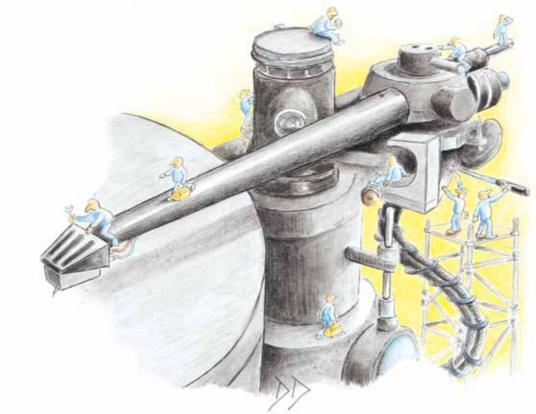
AWARDS ISSUE 60



KUZMA 4POINT TONEARM

Reviewed by Roy Gregory





It's not often a genuinely innovative tonearm appears; it's not often that a tonearm redefines our expectations of record replay. For the two things to happen simultaneously is almost unheard of, yet that's exactly what the Kuzma 4POINT has achieved. A carefully considered amalgamation of all that's great and good in existing, pivoted designs, combined with Kuzma's own innovative, hybrid bearing design. The Kuzma arms have never been short on practicality or the ability to optimize cartridge geometry, but the 4POINT takes that to new levels, adding cartridge interchangability and independent horizontal and vertical damping to the company's superb VTA adjuster and the best azimuth adjustment out there.

But it's listening with the 4POINT that makes you realize just how special it is. With improvements in the low-frequency performance of the best modern loudspeaker systems threatening to expose a lack of tone and shape to analogue's nether regions, the latest Kuzma arm steps forward with the best control of pace, definition, texture and bass transparency that we've experienced, a quality that underpins the performance as a whole, injecting presence, life and energy into the beautifully stable and richly shaded soundstage. Big and bold, with tremendous impact when called for, the 4POINT does small and intimate too. A consummate musical all-rounder, the Kuzma significantly raises the analogue bar; the resulting scrabble to overhaul it is a delicious prospect indeed!

Price: £3950 UK Distributor: Audiofreaks Ltd.

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Manufacturer: Kuzma Ltd. www.kuzma.si