

the absolute sound[®]

2006 Editors' Choice Awards

Welcome to the 2006 edition of *The Absolute Sound's* Editors' Choice Awards, our annual Recommended Products list. On the following pages we present the gear that our editors and writers have selected as the "best of the best" in each component category. Each category is then divided into separate subcategories defined by a price range, with components listed in order of ascending cost (though a few items, like cables and accessories, are listed alphabetically for clarity's sake). Each recommendation is also accompanied by a capsule review, the original reviewer's name, and the issue the review appeared in. Note that in a few cases a product may have been reviewed in one of our sister publications, *The Perfect Vision* or *AVGuide.com*, or the review may be pending publication, or the product may not have been formally reviewed but earns a recommendation based on one or more writer's extensive experience with it. Given that this is the high end, where components generally have long lifespans, some of our recommendations look back several years. At the same time, in an effort to be as selective and up to date as possible, we have dropped some components that appeared on last year's list, usually because they have been discontinued but sometimes because fresh competition has caused us to reconsider the choice. As we have in the past few years, we've also included a list of the multichannel sources and electronics that we've found most faithful to the musical experience, rather than those that are designed more specifically for home-theater use (though naturally, the musical ones will do fine double-duty). Limited space, however, has prevented us from including multichannel speakers and music servers. To check out those categories please go to our Web site, *AVGuide.com*. Note: TAS founder Harry Pearson's selections can be found in this issue's HP's Workshop.

