

Gryphon Mirage

Simply Beautiful – Beautifully Simple

A mirage is an optical illusion that deceives the eye into believing that you are somewhere that you are not. There could be no more fitting name for the Gryphon Mirage control amplifier, designed to create an audio illusion that deceives the ear into believing that you are somewhere that you are not, specifically, in the presence of living, breathing musicians.

The Mirage by Gryphon
Listening is believing



The Reality behind the Mirage

Sometimes a first glance can tell you everything you need to know. In the case of the Gryphon Mirage, the sleek elegance of its distinctive exterior with detachable control section and magic wand remote suggests daring, innovation, dedication and a unique vision that is most definitely *not* a mirage.

The boldly re-imagined remote says it all. Useful real-world functions (On/Standby, Mute, Input Selection and Volume) put all the control you need at your fingertips, trimmed down to the essentials, with none of the daunting clutter and confusion of the average remote.

Conceived as functional sculpture, Gryphon Mirage is worthy of a place in the most sophisticated interior. Uniquely, its modular configuration allows the design-conscious Mirage owner multiple installation options. The integrated control section/preamplifier can be proudly displayed together or the preamplifier can be concealed to communicate wirelessly with the futuristic control section or, finally, both sections can be concealed and controlled by the provocatively styled Mirage remote.

Audio excellence re-invented, Gryphon Mirage is designed with a singular vision *for* people who care *by* people who care.

Home Automation Compatibility

We respectfully offer the Gryphon Mirage to the discerning audience that aspires to the ultimate listening experience, but refuses to fill their homes with stereo systems that resemble the cockpit of a space shuttle and require advanced engineering degrees to operate.

To achieve this goal, Gryphon Mirage fuses die-hard audiophile appeal with

carefully crafted ergonomics for practical, intuitive operation that won't put off the novice user who wants home entertainment with no fuss and no bother. Initiating an age of intelligent audio, Gryphon has collaborated with Crestron and AMX to make the Mirage fully compatible with home automation systems from these industry leaders. The necessary software can be purchased with the Mirage or at a later time.

When fully integrated in a home automation system, Gryphon Mirage can become the central hub in your whole-house audio system with music distributed anywhere in the home at the push of a button.

In keeping with this extreme level of convenience, The Gryphon Mirage user interface allows the user to program personal preferences including assigning names to source components, set-



ting maximum volume level to protect the system and adjusting the brightness of the display or turning it off completely.

Mirage offers useful, practical features to meet your real-world needs. Your authorized Gryphon dealer is trained in the installation and set-up of these menu functions and can assist in configuring your unit.

20 Years in the Making

Throughout two decades in the pole position on the High End audio Formula 1 circuit, Gryphon Audio Designs has consistently combined ultra-High End performance and intuitive, back-to-basics functionality for the audio purist with extraordinary refinement and originality in design and craftsmanship to appeal to the audiophile and non-audiophile equally.

With the Mirage, Gryphon's founder and designer, Flemming E. Rasmussen envisioned an entirely new breed of audio product; a superb control amplifier capable of Formula 1 performance, but in a "street legal" execution cloaked in breakthrough industrial design.

We created the Gryphon Mirage so that the discerning owner could have it both ways: the Mirage as contemporary design to be proudly displayed or the Mirage as an invisible, unintrusive source of countless hours of listening pleasure.

No Sacrifice, No Compromise

Gryphon Mirage is a work of art that does not relegate function to a secondary position. Gryphon Mirage is also a high performance audio tool that is a statement in contemporary industrial design. The unconventional design challenges pre-conceived notions on the appearance of audio components.

Gryphon Mirage is high-tech sculpture, not a soulless machine.

The Gryphon Mirage is the perfect partner for the award-winning Gryphon Mikado compact disc player and the Gryphon range of power amplifiers.



Inside The Mirage

For those with an interest in such things, here's some background on exactly why the Gryphon Mirage sounds so good.

- ❑ True Dual Mono configuration
- ❑ Pure Class A operation
- ❑ 63,000 microFarad capacity
- ❑ Ultra-wideband 3 MHz frequency response
- ❑ Zero negative feedback
- ❑ DC-coupling with servo-control
- ❑ Isolated power supply for non-audio circuits
- ❑ Extensive mechanical decoupling
- ❑ Extensive local voltage regulation
- ❑ Microprocessor-controlled 50-step relay volume attenuator for best sonic performance featuring Vishay Bulk Metal Foil ultra-precision resistors and ultra low capacitance relays
- ❑ Fully discrete circuitry using Ultra-short signal path
- ❑ Select premium-grade components
- ❑ Minimal internal wiring
- ❑ Military spec. double-sided up to 70µm copper printed circuit boards
- ❑ Two separate Holmgren toroidal transformers, one for each channel
- ❑ Gold-plated input-isolating relays
- ❑ PCB-mounted sockets eliminate wiring and shorten signal path
- ❑ Gold-plated PCB-mounted Swiss Neutric XLR sockets for three balanced sources and two outputs
- ❑ Gold-plated PCB-mounted phono sockets with Teflon insulation for 2 inputs and one Tape output
- ❑ Wireless communication between Mirage Control unit and Mirage Preamplifier
- ❑ Fixed-level AV throughput for uncompromising integration with surround systems
- ❑ Microprocessor-controlled menu functions
- ❑ Adjustable channel balance, source level matching, start-up and maximum level
- ❑ Green Bias control for Gryphon Power Amplifiers
- ❑ Vacuum Fluorescent Display with 2 lines and 50 characters
- ❑ Adjustable display Lighting (High, Medium, Low or Off)
- ❑ Non-magnetic, non-resonant aluminum cabinets
- ❑ AMX or Crestron home automation System control software (sold separately)
- ❑ 12VDC link input and output
- ❑ Flash memory upgrades via PC or key-fob
- ❑ Infrared remote control
- ❑ EU CE approval
- ❑ Designed and built in Denmark

The implementation of a fully balanced, fully discrete circuit with zero negative feedback and ultra-wide frequency bandwidth allows the Gryphon Mirage to create a credible illusion of live music. The over-damped, sterile sound quality associated with amplifiers that rely on copious amounts of negative feedback to suppress distortion has been eliminated by rejecting global feedback as an unacceptable solution in the war on distortion.

With infinite channel separation and no interchannel crosstalk, the strict dual mono configuration of the Gryphon Mirage makes irrelevant many of the problems which plague more conventional stereo units. Independent outboard power supplies for each channel with separate Holmgren transformers ensure that each channel is completely unaffected by the other channel.

Mirror-image symmetrical construction ensures high common mode noise rejection. Common mode noise in opposite phase simply cancels itself out, because the preamplifier stages are symmetrical. Dual mono circuit design and isolated power supplies eliminate unwanted interaction between the power supply and delicate, low-level audio signals and confer vast audible benefits in terms of improved stereo focus, dimensional solidity and overall clarity.

Extreme Power Supplies

Unlike more conventional designs which typically employ a small number of large capacitors, the regulated power supplies and active preamplifier circuits of the Gryphon Mirage are based on arrays of multiple small capacitors, as a result of extensive tests which confirm the superior objective electrical characteristics and subjective audio performance of these capacitor banks.

The ultra-silent power supply is a virtual battery, but with none of the drawbacks and inconveniences of battery power. The overkill power supply provides improved current flow and reduced residual noise for substantial improvements in sonic neutrality and resolution.

Innovative Concepts

Component selection is based on both strict technical criteria (residual noise, temperature coefficients, tolerances, distortion, reliability) and subjective sonic criteria, following extensive listening sessions.

While many manufacturers take a cost-cutting digital approach to remote volume control, Gryphon Mirage implements an uncompromising analog solution for the ultimate in convenience at no sacrifice in sonic performance.

The input selector is outside the audio signal path, acting as a trigger for the precision, loss-less relays placed near the input sockets to shorten the signal path. The gold-plated selector breaks the ground connection of components not currently being used, effectively isolating them from the signal path.

To eliminate any adverse interaction between the digital display circuitry and the audio circuitry, the display is physically isolated in the Control section outside the preamplifier chassis.

The Green Bias function allows the energy-conscious to take part in the conservation of our global resources. When used with a Gryphon power amplifier with the

Green Bias feature, the Gryphon Mirage can adjust the operating bias of the power amplifier in three steps (50%, 75% or 100% Class A) to match your current needs. Green Bias is offered as a no-compromise alternative to various auto-biasing schemes.

Dedication

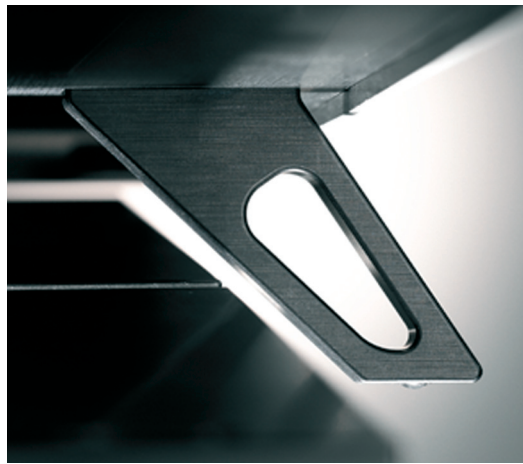
We hope this presentation has provided you with a better understanding and appreciation of the concepts and the high level of audio engineering skill which have gone into the creation of the Gryphon Mirage control amplifier.

At every stage of the development process, design skills and extensive laboratory testing have been guided and reinforced by listening sessions involving experienced, critical audiophiles whose sole concern is for the fidelity of the reproduced sound to our absolute reference, live music.

The Gryphon Mirage is dedicated to the recreation of the spirit and vitality of live music, re-defining such crucial elements as timing, bass control, dynamic expansion and transparency.

We are confident that you will appreciate our efforts, once you have experienced the Gryphon Mirage.





Gryphon Audio Designs is the brainchild of Flemming E. Rasmussen and the fulfillment of a lifelong dream to allow the purest essence of the live music experience to be re-created in the home environment.

Since its inception in 1985, Gryphon Audio Designs of Denmark has earned a worldwide reputation for state of the art performance, intuitive ergonomics and stunning aesthetic design.



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