

3 THE HOT FIVE

Clearaudio Performance £1,670

01252 702 705 | www.audioreference.co.uk

If Skynet had been an audiophile rather than a malevolent computer system intent on destroying the human race, it would have created the Clearaudio Performance. Looking like the liquid metal T-1000 remade as a turntable, it reduces friction, wear and noise thanks to a ceramic magnetic bearing and features the award-winning Satisfy Carbon Directwire tone arm. The Performance has highly impressive technical specs with the focus on performance (unsurprisingly), efficiency and the quietness of the mechanism. But the most obvious thing is its sinister beauty. You'll just have to hope it doesn't put the frighteners on the rest of your stereo.

As hot as... A liquid mimetic polyalloy T-1000, in a diesel fire



4 THE HOT FIVE

Xbox Elite £350 (approx)

www.xbox.com

Like a grimy band of faux-cockerney barrow boys who have just realised they need to go nu-rave if they're ever to make the pages of *NME*, the Xbox 360 has changed. Upgraded substantially, in fact. Yes, it now has an HDMI socket for piping HD video and high-quality audio to your TV. Better still, the Xbox Elite comes with a 120GB hard disk – that's

six times the size of the Premium's, twice the size of a PS3's and a good argument for using it as a media server. It comes with a headset and rechargeable wireless controller, but inexplicably continues to lack Wi-Fi. Still, it looks as though it's going to cost a fair whack less than the PS3, so we applaud it nevertheless.

As hot as... Bill Gates' greenhouse

