



DLP PROJECTOR
Projection Design
Model Three 1080
£15,000



STEREO SPEAKERS
JAS Audio Orior
£2300 Page 78



STEREO DAC & PRE/POWER AMPLIFIERS
Bryston BP26DA/2B SST
£3600/£1950 Page 79



Temptations

THE WORLD'S MOST DESIRABLE KIT

Dynamite display does the double

Two-million-plus pixels of HD picture, two lamps, two colour wheels: **Projection Design's Model Three 1080** uses a new formula to rival the three-chip-DLP dominance of high-end home cinema projectors



DLP PROJECTOR
PROJECTION DESIGN
MODEL THREE 1080
★★★★★
£ 15,000

FOR
Sensational image quality from DVDs and High Def; flexible

AGAINST
Not cheap

VERDICT
Complex, but deeply impressive; if you've the space and the budget, it's a must-see projector

The processor can route audio signals as well as video ones

ANTICIPATION CAN BE a cruel temptress for the hapless reviewer. All too often, we get excited by potent paper specifications, only for the promised fireworks to translate into a damp squib of disappointment.

Not so here. We've been dying to try out the new Projection Design Model Three 1080, part of the Action! range, for ages – and now we can report that the real-world experience is just as wondrous as the promise. This is a stupendous home cinema projector – and we really don't want to give it back.

Bigger, brighter and just plain sharper

Although we've seen sexier projectors, the Model Three 1080's true beauty lies beneath the surface. Technically, there's nothing else quite like it on the market, which is just as well given its price.

First off, this is the first projector we've tested to use Texas Instruments' new 1920 x 1080 DLP (Digital Light Processing) chipset, giving the potential for over two million pixels of definition (see p6 for more on 1080p). It teams this potent 'brain' with an equally powerful controller, Pixel Magic's Crystallo II video processor (pictured below). Able to take any incoming video signal and

scale it up to 1080p quality, this image-enhancer uses Genum VXP (Visual Excellence Processing) video-scaling to make seamless, noise-free motion.

However, the most unusual feature about the '1080 is its lamp arrangement: it uses two lamps, teamed with two seven-segment colour wheels and two light formatters, where most rivals use just one. This unusual, and immensely complex, 'DuArch' arrangement is intended to give more

"The Projection Design's blend of rich, beautifully saturated colours and detail takes the breath away"

light output and, with it, both better brightness and contrast compared to a single-lamp projector.

Does it work? Oh, yes! The Projection Design's blend of rich, beautifully saturated colours and awesome low-light detail takes the breath away. The picture looks simply sumptuous, as rich and lustrous as film, especially with true 1080-line High Definition. This is definitely a case of *do* believe the hype. Would that we had the money...



TECH SPECS
PROJECTION DESIGN MODEL THREE 1080
TYPE 16:9 DLP, 1920 x 1080 resolution
CLAIMED CONTRAST RATIO 7500:1
THROW RATIO Lens dependent: standard-fit, 1.6 – 2.3:1 **INPUTS** 4 x HDMI, 4 x component, 2 x S-Video, 2 x SDI, 3 x coaxial digital, optical digital, 3 x analogue audio **OUTPUTS** 2 x HDMI, component

The mammoth Model Three 1080 upgrades any signal into higher-quality 1080p images



projectiondesign

3.32 - 46.1 mm

POWERED OPTICS AND LENS SHIFT

LENS RELEASE
PUSH AND HOLD