

Heed

integrated amplifier

OBELISK Si



Users Manual

Thank you for choosing our product!

In designing the Heed Obelisk Si, our objective was to produce an integrated amplifier that conveys all the emotional content and immediacy of your recordings faithfully, allowing the atmosphere, tension, and excitement of the original performance to shine through in an organic, true-to-life fashion. We sincerely hope that you will agree, and that your Obelisk will provide you with many years of impeccable, trouble-free operation.

Happy listening!

Your Heed Obelisk Si integrated amplifier is designed to offer the finest performance available by avoiding compromise, wherever possible. This detailed guide contains advice specifically related to using this amplifier and its optional auxiliary X-2 power supply, as well as more general warnings about the use of domestic audio components.

Please read them carefully.

precautions

Instructions — All safety and operating instructions should be read and adhered to exactly as written here or as depicted on the unit. Please retain for future reference.

Water and Moisture — The unit should not be used near water — that is, near a bathtub, washbowl, kitchen sink, laundry tub, in a wet basement, or swimming pool, etc.

Ventilation — The unit should be situated so that its location or position does not interfere with its ventilation. For example, the unit should not be placed on a bed, sofa, rug, or similar surface, that may block the ventilation openings; or placed in a built-in installation, such as bookcase or cabinet that may impede the flow of air through the ventilation openings.

Heat — The unit should be situated away from heat sources such as radiators, stoves, etc..

Power Sources — The unit should be connected to a power supply only of the type described in the operating instructions or as marked on the unit.

Power-Cord Protection — Power-supply cords should be routed so that they are not likely to be walked on or pinched by items placed upon or against them, paying particular attention to cords at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the unit.

Lightning — For added protection during a lightning storm, or when left unattended and unused for long periods of time, unplug the unit from the wall outlet. This will prevent damage to the product due to lightning and power-line surges.

Object and Liquid Entry — Care should be taken so that objects do not fall into and liquids are not spilled into the inside of the unit. For this reason, no objects filled with liquid, such as vases or drinking glasses should be placed on the equipment.

Damage Requiring Service — The unit should be serviced by qualified service personnel when:

- The power-supply cord or the plug has been damaged;
- Objects have fallen, or liquid has been spilled into the unit; or the unit has been exposed to rain respectively;
- The unit does not appear to operate normally or exhibits a change in performance;
- The unit has been dropped, or the cabinet damaged.



The Obelisk Si integrated amplifier, just like the optional X-2 power supply unit do not have any user serviceable parts. It is essential that repairs and updates are only carried out by our authorised trade partners — distributors and dealers — , or at the factory by Heed Audio itself. Many components are custom made, tested or matched and appropriate replacements are often unobtainable from other sources.

Therefore, users should not attempt to service the units beyond those means described in the operating instructions, or under any circumstances allow anyone to modify them. Unauthorised repairs or modifications will invalidate the guarantee of the units.

Grounding or Polarization — Precautions should be taken so that the grounding or polarization is not defeated.

Radio interference — All Heed components are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a domestic installation. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If your Obelisk does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning off and on, you are encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

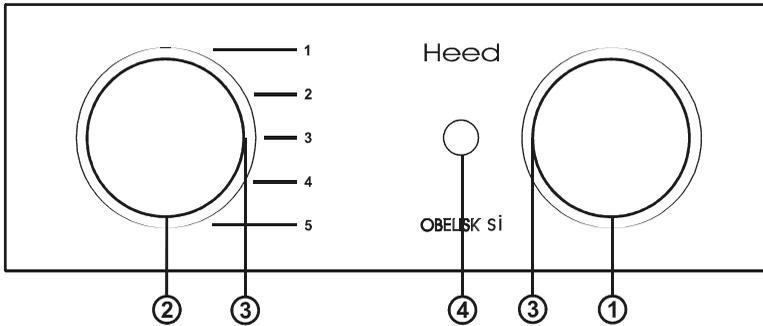
- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna;
- the separation between amplifier and receiver (radio tuner, television set, etc.);
- Connect the equipment into a power outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected;
- your Heed dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

Maintenance / Cleaning — It is recommended to dust the equipment from time to time with a soft dry cloth.



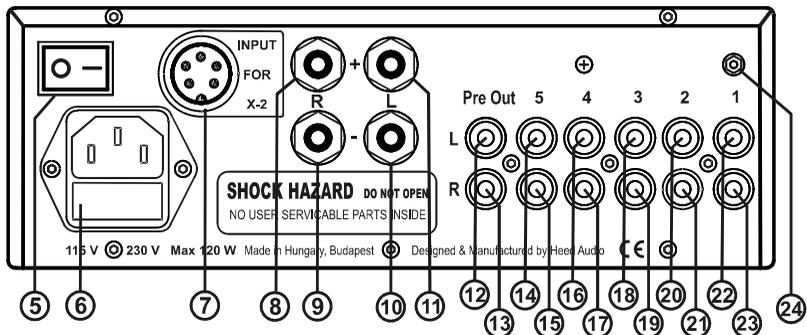
**Do not use cleaning solvents or abrasives for cleaning!
Always switch off and unplug the unit from the power supply when cleaning!**

front panel



1	Volume Knob	3	Position and on/off indicator LEDs
2	Input Selector Switch	4	Infrared sensor

rear panel



5	Power on/off switch	15	No. 5. Line level input right channel
6	Mains connector and fuse socket assy	16	No. 4. Line level input left channel
7	Auxiliary Power Supply connector	17	No. 4. Line level input right channel
8	Speaker right channel connector "+"	18	No. 3. Line level input left channel
9	Speaker right channel connector "-"	19	No. 3. Line level input right channel
10	Speaker left channel connector "+"	20	No. 2. Line level input left channel
11	Speaker left channel connector "-"	21	No. 2. Line level input right channel
12	Pre-out left channel connector	22	No. 1. Line level input left channel
13	Pre-out right channel connector	23	No. 1. Line level input right channel
14	No. 5. Line level input left channel	24	Earthing (for tonarm cables only)

Installation

We believe that a Heed Audio component should be, optimally, installed by an approved Heed dealer. Nevertheless, the procedure is straight-forward enough that you may install your new Obelisk Si yourself by following the instructions contained herein. Should any problems be experienced which are not covered here, contact your local dealer. If you are unable to do so, or problems persist, however, do not hesitate to contact our distributor / reseller in your country (see our website >> www.heedaudio.com >> "worldwide distributors" for details), or us directly at Heed Audio ...we're here for you!

unpacking

When opening the cardboard and unpacking the unit, you will find following items being supplied with:

- (1) Heed Obelisk Si integrated amplifier
- (1) OBELISK remote control handset
- (1) 'shorting' power supply plug
- (1) IEC-norm mains power cord
- (1) Users Manual



⚠ Before placing the amplifier onto its chosen place, insert the 'shorting' power supply plug into the PSU socket (7) — see rear panel. Alternatively, you can use the Obelisk X-2 optional auxiliary power supply via this socket (see below 'Upgrade Options'). If this socket is vacant, the amplifier is completely muted because the power amp section is disconnected from the onboard power supply, and thus giving way to connecting the Obelisk X-2.

placement

In common with all high-quality audiophile equipment, the Obelisk Si performs optimally when positioned on its own individual mounting surface, ideally a light rigid structure. There are many purpose-built examples readily available from all better dealers.

Always allow adequate ventilation with sufficient airflow around the unit, do not mount on soft surfaces, for example, carpets or soft fabrics.

connection to mains supply

⚠ Before performing any connections or disconnections ensure that the power on/off switch (5) of the unit is in "off" position.

⚠ Always check that the voltage and frequency of the mains supply corresponds to the specifications as labeled on the unit!

1. the power cord's IEC type plug into the power inlet connector (6) of the Obelisk.
2. Connect the power cord's mains plug to your power outlet.

input connections

The Obelisk has 5 pairs of high quality RCA (cinch) input connections.

Number 1 input (22, 23) is a line level connection in a standard configuration. This input, however, can be alternatively equipped with the optional **Heed Audio Vinyl-1** MM phono module for connecting a turntable, or with the optional **Heed Audio Dactyl-1** DAC module for connecting a CD-transport (or a CD-Player via its digital output respectively), computer music server, or any other source with a digital co-axial output. When the latter is correctly mounted in the Obelisk chassis, Number 1 input transforms into a true co-axial input. (Either the Left or Right RCA jack may be used to accept a suitable digital source, but only one (1) of them may be used as such, with the other remaining unconnected.)

Number 2 to 5 inputs (14-21) are standard line level inputs. See specifications section for sensitivity data of the inputs.

Loudspeaker connections

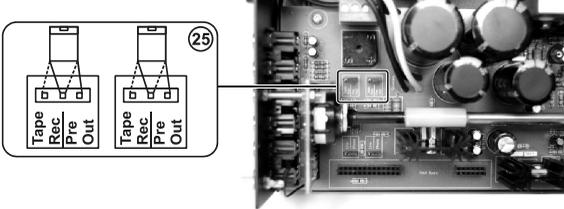
The Obelisk is equipped with high quality loudspeaker connectors suitable for 4mm banana plugs, max. 4mm diameter bare wire or spades.

⚠ Wenn connecting the loudspeaker cables ensure that the speakers are connected correctly i.e. "+" (red) to "+" and "-" (black) to "-".

pre-out connection (pre-amplifier output)

Your Obelisk Si has a pre-out (RCA) connection (12,13). Here you can connect an additional **Heed Audio Obelisk PAS** stereo power amplifier for bi-amplification, or, alternately, make use of this facility to connect your Obelisk Si to an analog recording device (tape or CD recorder), or headphone amplifier, ideally our **Heed Audio CanAmp**. If you want to use your amplifier this way, you need to change the position of the jumper on the PCB behind the connection. Follow these steps:

1. Remove the housing cover of the Obelisk Si.
2. Change the positions of the jumper (25)
3. Reassemble the housing cover.
4. Connect your recorder or headphone amp (see "installation" section on page 4).



Operation

⚠ Once the Obelisk is connected to mains supply, as well as to source component(s) and loudspeakers, remove the protective film from the front panel. You can detach it by peeling off and grabbing the film at any of the corners. Please note: this step only serves as visual completion of the amplifier, it has no electrical or mechanical influence on the functioning of the unit.

When all steps of installation are correctly completed, your Obelisk is ready for action!

- ▽ Turn the Volume Knob (1) counter-clockwise to the minimum setting.
- ▽ Switch on your desired source components.
- ▽ Switch on your Obelisk with power on/off switch (5) on the rear panel and allow some time (5-10 minutes minimum) for warming up.

⚠ If your unit was transported or stored in cold environment allow it to warm up to room temperature before switching on!

- ▽ Select the component that you'd like to listen to with the Input Selector Switch (2).
- ▽ Begin playing the source component.
- ▽ Adjust the volume level with the Volume Knob (1) or with the Remote Volume Control Unit to your preferred setting.
- 😊 Sit back and enjoy!

Note: Although you can use your Obelisk within seconds of switching it on, as with all audio equipment the best sound quality will be reached after a period of warm-up time, preferably a couple of hours. We recommend keeping the unit switched on continually for optimum performance. However, your Obelisk should be switched off if left unattended for extended periods, or in the event of thunderstorm. As mentioned previously, it is also necessary to switch the unit off when connecting or disconnecting any input or output cables.

Upgrade Options

MM phono and D-to-A converter (DAC) modules

Upon installation of the **Heed Audio Vinyl-1** MM phono module, your Obelisk will be able to amplify a signal directly from the cartridge (moving-magnet) of your turntable.

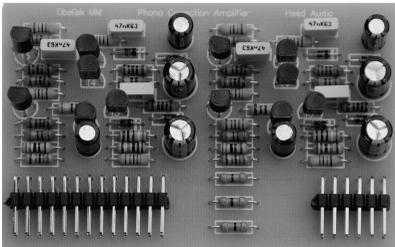
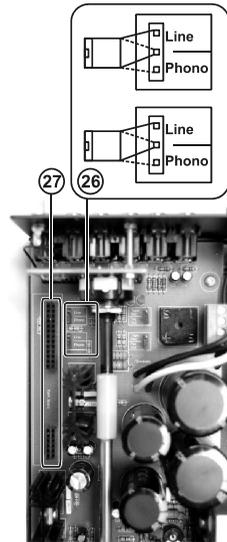
Alternatively, upon installation of the **Heed Audio Dactil-1** DAC module, your Obelisk will be able to take the digital signal of a CD-Transport or a CD-Player (or any other source with a digital co-axial output) and convert it into a line-level analogue signal.

 **We strongly recommend that the installation of either of these modules be carried out by your authorised Heed Audio dealer, so the description outlined below is for reference purposes only!**

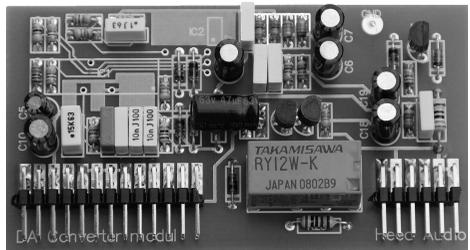
Before installation of the module your equipment must be switched off, and disconnected from the power supply. All input/output cabling should be disconnected.

Caution: Allow a minimum of 30 minutes after disconnecting unit from power supply for internal capacitors to discharge fully before removing cover and attempting any work inside.

1. Remove the housing cover of the Obelisk Si.
2. Change the positions of the jumpers (26,27) to "phono".
(This applies likewise for installing the DAC module, since there is no jumper position marked "DAC".)
3. Connect the module to the main PCB of the amplifier by sliding it on the pin connectors (27).
4. Reassemble the housing cover — see "installation", page 4.
5. Re-connect all cables — see "installation", page 4.
6. Connect your turntable to Input 1 (22,23). [OR] Connect your digital source (CD-Transport, computer server, etc.) via co-axial interconnect to either the Left or Right RCA jack of Input 1 (22,23), leaving the other jack unconnected.



phono module **Heed Audio Vinyl-1** MM



DAC module **Heed Audio Dactil-1**

OBELISK X-2 power supply

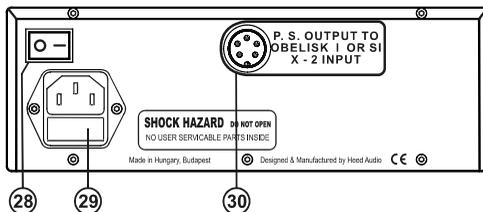
The Obelisk X-2 is an optional auxiliary power supply which not only increases the output power of the Obelisk Si integrated amplifier but also dramatically improves its sonic performance.

In this enhanced 2-box configuration, the Obelisk X-2 will support the power amplifier stage of your Obelisk Si integrated amplifier while the built-in power supply will continue to support the Si's pre-amplifier stage alone. This means that after connecting the X-2, the power cable of the Obelisk should remain connected as well..

connecting the Obelisk X-2 to the Obelisk Si

⚠ Before performing any connections or disconnections ensure that the power on/off switch (5) of the unit is in "off" position.

1. Connect the supplied special connector of the auxiliary power supply to its socket (30).
2. Connect the power cord's IEC type plug into the power inlet connector of the Obelisk X-2. (29). Connect the X-2 mains plug to your power outlet.
3. Switch X-2 power on/off switch to "on" (28). Confirm blue LED power indicator is lit.
4. Switch Obelisk Si power on/off switch to "on". Allow time for warm-up. Enjoy!



⚠ Never attempt to connect any other type of power supply to this connection as it may cause failure of your equipment!

OBELISK PAS stereo power amplifier

Your Obelisk Si integrated amplifier can be further upgraded with an additional Obelisk PAS stereo power amplifier.

This is an ideal solution for bi-amplification of your loudspeakers. Not all speakers are bi-amplifiable though. Consult your local dealer, our distributor or us directly at Heed Audio to confirm compatibility.

Simply connect a pair of interconnecting RCA (cinch) cables to the pre-out connectors (12,13) of the Obelisk Si and to the input connectors of the Obelisk PAS.



For detailed description, refer to the separate instruction manual that is supplied with Obelisk PAS.

SPÉCIFICATIONS

Input 1. sensitivity/impedance:	250 mV / 10 kOhm
Input 1. with MM phono module:	5 mV / 47 kOhm
Input 2-5. sensitivity/impedance:	250 mV / 10 kOhm
Power output:	40/65 W (8/4 Ohm, 1kHz, <0.1% THD)
Power output (with Obelisk X-2):	50/80 W (8/4 Ohm, 1kHz, <0.1% THD)
Signal-to-noise ratio (A-weighted):	98 dB
Channel separation:	>90 dB
Distortion (THD, 1 kHz, 100mW):	<0,08%
Bandwidth:	7Hz-60kHz (1W, 8 Ohm, -1.5 dB)
Damping:	>150 (8 Ohm)
Pre-out:	0 dBm (775 mV)/ <50 Ohm
Power consumption:	<160 W
Power consumption (standby):	5 W
Weight (Obelisk Si):	7 kg
(Obelisk X-2):	5 kg

WARRANTY

If within three years of the purchase date your Heed OBELISK Si proves to be defective for any reason other than accident, misuse, neglect, unauthorised modification or fair wear and tear, Heed Audio Ltd. will, at its discretion, replace the faulty parts without charge for labour. This factory warranty is valid only for units sold into countries with no appointed Heed distributor. **Service enquiries in countries with appointed distributor should be addressed first to the supplying dealer and/or Heed distributor. Warranties granted in these countries are entirely at the discretion of distributor.**

DISTRIBUTOR CONTACT



FACTORY CONTACT

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