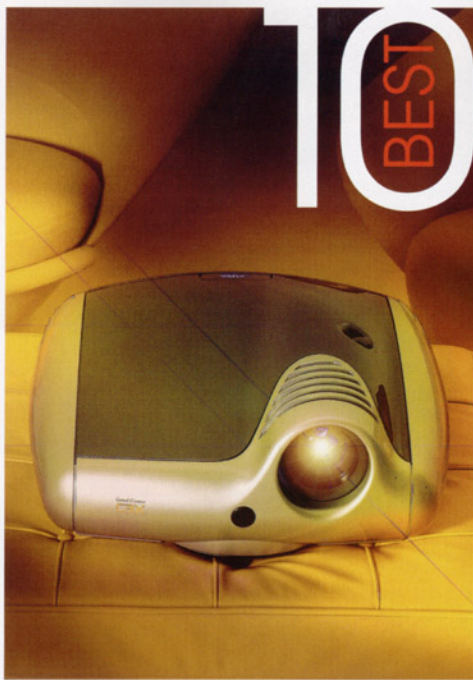


HOME ENTERTAINMENT

THE FINEST IN AUDIO/VIDEO TECHNOLOGY AND DESIGN



15 FEET OF FUN (top left) Although the Marantz VP-11S1 has some technical advantages over it, we picked the **SIM2 C3X** as our favorite projector because it almost single-handedly made the personal screening room affordable for the merely affluent, as opposed to the ultra-wealthy. The first three-chip DLP projector priced under \$20,000, the C3X can easily fill a 15-foot screen with bright, sharp images, as we discuss in our web-exclusive article "In Its Element," which is available in "The Latest and the Best" section of *hemagazine.com*. (sim2usa.com)

THE LEGEND LIVES ON (top right) With its now-classic (and still revered) components of the 1960s, McIntosh practically invented high-end audio. According to Steve Guttenberg, *HE's* high-end audio columnist, the **McIntosh Reference** audio system captures all the glory of those past products and then some. Each of its XRT2K tower speakers incorporates 110 drivers, and each of its three-chassis MC2KW mono amps puts out 2,000 watts. Steve says the McIntosh rig "can get down and boogie like no other high-end system on the planet." (mcintoshlabs.com)

DISCREET REVOLUTION (bottom right) The speakers in the **PhaseTech dARTS** in-wall system are well-made but simple. What elevates them above Definitive Technology's U1W RLS 2 (our favorite conventional in-wall speaker of the year) is the DP-2000 amp/processor, which incorporates a 16-channel digital amplifier, digital crossovers, and automatic room acoustics compensation processing from Audyssey Labs. The advanced technology practically eliminates tonal coloration and greatly enhances ambience and imaging. This is one of the best audio systems we have ever heard. (phasetech.com)

