

JMF Audio PRS 1.5/HQS 9001

WINNER

PRE/POWER AMPLIFIER - COST NO OBJECT

MF Audio breaks the mould in the high-end electronics industry by offering only the best products, without any entry-level or intermediate options. The French brand focuses on creating amplifiers that deliver exceptional performance and durability without compromising quality. The PRS 1.5 preamp is a line-only, dual-mono design with a fully balanced circuit, although singleended signals take advantage of the preamp's SSA 'Super Symmetrical Analogue' technology immediately after the input itself. It also uses JMF Audio's proprietary CSV volume control for optimal sound quality. Meanwhile, the 600W HQS 9001 mono power amplifier reflects JMF Audio's commitment to high-quality design, with its LDA mono driver board and DCS (Directcoupled, Capacitor-free Servo) input stage.

The company's attention to detail is off the scale, even to the point of developing its own

solder. This build quality might go some way to explain the rarity and high prices of JMF Audio's products, but more important still is the sound quality. These amplifiers offer an exceptional listening experience, delivering "straight wire with gain" accuracy, detail, and coherence, but with endless power and dynamic range that borders on the uncanny.

In our test, Alan Sircom said, "Most amplifiers mess with the soundstage width or depth slightly, they either accent or push back the rhythmic properties of the music, flatten dynamics or compromise - even mildly - one aspect of the musical whole. These amps... don't." He also noted, "JMF Audio almost never appears on the second-hand market: there is nothing left to upgrade to from here." They really are that good!

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