

heed

OBELISK SI III **INTEGRATED AMPLIFIER**



Owner's Manual

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 III integrated amplifier, just like the optional X-2 power supply unit does 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:

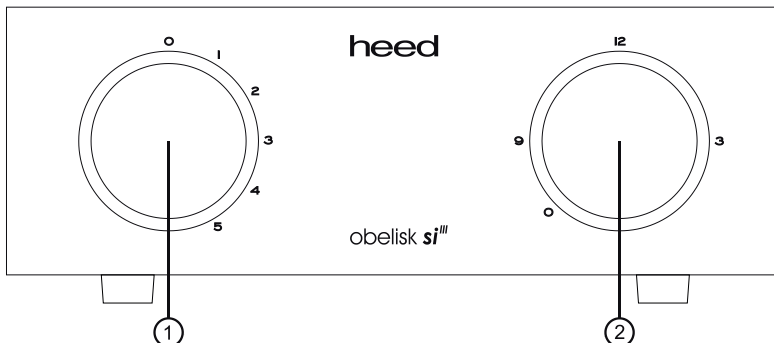
- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna;
- the separation between amplifier and receiver (radio tuner, television set, etc.);
- Connect the equipment into a power outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected; — your Heed dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician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

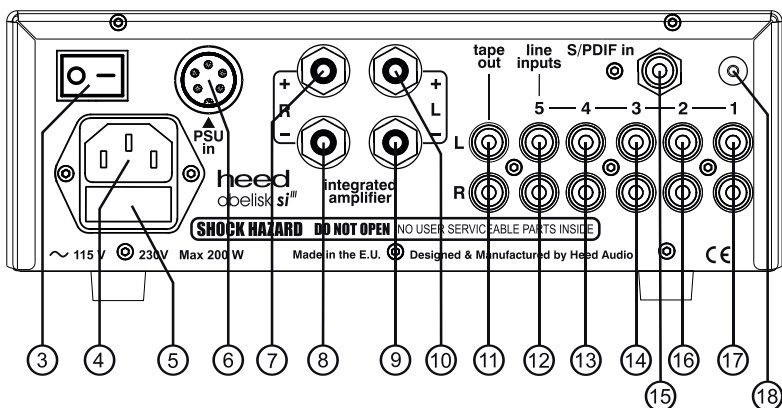
Controls and connections

front panel



1 input selector turnknob

2 volume control turnknob



3 Power on/off switch

4 Mains connector

5 Fuse socket

6 Auxiliary Power Supply socket (PSU in)

7 Speaker right channel connector „+“

8 Speaker right channel connector „-“

9 Speaker left channel connector „+“

10 Speaker left channel connector „-“

11 Tape out connectors

12 No. 5. line level input connectors

13 No. 4. line level input connectors

14 No. 3. line level input connectors

15 S/PDIF input connector for DAC card

16 No. 2. line level input connectors

17 No. 1. line level / card input connectors

18 Phono ground connection

Installation

The installation procedure is straight-forward enough that you may install your new Obelisk Si III 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), or us directly at Heed Audio.

unpacking

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

- (1) Heed Obelisk Si III integrated amplifier
- (1) OBELISK remote control handset
- (1) 'shorting' power supply plug
- (1) IEC-norm mains power cord
- (1) Owner's manual



'shorting' power supply plug

Before placing the amplifier onto its chosen place, insert the 'shorting' power supply plug into the „PSU in“ auxiliary power supply socket (6) — 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 III 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. **Do not block the top and bottom ventilation holes!**

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 (17) 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 with an MM pickup. When using an optional **Heed Audio Dactil-1.x** or **Dactil 2.x** DAC module installed within the Si III 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 S/PDIF output, Number 1 input connectors can not be used. Connection to the DAC module is through the **S/PDIF input connector** (15).

Number 2 to 5 inputs (12–14 and 16) are standard line level inputs. See the 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.

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

Caution! Please take care not to 'short-circuit' the loudspeaker outputs! Connectors without insulation should be used with extra care, they must not contact each other!

tape-out connection

Your Obelisk Si III has a tape-out (RCA) connection (11). Here you can connect an analog recording device (tape or CD recorder), or a headphone amplifier, ideally our **Heed Audio CanAmp** or **Canalot III**.

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!

1. Turn the volume control knob (2) counter-clockwise to the minimum setting.
2. Switch on your desired source components.
3. Switch on your Obelisk with the 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!

4. Select the component that you'd like to listen to with the Input Selector Switch (1).
5. Begin playing the source component.
6. Adjust the volume level with the volume control knob (2) or with the Remote 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 Si III will be able to amplify a signal directly from the cartridge (moving-magnet) of your turntable.

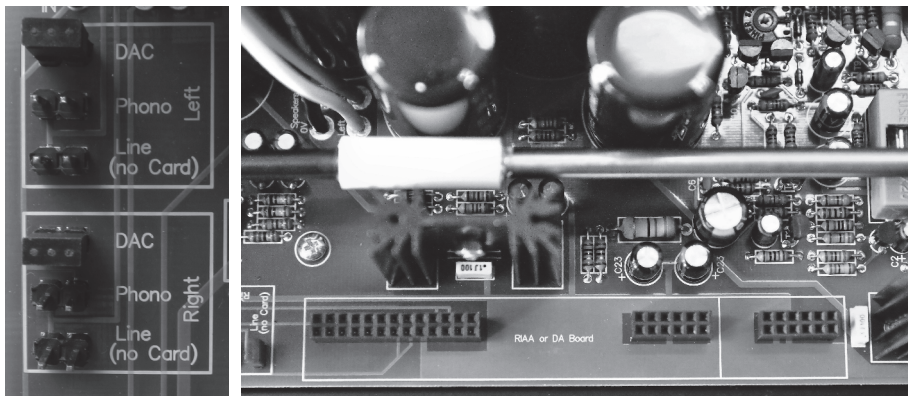
Alternatively, upon installation of the **Heed Audio Dactil-1.x** or **2.x** DAC module, your Obelisk Si III will be able to take the digital signal of a CD-Transport or a CD-Player (or any other source with a digital co-axial output) and convert it into a line-level analogue signal.

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 the unit from the 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 III.
2. Change the position of the jumpers of both channels shown on the picture from the default Line (no card) position to: Phono when installing the Vinyl MM card, or to DAC when installing either a Dactil 1.x card or a Dactil 2.x card.
3. Connected the module to the main PCB of the amplifier by sliding it onto the pin connectors shown on the picture:



4. Reassemble the housing cover, and reconnect all cables – please refer to the installation section on page 4.

Connection to the installed MM card can be made using the Line 1 connectors (17) and the turntable ground connection screw (18)

Connection to the installed DAC card can be made using the S/PDIF input connector (15).

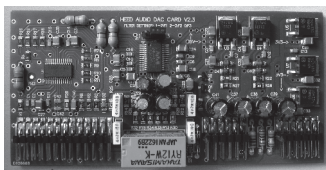
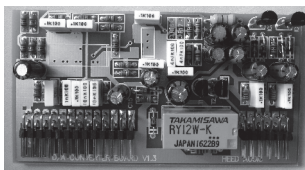
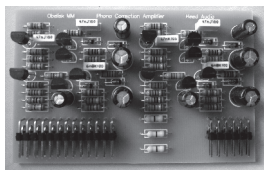
In both cases the output of the card can be selected by setting the „1” position of the input selector turnknob (1)

Modules currently available for the Obelisk Si III:

Vinyl MM card

Dactil 1.3 card

Dactil 2.3 ca



OBELISK X-2 power supply

The Obelisk X-2 is an optional auxiliary power supply that significantly improves the sonic performance of the Obelisk Si III integrated amplifier.

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

connecting the Obelisk X-2 to the Obelisk Si III

before performing any connections or disconnections ensure that the power on/off switches of the Si III and the X-2 units are in "off" position.

1. Remove the 'shorting' power supply plug from the Si III
2. Connect the supplied special grey power cable to the connector marked 'PSU out'.
3. Connect the other side of the special grey power cable to the Auxiliary Power Supply socket marked 'PSU in' (6) of the Si III unit.
4. Connect the power cord's IEC type plug into the power inlet connector of the Obelisk X-

2. Connect the other side of the power cable to your mains plug.
5. Switch the power on/off switch of the Si III unit (3) and of the X-2 unit to „on” position.
6. Now the system is ready for use. Enjoy!

Never attempt to connect any other type of power supply to the Si III as it may cause failure of your equipment!

Never attempt to use the X-2 as power supply to any equipment other than the Obelisk Si III (or Obelisk Si II or Obelisk Si)!



SPÉCIFICATIONS

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Input 1-5. sensitivity/impedance: | 270 mV / 10 kOhm |
| Input 1. with MM phono module: | 5 mV / 47 kOhm |
| Power output: | 50/65 W (8/4 Ohm, 1kHz, <0.1% THD) |
| Power output (with Obelisk X-2): | 65/80 W (8/4 Ohm, 1kHz, <0.1% THD) |
| Signal-to-noise ratio (A-weighted): | 96 dB |
| Distortion (THD, 1 kHz, 100mW): | <0,08% |
| Bandwidth: | 5Hz-60kHz (1W, 8 Ohm, -1.5 dB) |
| Damping: | >150 (8 Ohm) |
| Tape-out: | 0 dBm (775 mV)/ <50 Ohm |
| Power consumption: | <200 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 III 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.**

FACTORY CONTACT

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