

CLASSÉ AUDIO

**C-200**

REMOTE CONTROL PREAMPLIFIER

**C-200**

OWNER'S MANUAL

## *CLASSÉ DESIGN PHILOSOPHY*

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### 1. REPEATED LISTENING DESIGN SESSIONS:

Fine tuning of sound by exchanging and mixing of parts (transistors, capacitors, wiring, PCB boards etc.), and adjusting many specific operating voltages within proper engineering ranges, producing an overall sonic recipe giving the most natural harmonic realism of music typical of instruments in a live performance.

### 2. UPGRADABLE SINGLE CIRCUIT DESIGNS:

All Classé products (all preamps and all amps) share exactly the same circuit design philosophy (excluding moving coil and moving magnet phono circuits). This means all amplifiers and all high level circuits of the preamps benefit from the same design goals. Similar circuits are then tailored to different power levels etc. Differences between less expensive models and more expensive models are parts quality and compliment, power supply extravagance and the amount of filtering etc., as well as features and packaging.

This means that for years Classé has been constantly sonically fine tuning and technically upgrading this circuit design and its application, thus reaching a very high level of natural musical enjoyment, as well as excellent reliability which benefits all models - least expensive, most expensive, preamps and amplifiers alike.

### 3. EXTREME LONG LIFE IN REAL WORLD CONDITIONS:

Choosing the best attainable quality parts and materials combined with the advantages of the two above-mentioned areas provides Classé owners with years of proven trouble free reliability and musical enjoyment.

# OWNER'S MANUAL

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## ***UNPACKING & SET-UP***

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Your CLASSÉ C-200 preamplifier has been carefully wrapped in heavy gauge plastic, packed in semi-rigid foam and contained in a special box. To remove the unit, open and spread the top flaps of the box. By its sides, lift out the entire unit with the foam pieces intact. Remove each foam side by pulling straight out. Remove the plastic wrap and inspect the unit for any concealed damage. Apart from this owner's manual, please ensure the following has also been included:

- 1) Detachable linecord
- 2) 5/64 in. Allen key for top cover
- 3) Remote control unit (Allen key and batteries AAA x 2 included)

Please report any damage or missing parts to your dealer promptly.

This preamplifier, being capable of very high gain, must be located in a position free of any hum-inducing magnetic fields. (This also applies to turntables and interconnect cables.) Positions adjacent to power amplifiers, A.C. line filters, or regulation devices should be avoided. Ideally, a few feet should separate the preamplifier from the power amplifier. As well, keep low-level interconnect cables away from the power amp and separate from A.C. linecords.

Heat generated by the preamplifier is negligible. Air space around the unit need not be a concern.

Check the Serial Number sticker on the back of the unit for the correct operating voltage. Regardless of voltage, the fuse rating should be 1 AMP SLO-BLO.

## ***A.C. LINE POWER***

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The preamplifier has no power switch. Its low power consumption and improved sonics from always being ON led to the omission of an ON/OFF switch. In fact, while thoroughly musical shortly after turn-on, this preamplifier will exhibit "sonic growth" for 300 hours as it is used.

For optimum sonic performance, you should consider use of the optional CLASSE REFERENCE A.C. LINECORD. Consult your dealer regarding this accessory.

### **SAFETY FEATURE:**

The **C-200** preamplifier is designed with an Auto-Muting circuit which engages and is indicated by a FLASHING GREEN LED when the unit is first connected, or after an AC power failure. After 15 seconds the STEADY GREEN LED signals that the unit is in STANDBY mode (Note: MUTE is ON during STANDBY mode.)

This feature will prevent any turn-on surges or unstable output from reaching the power amplifier and possibly the loudspeakers. Similarly, make sure the MUTE is ON (STEADY GREEN) again when removing A.C line power.

### **CAUTION:**

"FLOATING THE GROUND" OR DEFEATING THE GROUND ON A 3-PRONG LINECORD MAY CREATE A SHOCK HAZARD. CONNECT ALL INTERCONNECT CABLES BETWEEN THE ELECTRONICS BEFORE CONNECTING THE A.C. LINECORDS TO THE WALL OUTLETS. THIS WILL REDUCE THE POTENTIAL SHOCK HAZARD. SEE ALSO THE WARRANTY SECTION OF THIS OWNER'S MANUAL.

## ***INPUTS***

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The input jacks are clearly marked on the back of the **C-200**. The following inputs are provided: BALANCED, CD, TUNER, AUXILIARY, AUXILIARY 2, and TAPE.

### **BALANCED INPUT:**

The BALANCED INPUT is a true differential high level input, wired as follows:

PIN 1: GROUND

PIN 2: POSITIVE (NON-INVERTED) SIGNAL

PIN 3: NEGATIVE (INVERTED) SIGNAL

It may be used with CD players that have a balance output, or any other high level, balanced source.

### **TAPE INPUT:**

The TAPE IN of the **C-200** should be connected to the LINE OUT or TAPE OUT of the tape deck. The TAPE input does not appear on the selector switch. It is activated by the TAPE switch. (See FRONT PANEL CONTROLS: TAPE SWITCH.)

### **AUX and AUX2 INPUTS:**

The AUX and AUX2 are high level inputs, which can accommodate additional sources such as VIDEO, CD, TURNER, etc...

## OUTPUTS

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The **C-200** has both regular (single-ended) and balanced outputs. Both are working at all times, and may be used separately, or simultaneously.

### TAPE OUTPUT

Whatever input is selected by the INPUT SELECTOR will be fed to the TAPE OUTPUT jacks. This should be connected to the TAPE IN or LINE IN of the tape deck.

### REGULAR OUTPUTS

Simply connect your regular interconnects to the RCA output jacks marked REGULAR MAIN OUT on the back of the **C-200**.

### BALANCED OUTPUTS

A balanced power amplifier and balanced interconnects are also required. For use with balanced power amplifiers other than Classé, the wiring of the 3-pin XLR connectors must be wired as follows:

PIN 1: GROUND

PIN 2: POSITIVE (NON-INVERTED) SIGNAL

PIN 3: NEGATIVE (INVERTED) SIGNAL

If the pin configuration of the power amplifier differs from above, the balanced interconnects must be modified to accommodate the different power amp.

Having confirmed the correct connections, plug the XLR connectors of the balanced interconnects into the locking XLR connectors on the rear panel of the C-200 marked BALANCED MAIN OUT. (To remove the connectors, press the tab above the connector.)

## **FRONT PANEL CONTROLS**

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### **INPUT SELECTOR**

This selects one of the five inputs connected to the preamp, except TAPE IN (see Tape Switch below). The switch is silent and will prevent pulses when switching positions. However, it remains good practice to reduce the volume control level or put the MUTE to ON (steady GREEN LED) when changing the input selection.

### **TAPE SWITCH**

In the SOURCE position, the preamp will process the signal as chosen by the INPUT SELECTOR. In the MONITOR position, the preamp will process the TAPE INPUT signal, overriding the INPUT SELECTOR.

### **MODE SWITCH**

Normally used in the STEREO position, this switch is excellent for checking channel information, noise, and troubleshooting. The LT position will send left channel only information to both outputs. The RT position will send right channel only information to both outputs. The REV position swaps the left and right channel information. MONO combines both left and right channel information and sends identical mono signals to both outputs.

### **BYPASS SWITCH**

For optimum sonic performance, the BYPASS ON position eliminates the INPUT SELECTOR, TAPE, and MODE switches from the signal path. (Hint: if other inputs appear not to be working, check the BYPASS switch!). The BYPASS switch works in conjunction with the BYPASS MODE switch, below.

### **BYPASS MODE SWITCH**

This switch selects which input will be bypassed, CD or BALANCED.



## BYPASS OPERATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Turn "Selector Switch" to the desired input function position. (CD or BALANCED)
2. Move "Bypass Mode Switch" also to the desired input function position. (CD or BALANCED).
3. Turn "Bypass On/Off Switch" to the "On" position.

### Notes:

The input "Selector Switch" must be turned to the desired input bypass function, as all other positions not chosen are shorted to ground for superior sonic and grounding reasons. (However, the "Signal Path" does not travel through the selector switch; you are just choosing which input does not get shorted to ground.)

Bypass operation removes "Signal Path" from Selector, Tape, and Mode Switches.

## BALANCE CONTROL (Remote control)

The custom BALANCE control permits equal output of each channel in the centre position without additional loading to the signal. When shifted to the left or right, it merely attenuates the opposite channel. This control can be operated from remote using the hand held control unit (See fig.1, 2 page 11) or manually turning the knob at the preamp.

## VOLUME CONTROL (Remote control)

The VOLUME control varies the level of both channels simultaneously. This control can be operated from remote using the hand held control unit (See fig.1, 2 page 11) or manually turning the knob at the preamp.

## MUTE SWITCH (Remote control)

Switching between PLAY and MUTE can be done by either manually pressing the MUTE switch down momentarily on the preamp or pushing the MUTE button on the hand held unit. The PLAY (Mute OFF) and MUTE ON selections are indicated by the STEADY RED or GREEN LED

respectively at the preamp.

When MUTE (ON) is selected, which is indicated by a steady GREEN LED, the outputs of the preamplifier are completely cut off. In the PLAY (Mute OFF) selection, which is indicated by a steady RED LED, the signal is allowed to pass to the power amplifier.

NOTE: WHEN THE C-200 IS IN MUTE POSITION, AND THE VOLUME CONTROL IS TURNED UP USING THE REMOTE CONTROL UNIT, THE PLAY MODE IS AUTOMATICALLY SELECTED.

CAUTION: Make sure the preamp is in MUTE (ON) when making or changing any connections. This includes all inputs and outputs, as well as A.C. linecord.

**CLASSÉ C-200 LIMITED FACTORY WARRANTY** (North America only).

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Classé Audio Inc. warrants this preamplifier to be free from defects in materials and workmanship for a period of **FOUR YEARS** from the date of manufacture provided that any claim in virtue of this warranty be made in writing within such period.

Subject to all of the conditions stated herein, **A LIMITED FACTORY LIFETIME WARRANTY IS EXTENDED ONLY TO THE ORIGINAL OWNER WHO PURCHASED THE PREAMPLIFIER IN NORTH AMERICA AND WHO CLAIMS UNDER THIS WARRANTY IN NORTH AMERICA.**

**IMPORTANT: WARRANTY REGISTRATION, AND A COPY OF THE "AUTHORIZED DEALER BILL OF SALE", MUST BE RECEIVED AT THE CLASSÉ FACTORY (address below) WITHIN TWENTY (20) DAYS OF PURCHASE, TO VALIDATE THIS WARRANTY.**

In the event of failure of this preamplifier, resulting from defects in materials and workmanship, Classé Audio Inc. will repair, recalibrate, or at its discretion, replace the unit providing that all the conditions contained in this warranty are met.

In order to initiate service of any kind, it is necessary to **OBTAIN PRIOR FACTORY AUTHORIZATION, AND SHIP THE UNIT PREPAID TO THE CLASSÉ FACTORY.** For units coming from outside Canada, contact the factory for our forwarding address. Units shipped directly to our Canadian address from outside the country will be stopped at the border, causing extensive delays or return of the unit to the sender.

The warranty shall be void and of no effect in the event of any of the following:

- 1) Operation not in accordance with this manual;
- 2) Accident, abuse, tampering, or unauthorized modification, as determined by Classé Audio Inc.;
- 3) Removal, defacing, or falsifying the serial number plate;
- 4) Shipping without the complete factory packaging;
- 5) Transfer or sale of this preamplifier by the original owner;
- 6) Non-compliance with any of the other conditions hereof.

**CLASSÉ AUDIO INC. SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES ARISING FROM OR RELATING TO THE SET-UP, OPERATION, FAILURE, TROUBLESHOOTING, OR REPAIR OF THE PREAMPLIFIER AND/OR ANY OTHER EQUIPMENT USED THEREWITH.**

**THIS WARRANTY, ALL CLAIMS MADE IN VIRTUE HEREOF, AND ALL ISSUES RELATING TO ANY SUCH CLAIM SHALL BE GOVERNED BY THE LAWS OF THE PROVINCE OF QUÉBEC.**

# **CLASSÉ C-200**

## **FULL FEATURE PREAMPLIFIER**

### **FEATURES AND SPECIFICATIONS SHEET**

**C-200 FEATURES:**

Remote control featuring adjustments for Volume, Balance and Mute. Full size chassis, large power supply, balanced inputs, balanced outputs, regular outputs, tuner, tape, CD, AUX inputs, CD bypass, balanced bypass and a contoured faceplate featuring a Soft Shadow Silver finish mounted with golden screws.

**C-200 SPECIFICATIONS:**

Frequency Response:		20 Hz to 20 KHz +/- 0.1dB 1 Hz to 150 KHz, -3 dB
Maximum Output:		22 Volts
Sensitivity:	Line:	120 Millivolts
	Magnetic Phono:	3 Millivolts
	Moving Coil Phono:	0.1 Millivolts
S/N Ratio ('A' Weighted):	Line:	95 dB
	Magnetic Phono:	85 dB
	Moving Coil Phono:	85 dB
Input Impedance:	Line:	50 KOhms
	Magnetic Phono:	47 KOhms
	Moving Coil Phono:	Adjustable into 47 KOhms
Output Impedance:		Less than 1 Ohm
Gain:	Line:	18 dB
	Magnetic Phono:	35 dB
	Moving Coil Phono:	22 dB (Adjustable 20 dB - 40 dB)
Power Requirement:		50 Watts
Dimensions:	Gross:	22" x 19 1/2" x 10 1/2"
	Net:	19" x 14 3/4" x 6"
Weight:	Gross:	29 lbs
	Net:	24 lbs

**WARRANTY REGISTRATION**

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You must fill out and return the form below, along with a copy of the authorized dealer bill of sale, to the factory within twenty (20) days of purchase. This will allow us to provide expedient service, information regarding updates and new products, and validate the Classé warranty.



C-200 SERIAL NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ PURCHASE DATE \_\_\_\_\_

AUTHORIZED DEALER \_\_\_\_\_

PURCHASER'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE/PROV. \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTRY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP/POSTAL CODE \_\_\_\_\_

I BECAME AWARE OF THIS PRODUCT BY: \_\_\_\_\_

(DEALER, MAGAZINE, FRIEND, ETC.)



SEND TO: CLASSÉ AUDIO INC.

Product Registration

5070 François Cusson

Lachine, Quebec, Canada

H8T 1B3