A Subtle Turning Point in Audio History

Inside Oyster Chee’s all-analogue listening world built around Thales, EMT and a lifelong love of vinyl.



Sometimes, the most impressive audio systems are about more than equipment. They reflect years of listening, collecting and making choices with conviction.

EDITOR’S NOTE A component produced in extremely limited numbers is not an everyday purchase. In high-end audio, commitment, patience and confidence can be part of the journey.

THE SYSTEM

A vinyl-first foundation

The centrepiece is a Thales Reference turntable fitted with the Thales Statement Titanium tonearm and EMT JSD VM cartridge. The signal is handled by the EMT JPA66 Mk3 phono preamplifier, with Rogue Audio M180 Dark monoblocks driving Wilson Audio WATT/Puppy 50th Anniversary loudspeakers.



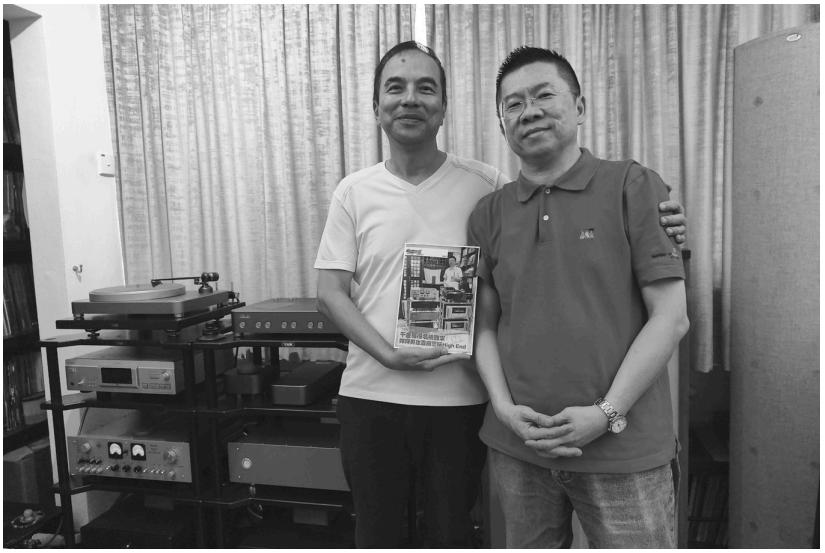
Turntable	Thales Reference
Tonearm / cartridge	Thales Statement Titanium / EMT JSD VM / Xquisite VORO
Phono preamplifier	EMT JPA66 Mk3; Thales Magnifier
Power amplifiers	Rogue Audio M180 Dark monoblocks
Loudspeakers	Wilson Audio WATT/Puppy 50th Anniversary
Other components	Sony XAES50 CD player; Tiglon magnesium rack
Power / cabling	PLiXiR Elite BAC3000 Mk2; Furutech; Dynamique Audio; Studio Connections; Neotech and MPS
Room / accessories	Escart Vento Roof; IPC Acoustic Energizer and EQ; Acoustic Revive RWL-III; Absolute Acoustic Panel

THE PASSIVE GAMBLE

Chee's route into audio began with a love of music. Over time, that interest led him towards the analogue world and a system built around a small group of specialist brands. His approach is deliberate: the listening experience comes first, and each component must earn its place.

ANATOMY OF AN OBSESSION

Oyster Chee's world



Known among friends as "Oyster Bro", Chee is an audiophile driven by curiosity. After studying in Australia, he returned home and found himself drawn deeply into vinyl. Before opening the appointment-only Mod Audio showroom in Singapore's Telok Kurau area, he had already owned high-end names including Basis, Goldmund and Kharma, while building a collection of sought-after vintage pressings.

His long-standing focus is on two Swiss names: Thales and EMT. The relationship is not simply about collecting prestigious equipment; it reflects a sustained interest in analogue engineering and the way records are reproduced.

WHY EMT JPA66 MK3?



The EMT JPA66 Mk3 occupies a rarefied place in the analogue world. The original feature describes production of around ten units annually, with a build time approaching two months per unit. Acquiring one is a matter of patience as much as purchasing power.

THE LISTENING EXPERIENCE

Effortless, spacious and composed

EMT JPA66's presentation is a departure from the familiar stereotype of slow, heavy tube sound. Instead, it is clear, quick and expansive, with a large, holographic sense of space.

WHAT STANDS OUT

- **Background:** exceptionally quiet, with no audible hum or hiss reported.
- **Soundstage:** wide and open, with instruments and orchestral sections occupying clearly defined positions.
- **Tonal balance**: neutral and natural, with refined highs and a controlled, unbloated lower midrange.



Paired with the Wilson Audio WATT/Puppy 50th Anniversary loudspeakers, the system is presented as a cohesive whole: detailed without sounding forced, and engaging without drawing attention away from the music.

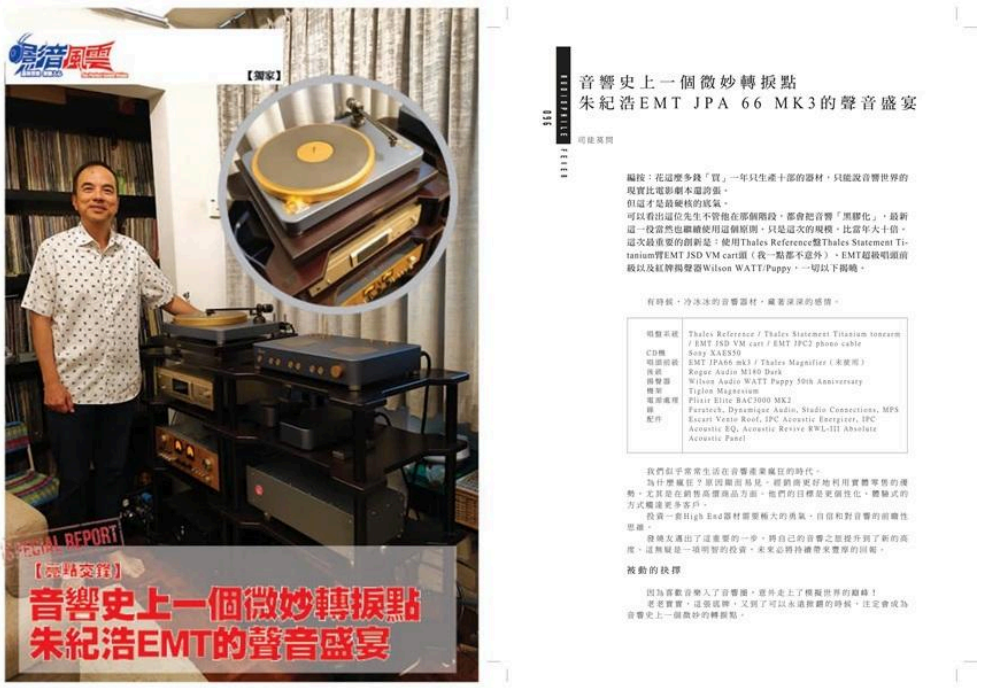
> *"We rarely get to have it all. Yet, if we choose wisely, we achieve profound satisfaction — leaving no need to keep searching, just sitting back in comfort and losing ourselves in the music."*

A PERSONAL JOURNEY, IN MUSIC

The pleasure is in the listening



At the heart of this feature is a simple idea: a carefully considered system can become the culmination of years spent listening, learning and refining. For Chee, the Thales and EMT combination represents a particularly personal expression of that journey.



Note: This English-language edition has been edited for clarity and flow from the English translation supplied for PSV Magazine Issue 159. The photographs are original image assets extracted from the supplied Chinese magazine PDF and reproduced without retouching.