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JBE series III

Janorhurst Ltd., Century House, Shortmead Street, Biggleswade, Beds. 0767 314252



on occasion very mild wow was detectable by comparison with a more stable alternative; this was only apparent with critical programme.

While aspects of this model were indeed favourable, at this price level the mild wow problem cannot be ignored, and as such recommendation must be withheld until this problem is finally and satisfactorily resolved. In all fairness, JBE are well aware of the problem, and are endeavouring to put things right as soon as possible.

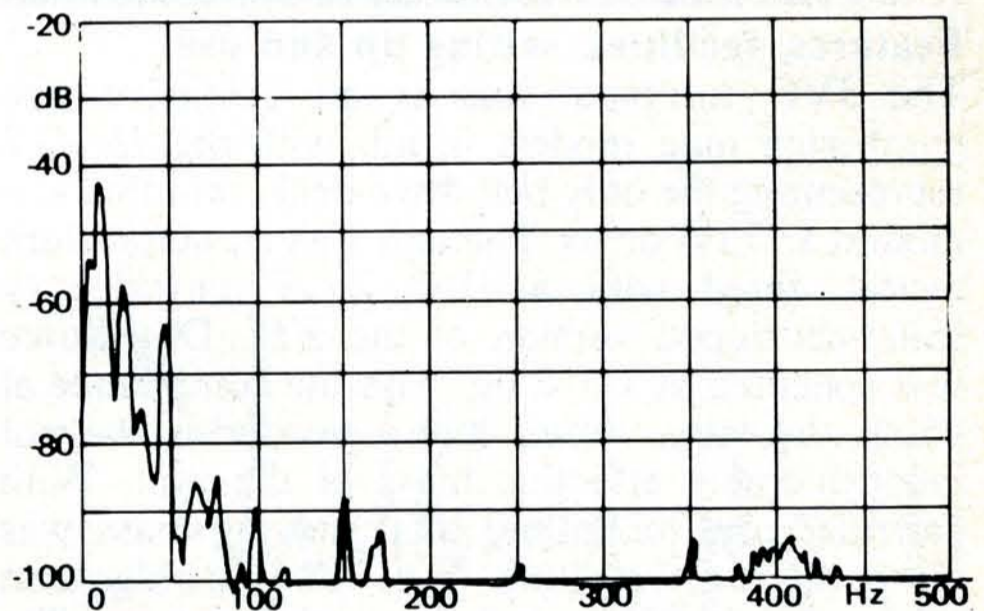
GENERAL DATA

Type.....	Motor unit
Platter mass/damping.....	manual direct drive
Finish and engineering.....	1.9kg/very good
Type of mains lead/connecting leads.....	very good
Speed options.....	3 core/power unit/N/A
Wow and flutter (DIN peak wtd sigma 2).....	variable, 33 $\frac{1}{3}$, 45rpm
Wow and flutter (LIN peak wtd 0.2-6Hz/6-300Hz).....	0.08%
Absolute speed error.....	0.11%/0.08%
Speed drift 1 hour/load variation.....	variable
Start up time to audible stabilisation.....	+0.15%/-0.3%
Rumble: DIN B wtd L/R av (see spectrum).....	3.5secs
Size/clearance for lid rear.....	77/79dB
Ease of use.....	43.4(w) x 34.3(d) x 15.5(h)/8.4cm
Typical acoustic breakthrough and resonances.....	good
Subjective sound quality of complete system.....	above average
Hum level/acoustic feedback.....	very good/above average
Vibration sensitivity/shock resistance.....	poor/above average
Estimated typical purchase price.....	£220

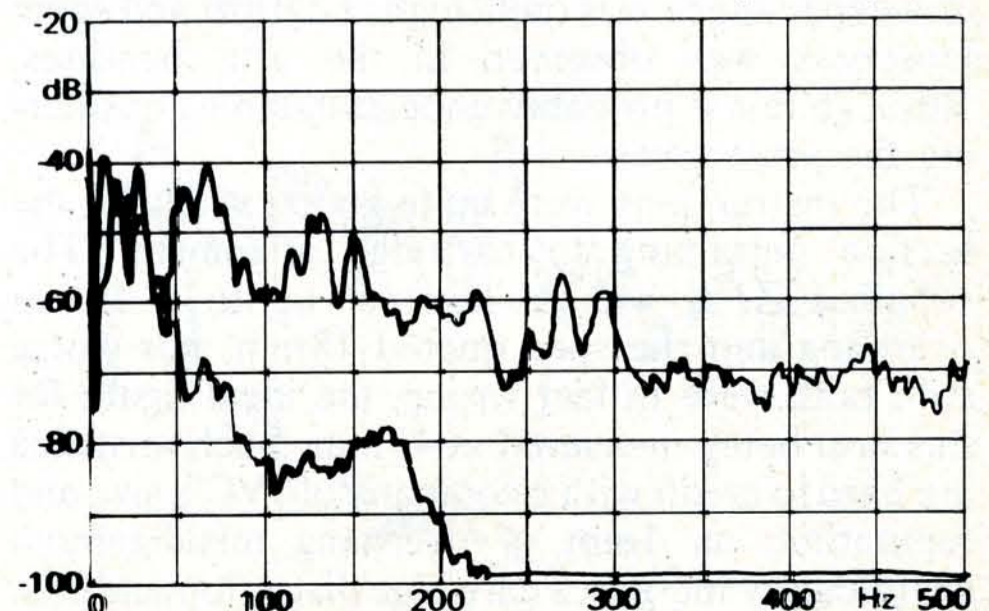
The original version of this deck was reviewed in the last issue, and in general received favourable comment. However, a minor reservation was expressed concerning the level of wow overshoot experienced with the Matsushita *MKL SIT* motor employed, the provisional recommendation thus dependent on an undertaking from JBE that an improved motor would be fitted to future production – at least by press date. In good faith JBE did install a more costly motor (*MKL B III*) as soon as possible, but unfortunately the picture was in fact little changed from the original as regards the level of dynamic wow, even though the other figures were slightly improved. Briefly the *Series III* is a direct drive motor on a massive slate plinth fitted with an attractive fabricated acrylic lid, and mounted on 'Microsorber' feet.

The platter was reasonable at 1.9kg, with an average start up time of 3.5 seconds. Finish was very good with bearing tolerance and centration both fine, as was wow and flutter at 0.08%, DIN weighted. Speed drift was satisfactorily low, but slowing under load was on the high side at 0.3%, with recovery inducing some dynamic wow. At typically 78db rumble was excellent, the spectrogram essentially made up of electrical contributions at 50Hz with some negligible pole noise at other frequencies. Rated as good for acoustic breakthrough, the level improved significantly with increasing frequency. The isolation feet however proved quite ineffective, and the vibration breakthrough was classed as relatively poor, but impact shock was well resisted as was feedback on the listening test. The plinth resonance occurred at 9Hz lateral and 20Hz vertical.

Rated above average the *Series III* showed a slightly muted bass quality with reduced deep bass. However the midrange was clear and detailed, allowing a good stereo presentation, and although



Rumble Spectrum (ref 10cm/s @ 1kHz; includes both electrical and mechanical components).



Acoustic breakthrough (upper) and vibration breakthrough

Overall Comparison Chart

	Type	Drive	Wow and Flutter audible and measured	Rumble measured	Arm Eff. Mass g	Arm Damp-ing	Arm Resonances	Arm Bias and Friction	Arm General Alignment	Arm Lead Cap. pF	General Engineering Quality	General Sound Quality	Vibration and Acoustic Br'kthrhg.	Set Up	Ease of Use (c= cart. inc.)	Price (typ inc) £
*See Text																
ADC 1500FG	auto return	belt	good	satis.	21	little	average+	average	good	220	average	average	average	v. good	v. good c	75
ADC 1700DD	auto return	q.d.d.	good	satis.	6	little	average+	average	good	200	good	average	average	v. good	v. good c	120
ADC ALT-1	arm	—	—	—	6	little	average+	good	good	180	good	average+	—	v. good	v. good	36
ADC LMF-1*	arm	—	—	—	4	little	good	good	good	185	v. good	v. good	—	v. good	v. good	65
Aiwa LP 3000	auto +	q.d.d.	v. good	v. good	25	—	poor	excellent	excellent	250	v. good	average	average-	v. good	v. good	550
Aiwa AP 2300	auto return	direct	v. good	good	18	—	poor	poor	good	135	good	average-	average-	v. good	v. good c	120
Akai AP-B10C	manual	belt	v. good	satis.	13	little	average	average+	v. good	190	good	average-	poor	v. good	good c	55
Akai AP-206	auto return	direct	v. good	v. good	17	—	average-	average	good	75	good	average-	average-	v. good	v. good	85
Ariston RD11S	motor	belt	v. good	v. good	—	—	—	—	—	—	v. good	v. good	excellent	f. good	good	250
Audio Linear TD4001	motor	belt	adequate	v. good	—	—	—	—	—	—	v. good	v. good	average+	v. good	good	120
Audio Technica AT1005	arm	—	—	—	19	—	average-	good	v. good	75	v. good	average	—	good	good	35
Audio Technica AT1100*	arm	—	—	—	8	variable	average+	v. good	v. good	95	v. good	good	—	v. good	good	110
B&O 2200	auto	belt	excellent	v. good	4	—	average	average	good	—	good	good	good	excellent	excellent c	160
B&O 4002/4	auto	belt	excellent	excellent	3*	none	—	excellent	excellent	—	excellent	good	excellent	excellent	excellent c	350
BIC SP75	auto	belt	satis.	poor	12	—	poor	good	good	185	average	average-	average-	v. good	v. good c	160
BIC SP85	auto	belt	satis.	poor	12	—	average-	good	good	180	average	average-	average-	v. good	good c	200
Connoisseur BD2A*	auto stop	belt	adequate	satis.	13	little	average	average	good	140	average-	average+	average+	f. good	good	70
Connoisseur BD102*	auto stop	belt	v. good	satis.	13	little	average	average	good	140	average-	average+	average+	f. good	good	85
Connoisseur BD103*	auto stop	belt	satis.	v. good	12	some	average	v. good	good	250	average-	average+	average+	f. good	fair	100
Decca London International	arm	—	—	—	12	some	average	average+	v. good	—	average+	good	—	satis.	good	75
Denon DP2500*	manual	q.d.d.	excellent	excellent	10	little	average	v. good	v. good	—	excellent	average	average-	v. good	good	260
Denon 307	arm	—	—	—	10	little	average	good	good	—	v. good	average+	—	v. good	good	125
Denon 309	arm	—	—	—	13	little	average	excellent	good	—	v. good	average	—	v. good	good	115
Dual 506*	manual	belt	v. good	good	7	little	average	good	v. good	175	good	average+	average+	excellent	good c	100
Dual 606*	manual	direct	good	v. good	7	little	average+	good	v. good	175	v. good	average+	average+	excellent	good c	145
Dual 731Q	auto	q.d.d.	excellent	excellent	17	little	average	excellent	v. good	180	v. good	average+	good	excellent	excellent c	260
Dunlop Systemdek	motor	belt	good	v. good	—	—	—	—	—	—	v. good	v. good	excellent	fair	f. good	275
Dynavector DV505	arm	—	—	—	17/50*	some	average	average	v. good	—	v. good	average	—	good	good	230
Eagle 7500	auto return	belt	adequate	poor	14	none	average-	average-	average	—	—	poor	poor	good	good	70
Fidelity Research FR-12S	arm	—	—	—	22	none	average	v. good	v. good	80	excellent	average+	—	v. good	good	180
Fidelity Research FR-64S	arm	—	—	—	35	none	good	v. good	v. good	80	excellent	good	—	v. good	good	250
Grace G707	arm	—	—	—	7	little	average+	good	excellent	—	v. good	v. good	—	v. good	v. good	140
Hadcock GH228D*	arm	—	—	—	5.5	some	good	v. good	v. good	135	satis.	good	—	average-	average	85
Harksound HS210	auto return	belt	good	v. good	11	little	average	average+	v. good	80	satis.	average-	average	v. good	v. good c	50
Harksound HS510	auto return	direct	v. good	v. good	11	little	average	average	v. good	80	average+	average-	average+	v. good	v. good c	105
Hitachi HT324	auto return	belt	excellent	good	17	—	average-	good	v. good	155	good	average-	average+	v. good	v. good c	65
Hitachi HT354	auto return	direct	good	v. good	17	—	average-	good	v. good	225	v. good	average-	average+	v. good	v. good c	90
Hitachi HT660	auto	q.d.d.	good	v. good	18	—	average	poor	v. good	155	good	average	average+	v. good	excellent	200
Infinity Black Widow	arm	—	—	—	4.25	variable	average	average+	excellent	65	v. good	average+	—	good	good	120
ITT 8011	auto return	direct	average-	v. good	16	none	average-	average-	average	—	average	average-	average+	good	v. good c	96
ITT 8012	auto	direct	v. good	v. good	17	none	average-	average	average	—	average+	average-	average	good	excellent c	110
JBE Series III	motor	direct	average*	excellent	—	—	—	—	—	—	v. good	average+	average	v. good	good	200
JVC LA11	auto return	belt	satis.	satis.	18	little	average	average-	poor	250	average	average-	average	v. good	v. good c	77
JVC QL-A5	auto return	q.d.d.	good	good	14	little	average+	average	poor	75	average+	average-	average	v. good	v. good c	224
JVC QL-F4	auto	q.d.d.	good	v. good	14	some	average	v. good	v. good	—	good	average-	average-	average+	excellent	165
JVC QL-F6	auto	q.d.d.	excellent	excellent	15	some	average	good	good	80	v. good	average-	average-	v. good	excellent	250
Linn Ittok LV11	arm	—	—	—	12	none	v. good	excellent	excellent	80	excellent	v. good	—	good	good	230
Linn Sondek LP12	motor	belt	good	excellent	—	—	—	—	—	—	v. good	v. good	v. good	average	good	345
Marantz TT2000	auto return	direct	v. good	good	6.5	little	average-	average-	v. good	135	average	average-	average	v. good	v. good	85
Marantz TT4000	auto return	q.d.d.	satis.	satis.	6.5	little	average-	average-	v. good	133	average	average-	average	v. good	v. good	115

Marantz 6170	auto stop	direct	v. good	good	14	none	average	good	good	—	good	average	poor	good	v. good	100
Mayware Formula 4 III	arm	—	—	—	4.5	some	average+	v. good	excellent	85	v. good	good	—	good	good	50
Michell Focus	mtr + arm	belt	average	good	5	some	average+	average*	excellent	220	v. good	average+	good	good	good	190
Michell Electronic	motor	belt	good	v. good	—	—	—	—	—	—	excellent	average+	average+	good	good	185
Micro Seiki MB10	manual	belt	good	good	14	average	average-	average-	good	200	average	average-	average-	v. good	good c	75
Micro Seiki DDQ500*	manual	q.d.d.	excellent	excellent	6-16	—	average+	v. good	v. good	95	excellent	good	average+	v. good	good	300
Micro Seiki DQX1000	motor	q.d.d.	excellent	excellent	—	—	—	—	—	—	excellent	good	average+	v. good	good	450
Micro Seiki MA 505	arm	—	—	—	14.5	none	average	v. good	excellent	—	excellent	good	—	v. good	good	130
Mission 774	arm	—	—	—	5	variable	good	excellent	excellent	180	v. good	v. good	—	average	good	130
Monitor Audio ET500	motor	direct	average-	v. good	—	—	—	—	—	—	v. good	average*	average*	good	good	140
Optonica RP-5100	auto	direct	good	good	13	little	average+	poor	average	75	good	average-	average+	v. good	excellent c	100
Philips AF685	auto stop	belt	v. good	adequate	14	none	average	poor	average-	250	good	average-	average-	v. good	good c	65
Philips AF677	auto return	belt	v. good	good	12	none	average	average	average+	—	good	average-	good	v. good	v. good c	83
Philips AF777	auto return	belt	good	v. good	12	none	average	good	good	—	good	average	good	v. good	v. good c	100
Philips AF877	auto return	belt	v. good	v. good	12	little	average	good	good	—	good	average-	good	v. good	v. good c	130
Philips AF829	auto	belt	v. good	excellent	12	little	average+	good	v. good	270	v. good	average	good	v. good	excellent c	175
Pickering FA300	auto stop	belt	good	good	10	none	average	good	average	150	good	average+	good	v. good	good	250
Pioneer PL512	manual	belt	v. good	v. good	18	none	average	average	average	150	good	average-	average+	v. good	good c	55
Pioneer PL200X	auto return	direct	excellent	excellent	17	little	average	v. good	good	150	v. good	average	average+	v. good	v. good c	95
Pioneer PL400X	auto	q.d.d.	v. good	excellent	17	little	average	good	good	150	v. good	average	good	v. good	excellent	145
Pioneer PLL1000	auto	q.d.d.	excellent	excellent	16	none	average-	excellent	excellent	200	excellent	good	average+	v. good	excellent	450
Realistic Lab 250	auto return	belt	average-	good	15*	none	average	v. good	average+	—	average+	average	average+	good	good c	85
Realistic Lab 500	auto return	q.d.d.	v. good	v. good	16	none	average	v. good	good	—	average+	average	average	v. good	v. good c	180
Rega Planar 2	mtr + arm	belt	v. good	good	16	little	average+	v. good	v. good	75	v. good	average+	average+	v. good	good	99
Revox B790*	auto return	q.d.d.	excellent	excellent	3*	none	average+	excellent	excellent	—	v. good	good	v. good	excellent	v. good c	400
Rotel RP300	auto return	belt	v. good	v. good	7	—	average	average	average	100	good	average	average	v. good	v. good c	65
Rotel RP6400	auto return	direct	v. good	good	7	—	average	average	average	75	good	average-	poor	v. good	v. good c	100
Sansui SR-222 II	manual	belt	v. good	v. good	11	none	average	good	v. good	—	good	average+	average	good	good	69
Sansui FRD3	auto return	direct	v. good	v. good	21	little	average	average-	good	80	v. good	average	average	good	v. good c	90
Sansui FRQ5	auto	q.d.d.	v. good	v. good	19	little	average	average	average	75	v. good	average-	average	v. good	excellent c	165
SME 3009 II ND*	arm	—	—	—	6*	variable	average	good	excellent	var*	excellent	good	—	v. good	good	60
SME 3009 IIIS*	arm	—	—	—	4.5	—	good	v. good	excellent	var*	v. good	v. good	—	v. good	good	85
Sony PST15	auto return	direct	v. good	satis.	16	—	average	average+	v. good	95	good	average	average	v. good	v. good	90
Sony PSX70	auto	q.d.d.	excellent	excellent	25	little	average	v. good	v. good	100	v. good	average+	average+	v. good	excellent	220
Sony PS-B80	auto	q.d.d.	excellent	excellent	20	electronic	average-	good	v. good	100	excellent	average+	average	excellent	excellent	800
Stax UA7*	arm	—	—	—	16	none	average	v. good	v. good	—	excellent	good	—	average+	average+	135
STD 305S*	motor	belt	good	excellent	—	—	—	—	—	—	v. good	v. good	v. good	good	good	150
Syrinx PU2	arm	—	—	—	8	none	good	v. good	v. good	120	v. good	v. good	—	average	average	200
Technics SLB2	auto return	belt	satis.	good	13	—	average	poor	good	275	average	average	average-	good	v. good c	69
Technics SLQ2	auto return	q.d.d.	excellent	excellent	13	—	average	average	good	140	v. good	average+	average+	v. good	v. good c	140
Technics SL1700II	auto return	q.d.d.	excellent	excellent	13	—	average	excellent	v. good	85	v. good	good	average+	v. good	v. good	190
Technics SL10	auto	q.d.d.	excellent	excellent	4	—	v. good	excellent	excellent	—	excellent	good	—	excellent	excellent c	300
Technics EPA-500	arm	—	—	—	7.5-11	some	good	excellent	v. good	85	excellent	v. good	—	good	good	180
Thorens TD105	auto return	belt	excellent	v. good	8	little	average	good	v. good	300	good	average	average	good	v. good	115
Thorens TD115	auto return	belt	v. good	v. good	8	little	average	excellent	v. good	300	good	average+	v. good	good	v. good	155
Thorens TD160BC	motor	belt	v. good	v. good	—	—	—	—	—	—	v. good	good	v. good	good	good	108
Thorens TD160S	motor	belt	v. good	excellent	—	—	—	—	—	—	v. good	v. good	v. good	good	good	152
Thorens TD126III*	auto stop	belt	v. good	excellent	8	none	average	v. good	v. good	300	v. good	good	v. good	v. good	v. good	275
Toshiba SRF225	auto	belt	average-	average-	14	none	average	average-	good	—	average-	average-	average-	v. good	good c	90
Toshiba SRF325	auto	belt	good													