

A New Sound Experience – International Catalogue (supplied with Philips CD100 Compact Disc player)

Hear the light

Just like your eyes read these words, so the laser lightbeam in the Compact Disc player picks up the sound signal. There is no wear. No distortion. No surface noise. No echo. Nothing... but the music.

Compact Disc spoils the music lover with a standard of sound reproduction hitherto unknown. The purity of the sound, a quality unimpaired by age, handling or endless playing lets you enjoy the beautiful music performed to perfection, again and again and again.

Justice To The Music

Upon first hearing his music on Compact Disc, the famous conductor Herbert von Karajan could only say: "All else is gaslight." For the Swedish pop group Abba, whose sound has conquered the world, Compact Disc finally "gives the fan what he deserves: studio sound in the house." These two performers speak for a wide community of Compact Disc enthusiasts in the musical world.

The composers and performing artists, recording engineers and all who are involved in capturing the excitement, the emotions and sensations of music for a recording, now find their efforts justified and honoured by the Compact Disc Digital Audio System.

Analogue systems, such as records and tapes, lead to a loss of some of the excellence that so many people work so hard for to create. The quality of reproduction of a record deteriorates with each playing. Records can suffer damage from scratches, dust, and handling. In addition, the equipment – turntable or cassette deck – also contributes to a deterioration of the sound quality. Not so with Compact Disc.

In the Compact Disc system, a recording is digitally encoded onto a small disc. In the player, the recording is optically read and decoded. There is no contact between the disc and the player. There can be no wear and no accompanying noises such as rumble, wow and flutter. The resulting sound is as pure and perfect as the performer intended it to be. And it stays that way.

A Silent Revolution

The Compact Disc system is silent. The playback system transmits no noise or sounds of its own to the amplifier and speaker. It is the single most significant advance in home audio technology. It offers untold benefits in sound quality, convenience and durability.

- The single-sided, 12 cm Compact Disc plays as long as two LP-sides, without interruption.
- The music signal is read by a laser beam, which imposes no wear on the disc, and suffers none itself.
- Channel separation is total. And there is no wow and flutter.

Digital Is The Word

Until yesterday, audio systems employed analogue principles. This system, at its present high state of development, works fine. But it is practically at its final performance limits. The sound signals can hardly be made more accurate, nor can the levels of noise and interference be further reduced.

With digitalisation however, the road to substantial performance improvement is wide open. In digitalisation, the sound signals of the audio wave-form are sampled 44 thousand times per second and the value of each sample is measured. Each value is then converted into a digital number of binary code. The advantage of the binary code is that it has only two forms: 0 and 1. These can easily be represented by electrical circuits being switched on and off. Per second some 4 million of these zero and one signals are being read.

That is why digital techniques are superior to the analogue ones. They work with numbers only, which are not subject to the physical variations of an analogue system. As long as the numbers are properly preserved, the principle characteristic of all digital systems is complete accuracy.

Welcome To The New Sound Experience

In this catalogue, you will find the first collection of Compact Disc titles from some of the biggest labels in the recording industry. From the number of releases planned for Compact Disc in 1983, it is clear to see that the performing artists and record companies intend to compile a repertoire of titles on Compact Disc comparable to the best collection of LPs and musicassettes.