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Network Player of the Year

dCS Vivaldi 'Version 2'

We are no strangers to the dCS Vivaldi four-box system, comprising CD/SACD transport, upsampler/streamer, clock, and DAC. We've been impressed by it since it first arrived in 2012. But recently, the upgradable architecture received its first main face-lift in its 'Version 2' firmware (and a streaming board replacement for the upsampler). With TIDAL and Roon end-point upgrades and more enhanced app control, Version 2 makes controlling the system better than ever, but the real changes are in the sound quality. Compared to the original Vivaldi, Chris Thomas felt the upgraded system, "offers greater instrumental separation, more dynamic independence, and a much more attractive picture of the music in the sense that the soundstage itself seems to have grown; in scale and three dimensional space, plus tauter bass, and a more extended and comfortable high frequency performance."

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