

# the Arché<sup>®</sup>

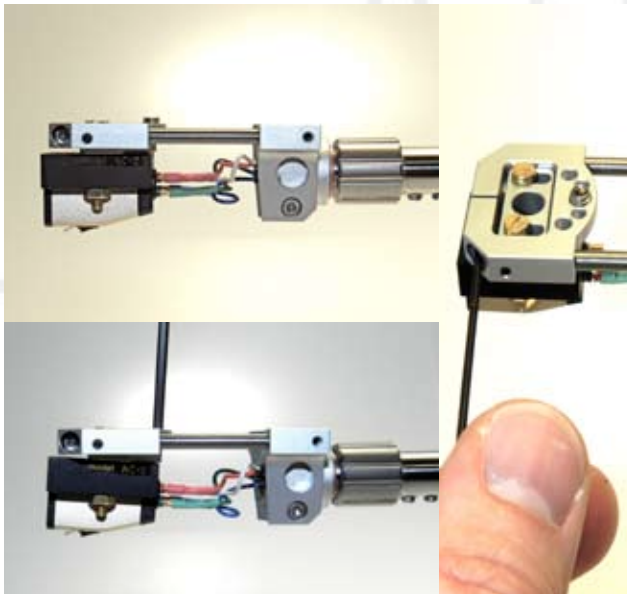
(ancient greek: *initial source, genesis*)

## The versatile high-end headshell

The 1st allowing **all** adjustments - overhang, azimuth, offset and SRA/VTA - right on the spot

## Objectives

This new approach to headshell design originated from the request for a sonically supreme headshell which also enables the user to set all vital adjustments of a cartridge right where it should happen - in the headshell.



Easy setting the SRA: 1. untight headscrew  
2. set SRA top screw 3. tight headscrew again - done.

The goal was to design a headshell which finally takes into account each and every aspect of cartridge mounting and alignment.

It should enable the user to precisely and easily adjust azimuth, offset, overhang and SRA/VTA on the spot - right at the cartridge. And to do this without the often inevitable by-effect of changing the static/dynamic parameters of the tonearm by lowering the tonearm's

base and thus moving the arm pipe away from the theoretical and practical ideal of the static balanced and resting horizontal level.

In the Arché<sup>®</sup> the all-important SRA-adjustment is performed in utmost precision, - right in and at the headshell and the cartridge's body without changing accidentally any adjustment in the tonearm itself nor in its all-important static balance.

This point is sadly all too often neglected when recommending to fine-tune SRA by lowering/raising the tonearm's base. For the first time now the Arché<sup>®</sup> allows the owners of the most refined cartridges of today and days past to really get the best possible performance from their top-flight cartridges.

Unmatched versatility, a perfect resonance-free construction, super fast energy transfer - resulting in an all new level of performance.



5 choices of finish - satin surface by micro ceramic pearls

## Selection of materials and execution

The **arché**® is made from super hardened and triple-tempered, then stress-relieved, German origin AP7075 airframe-grade ultra high density aluminum alloy and Grade 2 Titan pipes.



a serious construction .....

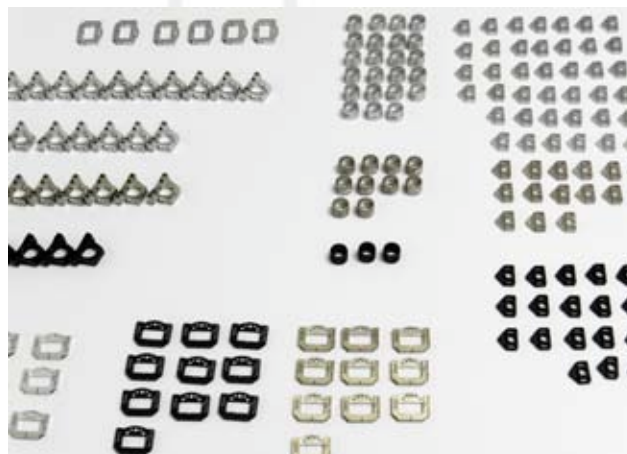
A minimum of parallel surfaces and a maximum of further resonance-eliminating drillings, window-frames and treatments resulting in an outstanding resonance-free body.

An ultra-rigid construction which allows for an unique fast energy transfer.



..... carefully assembled

After CNC-carving and milling, the major parts of the headshell's body are exposed to high pressure surface sanding with micro ceramic balls. Thus further hardening the surface before getting tempered and stress-relieved again.



3rd step quality control - prior to assembling

Following this, the surface of the **arché**® is anodized in satin silver, black, nickel/titanium, rhodium, - or covered with real 18 carat gold (a limited number of 12 units each polished and satin in 18 ct. pure yellow and rosé gold coating only).



assembling by hand - setting the micro ball-point tappers

The assembling of the headshell itself is performed in a special routine in a custom-made tension-frame tool to further increase the unique ability to transfer energy from the cartridge to the tonearm and virtually killing all possible parasitic resonances.

It is the first headshell-design ever, which is executed with the financial and engineering input of a top-flight tonearm.

Despite it's ultra-rigid design and versatility the **arché**® features a net weight of 17.5 grams (gold or rhodium plated are 18.5 grams) only.

This net weight allows it's use on every tonearm and with all top-flight cartridges.



the **arché**® in satin 18 ct gold - w/luxury box (leather/wood)

## Design features

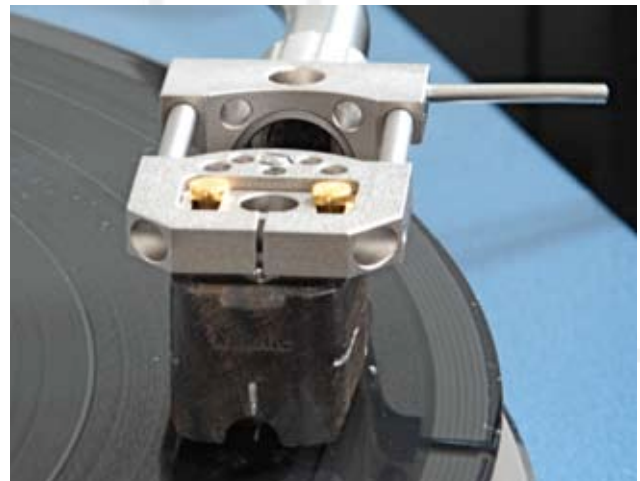
The special routine and procedure in which the major parts of the **arché**® are assembled and bound together provide an extremely effective dampening of the whole body.

This also results in a desired resonance-free body of unparalleled energy transfer speed and thus preserving the most tiny detail extracted by the stylus of the cartridge.

The unique design and assembling of the headshell's body allows an outstanding dynamic performance and preservation of even the most minute detail.

Tiny details all too often get lost just a moment after they are dug out of the groove. Lost forever, as what is lost or missed here can never and nowhere in the audio chain be restored or found again.

Here they are preserved, allowing the best phono cartridges to really show their virtues.



in action - the **arché**® in silver satin



in the groove - the **arché**® in satin nickel finish

## Now - the sound?

Effortless, very open, with a stunning ample bouquet of color shadings presented on a very natural soundstage with an extreme inner speed and natural inner energy.

Voices are more focused, relaxed and very natural.

Low frequency attacks and impulses have a rarely - if ever heard - energy, “blackness”, impact and physical presence.

The noise-level is audibly reduced, resulting in a more “black” background in the sonic picture.



adjustable SRA - seen from underside

Tests with a wide range of cartridges and tone-arms have shown, that the **Arché**® easily outperforms any other headshell you’ve listened to.

## Interchangeable mounting plate

Furthermore the **Arché**® allows the owner to exchange the mounting insert quickly and thus keep several cartridges in a state of quick exchangeability and in “pre-adjusted for immediate use”-mode.

The mounting plate is located inside a high pressure clamp and is held in place by a pair of tension ball-point tappets.

This allows the cartridge’s body - and the SRA/VTA - to be adjusted handily at any angle starting at 90° and down to 94°.

This technical solution and design is already patent pending.

The clamp does fix the mounting plate insert with very high pressure and further dampen the insert by clamping on the insert’s side planes.

To change the insert and thus use several cartridges in a state of “pre-adjusted” mode, is very easy.

Changing the inserts is a matter of less than 1 minute. Extra inserts can be ordered at any time from stock.



easy and convenient exchange of mounting plate/insert

## Maximized versatility

With the **Arché**® the owner can adjust all geometrical cartridge parameters at the spot:

- \*\* SRA/VTA between 90 and 94°.
- \*\* Overhang by 12 mm in total.
- \*\* Azimuth can be adjusted within +/- 2.5°.
- \*\* Offset angle can be adjusted in the mounting area by +/- 4°.

Aside from it’s superior sonic abilities - resulting from it’s very special mix of expensive treated

materials AND unique assembling technique - the **arché**® offers a versatility in precise alignment of ALL parameters of a phono cartridge which is peerless.

In my 34 years experience in high-end it is the first headshell ever which really allows to fine-tune the performance of the best cartridges.

The very easy adjustment of the critical aspects of the stylus' orientation in the groove - azimuth and SRA in particular, as well as offset angle and overhang - can be adjusted where it should



from left - satin silver, nickel, rhodium, black and 18 ct gold



the **arché**® in it's jewel box with all tools and gear

happen: right at the cartridge and without altering the tonearms settings by accident or as an inevitable by-effect.

If you really want the maximum level of performance that your cartridge can deliver, you should give it a listen in the **arché**®. You will be surprised how much you were missing before ...

The **arché**® comes in dedicated jewel-box packing with:

- 3 metric hex wrench,
- 2 sets M2.5 brass screws and nuts,
- 1 polyrubber and 1 copper isolation ring,
- a pictured manual and a 6 month warranty.

The **arché**® is completely designed, manufactured and assembled in Germany. Each headshell comes with it's own serial # and certificate.

The **arché**® is a limited edition.

It is the first headshell design which is executed like a real high-end component.

To meet the finish and outlook of different tonearms, the **arché**® is available in the following versions:

- satin silver finish
- satin black finish
- satin rhodium finish - special order (s.o.)
- satin nickel finish
- satin fine gold finish (18 ct gold plated) - s.o.