



**OVERALL PRODUCTS
OF THE YEAR**

the absolute sound



Basis Audio A.J. Conti Transcendence Turntable and SuperArm 12.5 **\$127,000**

The Transcendence represents Basis Audio founder A.J. Conti's attempt to create a turntable that render LPs sonically indistinguishable from the analog mastertape that created the LP. In a departure from previous Basis turntables, the Transcendence is made of stainless-steel and various alloys rather than acrylic, and features an entirely new suspension system. It is designed as a "forever platform" with the ability to accept up to four tonearms of any length, and have major components upgraded in the field. The Transcendence lives up to its design goal, sounding unlike any turntable RH has heard. What's most striking is how the Transcendence seems to vanish from the playback chain, fostering the impression of hearing back through to the mastertape.

Timbres are astonishingly lifelike, with a solidity and tangibility that has eluded other turntables. The ultra-quiet background and spectacular retrieval of low-level detail combine to render space, bloom, reverberation decay, and sonic minutiae like the tail end of shimmering cymbals with hair-raising realism. The Transcendence also has an ease, particularly on loud and complex passages, that makes you completely forget you're listening to an LP. When you discover newfound musical meaning in well-worn LPs as RH did, you know that the turntable is special. RH considers the Transcendence one of high-end audio's greatest achievements, not just in LP playback products, but across all categories. A genuine masterpiece. (295) **tas**



THE GREATEST TURNTABLES, TONEARMS AND CABLES IN THE WORLD

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