



# Concentrate

It's High End time in Munich. Hurry is my steady companion between appointments. At the Lindemann booth I suddenly hit upon young people with headphones on who are clicking through the most diverse tracks. Well, here it is, the eagerly awaited new blood. But why are they standing here of all places? The reason is called »Limetree«, a series of five models which excels by a small enclosure size, flawless workmanship and prices in the three-digit euro range. I picked the »Network« which can access streaming services like Tidal, Qobuz, Deezer, Spotify as well as Highresaudio via LAN and WLAN. The stylish, only 300 gram light unit is »Roon ready«, hence understands the »Roon Advanced Audio Transport« protocol which ensures a lossfree data transfer.

Add to this thousands of radio stations and the access to podcasts. Likewise the Network accepts stored music from UPnP/DLNA servers and USB sticks. Due to two AK 4452 DAC chips it can handle digital material up to 24 bits and

With the Lindemann Limetree Network users do not only get a dependable access to streaming services.

384 kilohertz with PCM plus DSD 256. And there is also the possibility to convert all signals into a 1-bit stream (DSD) which, according to Norbert Lindemann, leads to an enhanced sound quality.

Seven LED colours indicate the different sampling rates. For the rear headphone output Lindemann uses the OPA 1622 op amp from Texas Instruments that has been custom designed for audio applications. The Lindemann app, which is available for both Android and iOS and required for controlling the Network, is among the best I've seen so far. It does not only offer a useful, clear structure, but also a program stability which would generally be desirable for this device category. That way Lindemann is creating trust.

I was curious to learn about its performance. After an easy integration into the network, I started off with a radio station which was actually intended to be used only for the amplifier warm-up. Smoothjazz.com is available as a 256-kilo-

bit stream, and while the first notes are ringing, I'm pondering on the multiple application possibilities for the Limetree: You can do music listening over headphones, connect a pair of active loudspeakers, and the midget may also be used in a high-end sound system.

However, ultimate sound quality requires switching from the radio to a streaming provider. With sampling rates beyond CD level I was utterly well served at Highresaudio. In the case of the »Pastorale« conducted by Herbert Blomstedt (24 bits / 44.1 kilohertz) and DSD files by Carrie Newcomer, it's impressively audible right away how clearly the diminutive Lindemann benefits from the higher data rates in terms of sound – I'd like to see anyone do better than the Limetree Network!

**Result** The Lindemann Limetree Network delivers natural timbres and conveys a good impression of the so important spatiality. Not only young people should allow themselves to get inspired by this all-round great performance – hats off! *Olaf Sturm* ■

## Lindemann Limetree Network

WxHxD	11 x 4 x 11 cm
Warranty	3 years
Price	895 euros
Manufacturer	Lindemann Am Anger 4 82237 Wörthsee
Phone	081 53 - 953 3390

