Subject: Tube DAC - SW1X, Abbas, LAB12, Sonic Frontiers?
Posted by kasperbergholt on Sun, 04 Feb 2024 13:56:23 GMT
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Clever people,

I'm considering investing a bit in a tube-based DAC. I'm in the research phase and have looked at SWX1, Abbas, LAB12 products - from new; for a long time interested in Sonic Frontiers offerings, but they're rarely for sale here in Europe.

About a year ago I sold my Audio Note DAC 01.x to fund upgrading my RIAA from a Sugden A21 Phono to a Leben RS30-EQ - in and of itself a great decision in terms of getting the sound I was expecting.

However, I miss the sound of the 01.X - perhaps because of its zero negative feedback design and lack of digital filtering. I'm currently using a Topping E30 - as different from the Audio Note as things can be.

Which leads me to my question. Does anyone have experiences with DACs from SW1X, Abbas, or LAB12?

The rest of the chain is Harbeth M30 speakers and Leben CS-600 amplifier.

Recommendations for others brands is more than welcome too.

The Audio Note DAC 0.1x design is with a fixed tube (6111WA) that cannot be changed without soldering. I'd like to have more flexibility in a new DAC.

Thanks in advance,

Kasper