considerable shelves of AUDIO references. Even as a stand-alone CD player the UNIDISK would be well worth its price, but what makes it a sensation is its paramount quality with ANY format you feed it - phenomenal!.."

### ***Unidisk 2.1***

Gramophone, UK, Best of the Best , January 2005

" My star turn of the year? The amazing Linn Unidisk 2.1, at £4500 hardly a player for everyone, but as I discovered in October one of the best players of any kind of disc you're likely to encounter. DVD-Video discs look and sound stunning, and the audio quality on offer from both SACD and CD titles is up there with the best players in the world. This is a triumph for Linn."

### ***Unidisk 2.1***

Unidisk 2.1 Home Cinema, UK, August 2004 , August 2004

"The world's smartest DVD player...How Linn's latest machine will make the most of every disc you own.... Impeccable build, simple operation, amazing video and fine sound - this classy machine has the lot."

### ***Unidisk 2.1***

STEREOPLAY (Germany) - October 2003 Edition, September 2003

"...Linn have done it again. The UNIDISK 2.1 offers superior sound quality and extremely sharp pictures for markedly less money than its big brother, UNIDISK 1.1, which caused a sensation and is our multi-format reference player. Verdict: outstanding. Value for money: very good..."