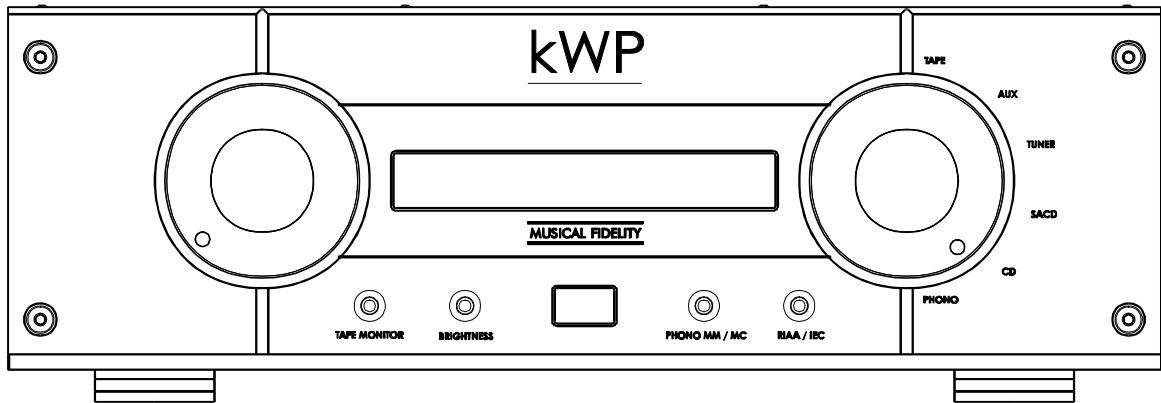


# Tri-Vista

## PREAMPLIFIER



### *INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE*

*Thank you for purchasing the Musical Fidelity  
Tri-Vista Pre remote control preamplifier.*

*Used properly and carefully, it should give you many  
years of outstanding musical reproduction.*

*Aesthetically, the Tri-Vista Pre is a perfect match for the  
Tri-Vista Power amplifier and Tri-Vista SACD player,  
which are part of our 20th Anniversary series.  
Together, they form one of the finest hi-fi systems available today.*

*Dust regularly with a soft duster or soft brush but be  
careful when using cleaning or polishing agents - they may  
harm the surface finish.*

*If you have any questions about your audio system,  
please consult your dealer who is there to help and advise.*

**MUSICAL FIDELITY**

# SAFETY INFORMATION

## IMPORTANT! (U.K. only)

This unit is supplied in the U.K. with a mains lead fitted with a moulded 13 amp plug. If, for any reason, you need to cut off this plug, please remove the fuse holder and dispose of the plug safely, out of reach of children. ***It must not be plugged into a mains outlet.***

The wires in the mains lead supplied with this appliance are coloured in accordance with the following code:

Green and yellow.....Earth  
Blue.....Neutral  
Brown.....Live

### **WARNING - This appliance must be earthed**

As the colours of the wires of the mains lead of this appliance may not correspond with the coloured markings identifying the terminals in your plug, proceed as follows:

The wire which is coloured green-and-yellow must be connected to the terminal in the plug which is marked with the letter E or coloured green or green-and-yellow, or by the earth symbol:



The wire which is coloured brown must be connected to the terminal which is marked with the letter L or coloured red.

The wire which is coloured blue must be connected to the terminal which is marked with the letter N or coloured black.

If connecting to a BS1363 plug, a 13 amp fuse must be used.

### **WARNING:**

**Any modifications to this product not expressly approved by Musical Fidelity who is the party responsible for standards compliance could void the user's authority to operate this equipment.**

# GENERAL ADVICE

## **INSTALLATION PRECAUTIONS and USER INFORMATION**

Your new Tri-vista Pre-amplifier is designed and built to provide trouble-free performance, but as with all electronic devices it is necessary to observe a few precautions:

*Heed all warnings shown on the back of the product.*

*Only connect the Tri-vista Pre-amplifier to a mains outlet having the same voltage as marked at the back of the unit.*

*Always ensure that when disconnecting and reconnecting your audio equipment the mains supply is switched off.*

*Position the mains lead and signal interconnects where they are not likely to be walked on or trapped by items placed on them.*

*Do not use near water, or place water-filled containers on the pre-amplifier; for example, flower vases or potted plants. **If water does spill inside, immediately pull out the mains plug from the wall socket and inform your dealer, who should then check the unit before further use. Entry of liquid into the pre-amplifier is dangerous, and may cause electric shock or fire hazard.***

*Do not place the units near heat sources such as radiators, direct sunlight or other equipment - operate them in a well ventilated area.*

*Do not remove covers or try to gain access to the inside. There are no internal user adjustments. Refer all service work to an authorised Musical Fidelity agent.*

***NOTE: Unauthorised opening of the equipment will invalidate any warranty claims.***

*There are fuses inside the Tri-vista Pre-amplifier. In the unlikely event that one blows, refer the unit to your audio dealer. Do NOT try to replace the fuse yourself as this will invalidate the warranty.*

*Dust regularly with a soft duster or soft brush, but be careful when using cleaning or polishing agents - they may harm the surface finish.*

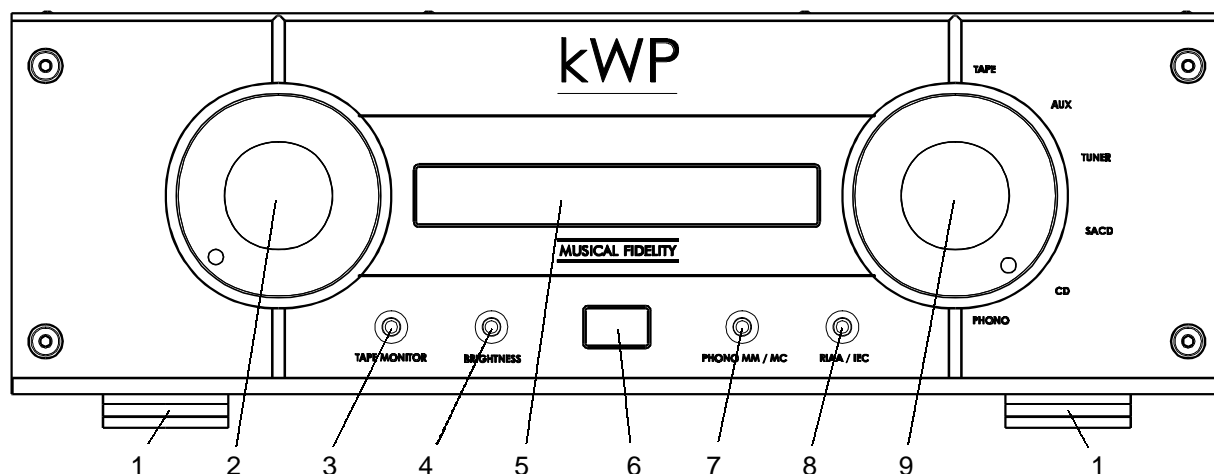
The electronics in modern hi-fi equipment is complex and may, therefore, be adversely affected or damaged by lightning. For protection of your audio system during electrical storms, remove the mains plugs and disconnect any aerial lead.

If after-sales service is required, to help your dealer identify the Tri-vista Pre, please quote the serial number located on the rear panel of the unit.

## **RADIO FREQUENCY INTERFERENCE (R.F.I)**

This product has been tested to ensure that its operation is not adversely affected by normal background levels of R.F.I., and that it does not itself generate excessive amounts of interference. However, if a problem persists, please contact your Musical Fidelity agent.

# CONNECTIONS AND FACILITIES - MAIN UNIT

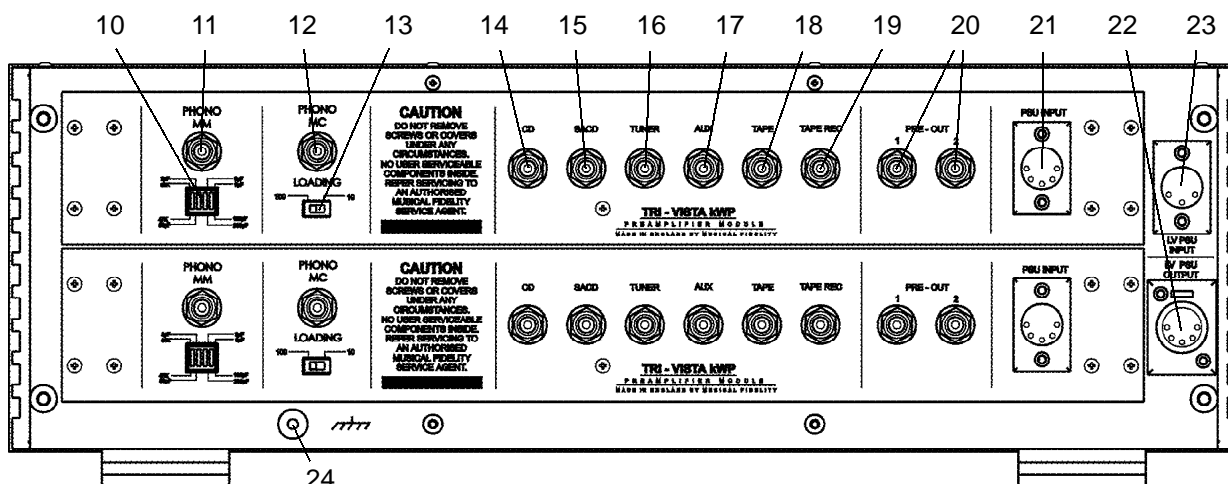


## Front panel layout

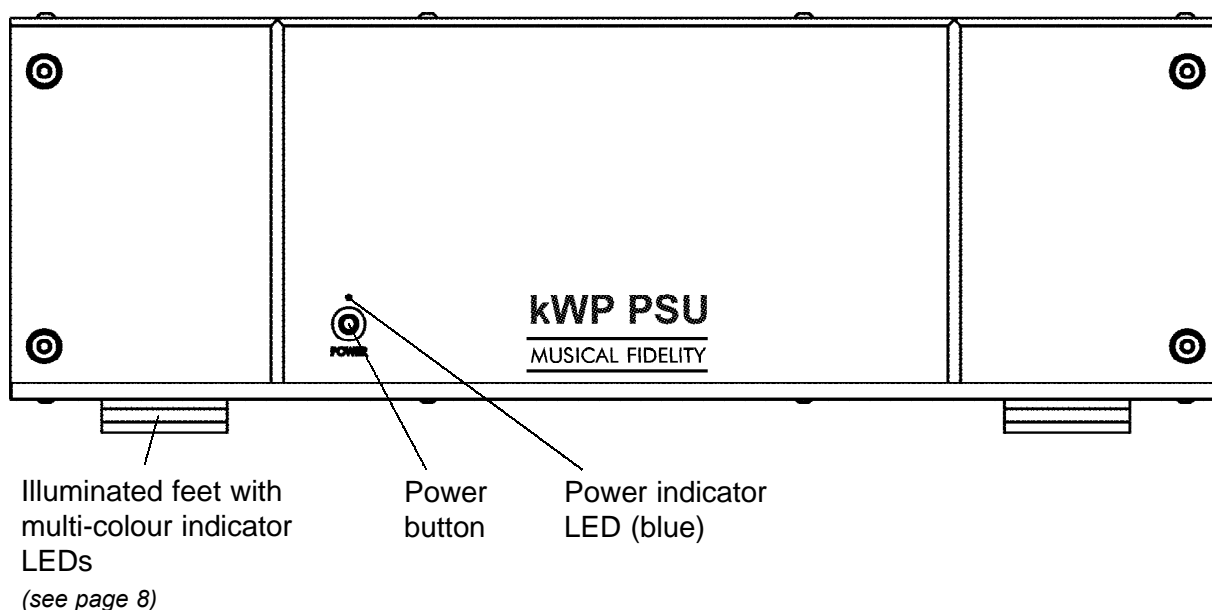
- 1 Illuminated feet with multi-colour indicator LEDs (see page 8)
- 2 Volume control knob
- 3 **TAPE MONITOR** select button (see page 8)
- 4 Display **BRIGHTNESS** button (see page 9)
- 5 Fluorescent display (see page 9)
- 6 Infra-red receiver window for remote control (see page 6)
- 7 **PHONO** pickup input select (see page 9)
- 8 **RIAA / IEC** pickup select button (see page 9)
- 9 Input selector knob

## Back panel layout (each channel)

- 10 Moving magnet impedance selection switches (see page 7)
- 11 **PHONO Moving Magnet** input RCA socket
- 12 **PHONO Moving Coil** input RCA socket
- 13 Moving coil **LOADING** selection switch (see page 7)
- 14 **CD** input RCA socket
- 15 **SACD** input RCA socket
- 16 **TUNER** input RCA socket
- 17 **AUXILIARY** input RCA socket
- 18 **TAPE** input RCA socket
- 19 **TAPE RECORD** output RCA socket (see page 8)
- 20 **PRE-OUT** RCA sockets - two per channel (see page 7)
- 21 Power supply input socket
- 22 Low voltage output socket to power supply
- 23 Low voltage input socket from power supply
- 24 Phono earth connection

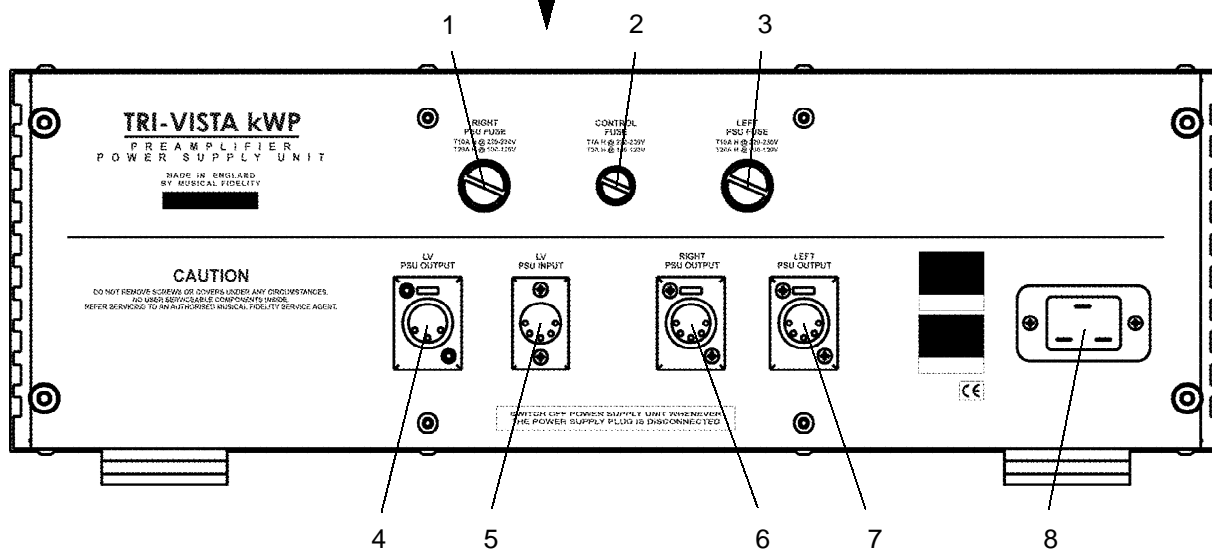


# CONNECTIONS AND FACILITIES - POWER SUPPLY



## Back panel layout

- 1 Right power supply fuse
- 2 Control circuit fuse
- 3 Left power supply fuse
- 4 Low voltage power supply output
- 5 Low voltage power supply input
- 6 Right power supply output
- 7 Left power supply output
- 8 Mains inlet - 16 Amp IEC type



# REMOTE CONTROL

## REMOTE CONTROL

Buttons on the remote control enable main functions of the preamplifier to be operated from a convenient distance.

Before use, batteries must be fitted. Two are required, size LR06 or AA, manganese alkaline type such as MN1500. These go into separate compartments along the right-hand edge of the control by first removing the twist-off covers with a suitable coin. Insert each battery with the positive (+) pip terminal facing outwards, and then replace the cover.

If the range of the remote control greatly decreases, replace the batteries with new ones.

*Caution - when removing batteries, the battery compartments are spring-loaded.*

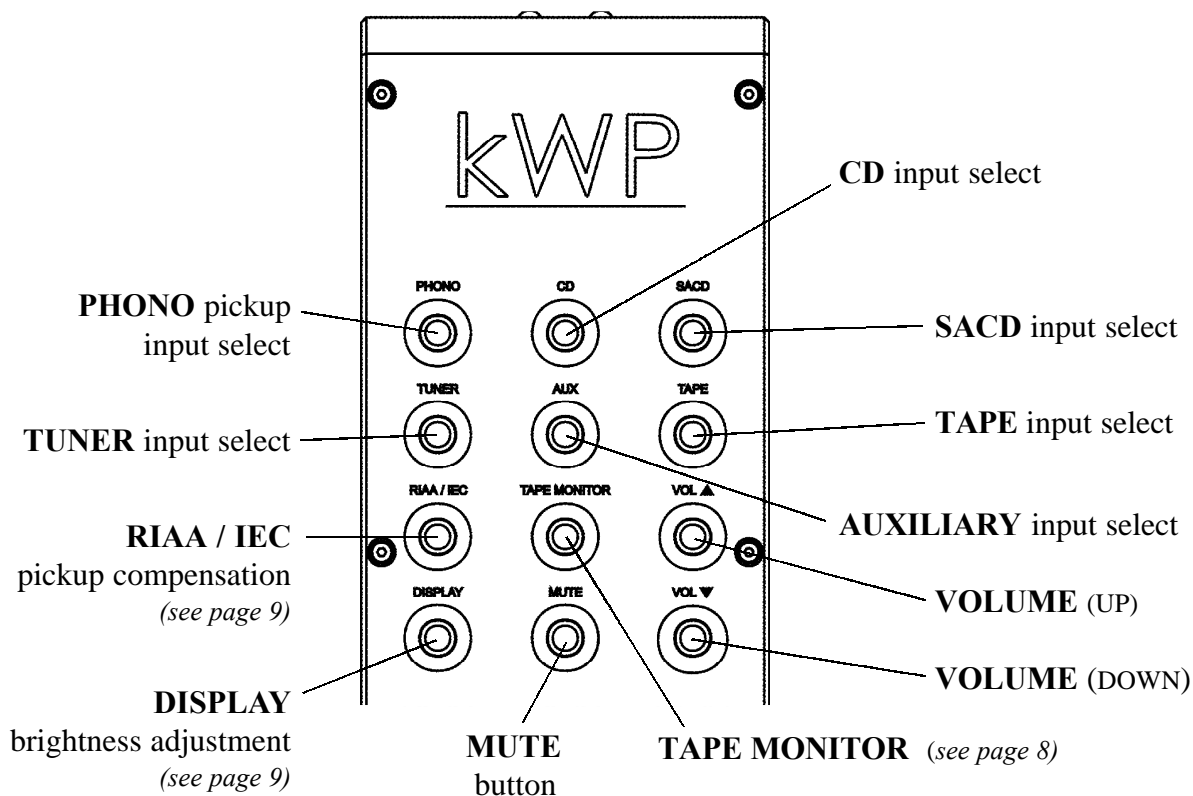
Do not mix old and new batteries, and do not dispose of used batteries in a fire.

Equivalent buttons on the remote handset have the same functions as the those on the front panel of the unit.

As the remote control uses an invisible infra-red light beam, the transmitter should be pointed directly towards the receiver window on the front of the pre-amplifier, without visual obstruction between them.

Pressing the volume-up or -down buttons on the remote handset will advance the motorised volume control in the required direction.

Pressing the **MUTE** button mutes audio output from the LINE-OUT sockets, but has no effect on the TAPE OUT sockets for recording. To show that the line output is muted, LEDs in the illuminated feet will change from their current colour to red. Press the **MUTE** button again to cancel mute function, and the feet LEDs will revert to their previous colour (see page 8, under "Starting").



# CONNECTIONS

All connections should be made with the mains power switched OFF.

## POWER CONNECTION

Using leads supplied, connect both of the two **PSU OUTPUT** sockets on the rear panel of the power supply unit to sockets on the pre-amplifier marked **PSU INPUT**. Similarly, connect a single socket marked **LV PSU INPUT** on the power supply unit to **LV PSU OUTPUT** on the pre-amplifier. A further single lead connects **LV PSU OUTPUT** on the power supply to **LV PSU INPUT** on the pre-amplifier.

## INPUT CONNECTIONS - PHONO

Each of the two Tri-Vista Pre-amplifier modules has two phono input sockets, one for moving magnet (MM) and the other for moving coil (MC) pickup cartridges. (*See also page 9, MM/MC switching*)

Two sets of switches located on the rear panels of each module are for optimising phono performance as follow :

MC (only):

Input loading can be changed as required by sliding the **LOADING** switch underneath the **PHONO MC** input socket between the **100 Ohms** and **10 Ohms** options. Both positions have an input capacitance of 470pF.

MM (only):

A four-way switch underneath the **PHONO MM** input socket is for matching the characteristics of your phono pickup and lead to the Tri-Vista Pre. When all the switches are off (up), the input impedance is 68K Ohms in parallel with 47pF.

When each individual lever is moved downwards, loading of the MM phono input circuit changes as shown by adjacent graphics on the rear panel (*see also specification on page 11*). If you are not sure which combination to select, please consult your dealer.

Some turntables or pickup arms are fitted with an extra wire for chassis earthing. This should be connected to the earth terminal on the lower edge of the back panel.

## AUDIO INPUT CONNECTIONS - MAIN

The Tri-Vista Pre also has five “line level” inputs which are electrically identical, and therefore suitable for use with any source component having an output of at least 300mV.

The sockets on the rear panel are marked **CD**, **SACD**, **TUNER**, **AUXiliary**, and **TAPE**, corresponding with functions on the front panel selector knob.

Using good quality RCA co-axial audio leads, connect the left and right outputs from your CD player, SACD player, tuner or tape deck to the appropriate RCA input sockets on the back panel.

## PRE-AMPLIFIER OUTPUT

Each Tri-Vista Pre module has two audio outputs from RCA sockets on the back panel, marked **PRE-OUT 1** and **2** which are controlled by the volume adjustment.

This is to allow “bi-amplification” using suitable separate external amplifiers and crossover networks to power the speaker drive components individually, giving noticeable improvement in clarity, imaging and bass weight.

In this arrangement, typically the separate speaker amplifier outputs are used to drive the speakers’ “tweeters” (high audio frequencies), and further amplifiers drive the “woofers” (low frequencies).

If you are in doubt about bi-amplification, please contact your dealer for advice.

## TAPE RECORDER CONNECTION

The Tri-Vista Pre has a single tape circuit with facilities for off-tape monitoring with 3-head tape decks (see page 8).

Connection of your tape recorder to the Tri-Vista Pre should be as follows:

The tape deck's left and right line outputs are routed to the pre-amplifier's **TAPE** (input) sockets, and the tape deck's line inputs are connected to the pre-amplifier's **TAPE REcord** (output) sockets.

## **BEFORE SWITCHING ON.....**

Plug the accessory IEC mains lead into the rear panel socket, then the other end into a convenient wall outlet.

Turn the volume control on the front panel to minimum (anticlockwise).

## **STARTING**

Press the power button on the power supply front. The blue power LED above the button then lights, and the display on the front panel shows **TRI-VISTA KW PRE** for a few seconds, followed by the volume setting. The motorised selector knob then turns through a “setup” routine before returning to the same input setting as when previously switched off. This input is then confirmed by the display indication.

LEDs in the feet of the power supply and pre-amplifier units will also light red for about six seconds, indicating that all audio outputs are muted.

Muting is then disabled, and feet illumination then fades over approximately fifteen seconds to amber, showing that your Tri-Vista Pre is now ready for use.

After a period of about 35 minutes, the LED feet colour fades to blue, confirming that the pre-amplifiers are fully warmed up.

Unless using your pre-amplifier for off-tape monitoring (see paragraph opposite ➡) ensure that the **TAPE MONITOR** button has not been pressed accidentally, as otherwise no sound will be heard through the speakers.

Set the required audio input source either by turning the selector knob or pressing an appropriate function button on the remote control. The display will change to confirm your selection.

*(continued)*

To alter the sound level, adjust either the left-hand volume control knob as required, or press the volume-up or volume-down buttons on the remote control.

## **TAPE RECORDING**

To record, simply choose the required source with the input selector knob on the front panel. This source will now be routed to the Tri-Vista Pre's **TAPE RECO**rd output sockets for recording by the external tape deck. You will also be able to hear the selected source through the loudspeakers.

Note - adjustment of the volume control has no effect on the recording level.

## **OFF - TAPE MONITORING**

In conjunction with a 3-head cassette deck, off-tape monitoring allows the user to compare the recorded track with the original sound whilst a recording is being made.

To do this, first select the required source in the normal way and start recording. The **TAPE MONITOR** button on the front panel can now be used to switch between the source sound and its recorded version.

When the monitor function is operating, the display shows **T/MON**, and the recorded track is then heard through the loudspeakers as opposed to the original sound.

On some 3-head tape decks there is an additional “tape/source” switch which must be in the “tape” position for the above arrangement to work.

If in doubt, please refer to your tape deck operating manual.

# OPERATION and DISPLAY

## INPUT SELECTION

When the right-hand selector switch is turned to obtain the required input, the display changes permanently to confirm your choice.

## VOLUME ADJUSTMENT

As the volume setting is altered, the display changes temporarily from indicating the current input selection to show a corresponding volume reference level. This is on a decibel (dB) scale, and ranges from minus 30dB (low setting) to plus 13dB at maximum volume.

However, as the volume is reduced below minus 30 dB, the display first shows **LOW**, then **MIN** with further reduction.

## BRIGHTNESS

Pressing either the **BRIGHTNESS** button on the pre-amplifier front panel, or the **DISPLAY** button on the remote control, cycles the fluorescent display through five brightness levels.

## PHONO MM/MC SWITCHING

**CAUTION** - *only operate this function at low volume setting.*

Your Tri-Vista Pre-amplifier has independent circuits for moving magnet (MM) and moving coil (MC) phono pickups. To obtain the preferred input, the selector knob must first be in the **PHONO** position. Then, simply press the **PHONO MM/MC** button on the front panel. The display will change for a few seconds to confirm the new MM or MC selection, before reverting to show **PHONO**. Press the **MM/MC** button again to change back to the previous option.

## RIAA/IEC COMPENSATION

As a further refinement, the phono pickup characteristic can be adjusted to suit either RIAA or IEC compensation curves.

Historically, the original RIAA curve defined the low frequency limit at 20Hz, whereas the later IEC standard specifies frequency response down to 10Hz to restrict possible turntable rumble.

The selector knob must first be in **PHONO** position.

Pressing the **RIAA/IEC** button on the front panel or remote control switches the phono pickup stage between the two options. The display changes to confirm either **PHONO RIAA** or **PHONO IEC**.

## PROBLEMS ?

Basic problem-solving with a pre-amplifier is similar to troubleshooting any other electrical or electronic equipment. Always check the most obvious possible causes first, such as the following:

<i><b>Problem</b></i>	<i><b>Possible Cause</b></i>	<i><b>Remedy</b></i>
No power when <b>MAINS POWER</b> switch is operated	Mains plug not inserted fully into the rear socket	Plug in securely
No sound	Tape monitor function has been selected (see page 8)	Cancel tape monitor function by pressing the <b>MONITOR</b> button again
	Mute function is selected	Press mute button on the remote control to cancel
	Wrong connections between the Tri-Vista Pre and amplifier	Check audio lead inter-connections between the pre-amplifier and amplifier
Remote control unit does not operate	<b>POWER</b> switch is set to OFF	Press <b>POWER</b> button
	Batteries not fitted to remote control unit	Insert batteries
	Batteries are flat	Replace batteries - do not mix old and new ones
Range of remote control has greatly reduced	Batteries are running out	Replace batteries - do not mix old and new ones

If none of these actions effect a cure, please contact your dealer, or an authorised Musical Fidelity service agent. Remember, never open the case of the Tri-Vista Pre-amplifier yourself, as this will invalidate the guarantee.

# Tri-Vista Pre Amplifier

# kWP

## SPECIFICATIONS:

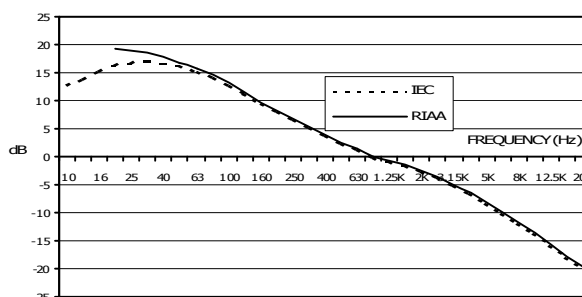
Output: Voltage RMS, maximum > 55 Volts  
 Peak-to-peak instantaneous output current 20 Amps  
 Impedance < 0.1 Ohm  
 Frequency response 20Hz to 20kHz  $\pm 0$ dB  
 10Hz to 100kHz +0, -1.5dB

### Line inputs:

Total harmonic distortion + noise, 20Hz to 20kHz > 0.0027% (5 Volts output, maximum volume)  
 Signal / noise reference 1 Volt RMS output > 100dB ("A"-weighted, at half volume)  
 Input sensitivity for 1 Volt RMS output 240mV  
 Input impedance 500k Ohms  
 Gain at maximum volume 12.5dB (4.2 times)  
 Overload margin 35dB for rated input at maximum volume  
 Channel separation > 110dB 20Hz to 20kHz, maximum volume

### Phono input:

Frequency response reference  
 IEC RIAA - see graph . . . .



Signal / noise ref. 1Volt RMS output > 95dB Moving Magnet ("A"-weighted, at half volume)  
 > 85dB Moving Coil ("A"-weighted, at half volume)

Input sensitivity for 1 Volt RMS output 2.5mV Moving Magnet,  
 350 $\mu$ V Moving Coil

Input impedance MC : Switched,  
 10 Ohms or 100 Ohms  
 in parallel with 470pF  
 MM : All switches up : 68k Ohms in parallel with 47pF,  
 Switch no. 1 down : 47k Ohms + 47pF,  
 Switch no. 2 down : extra 50pF added,  
 Switch no. 3 down : extra 100pF added,  
 Switch no. 4 down : extra 200pF added

Overload margin 31dB

### Inputs, per channel module:

5 line level via RCA connectors  
 1 phono Moving Magnet via RCA connector  
 1 phono Moving Coil via RCA connector

### Outputs, per channel module:

2 RCA connectors main output controlled by volume  
 1 RCA connector tape record line level output

### Power requirements:

100 / 115 / 230V AC 50 / 60Hz (factory preset)  
 60 watts maximum

Dimensions: Main unit 483mm, 19 inches wide  
 166mm, 6.54 inches high (inc feet)  
 472mm, 18.58 inches deep (inc knobs and rear terminals)  
 Power supply 483mm, 19 inches wide  
 166mm, 6.54 inches high (inc feet)  
 425mm, 16.73 inches deep (inc rear fuse holder)

Weights: Main unit 25.5Kg, 56lbs unit only, unboxed  
 30Kg, 66.1 lbs in shipping carton  
 Power supply 25.2Kg, 55.6 lbs unit only  
 30.3Kg, 66.8 lbs in shipping carton

Standard accessories: IEC mains lead - 16 Amp type, four low-voltage power interconnect leads, remote control handset,  
 2 batteries size LR06 or AA, manganese alkaline



Musical Fidelity reserves the right to make improvements which may result in specification or feature changes without notice.