

**STEREO SPEAKERS**

ATCSM19

£1500



Sensitivity 85dB **Impedance** 8 ohms **Power handling** 300w
Biwireable Yes **Dimensions** 44 x 22 x 31.5cm **Weight** 16kg

@ www.atc.gb.net
 ☎ 01285 760561

CD PLAYER

PRIMARE CD31

£1500



Outputs RCA phono, balanced XLR, coaxial digital, optical digital, XLR digital **Finishes** 2
Dimensions 10 x 43 x 38.5cm
Weight 10.5 kg

@ www.primare.net
 ☎ 01423 359054

AMPLIFIER

PRIMARE I30

£1500



Power output 100w **Line-level inputs** 4
Tape loops 1 **Preamp out** Yes **Speaker outputs** 1 set **Remote** Yes **Finishes** 2
Dimensions 10 x 43 x 38.5cm
Weight 15.5 kg

@ www.primare.net
 ☎ 01423 359054

Primare + ATC

£4500

IF YOU'RE AFTER a hi-fi system that will seriously do the sonic business, deliver sublime levels of detail with plenty of power and punch, and also look reasonably stylish and unobtrusive in your living room, you could do a lot worse than go for this combination. Some systems manage to be more than the sum of their parts, and this package from Primare is just such a system.

Performance to match the design

Let's start with the electronics: both these Primare components – the CD31 CD player and the I30 integrated stereo amplifier – are 2006 Award winners in their respective price categories, so we knew just what to expect from them – namely, a great performance. The CD31 is a very accomplished player with a very attractive design style and – most importantly – a highly detailed and cohesive sound that makes music sound fresh, vibrant and utterly gripping. The logical, clear front panel

FOR

Timing; detail; dynamics; sublime tonal evenness; great build and styling

AGAINST

Nothing

VERDICT

A truly fine system, one that seems a bargain, even at four-and-a-half grand

makes it very easy to use, and it also offers both balanced (XLR) connections as well as the more standard unbalanced RCA outputs.

The I30 amplifier is, unsurprisingly, a perfect partner for the CD31. It boasts a truly opulent design with chunky, well-machined controls, and it also combines sonically with the CD31 to produce a seriously powerful and composed

“Whether you love to rock or relax, this is a system you just sit back and enjoy”

performance. It offers excellent drive, rhythm and timing, and the kind of effortless dynamics that are as assured with the subtleties of a vocal performance as with the grand scale of a big classical symphony.

To round the system off, Primare has chosen to partner its components with a pair of ATC SCM19 standmounters. Each of the elements of this system cost the same money – £1500 – so the SCM19s seem like a logical choice. But they're a good choice for many more reasons than that: the sheer, unbridled

transparency, evenness and dynamic musicality of the ATCs rounds off this system in splendid style.

Mayhem when required

Every disc is delivered with air and space, with total musical control and dynamic subtlety, and with the ability to create serious mayhem when called upon to do so. Whether you like to rock hard or relax to some jazz, it's the kind of system you just sit back and listen to, revelling in every note, beat and nuance of the music – whatever your musical taste. And that's high praise indeed.

INSTANT UPGRADE

PRIMARE A30.2

★★★★★ £1200

If you want to keep the Primare electronics' sublime sonic character, but you're looking for a way to enhance it somewhat, simply add this fabulous two-channel power amp to the system – and biamp the ATCs. This will give you a major increase in dynamic thrills, scale and detail.