Hi Fi Choice, when reviewing Octave I, were advised it required a decent burn in. It took weeks and 'quietly got on with the job of slowly getting under your skin'. Lower frequency response was found impressive – 'Rarely have I heard bass of the quality the Octave delivers'.

Some comments re the "Eighth Wonder":

It's not about power though; it's about resolution of low-level detail ... that is devoid of the fine grain that makes this convertor so engaging. High frequency harmonics, be they from bells or guitar strings, are truly extraordinary, bringing a vitality and acoustic envelope that makes the notes truly 3 dimensional.

Here you have a clean, clear and precise, yet totally 'for real' presentation of the music. This is a fast convertor that delivers an immediate sound, the like of which is usually the domain of more expensive hardware. This is what makes the music appear so alive and dramatic ...

... But avoids smearing notes, so that their attack and decay is precisely defined and this creates greater dynamic energy. I'm very keen to let you know how just how awesome this Dac is.

If you want to hear how good your music can be, then build a revealing system around the Octave. This convertor may not be obvious but it offers a direct line to the power, finesse, beauty and soul of the music.

If it was in a big, heavily machined box and made in the US or Japan it would carry a price tag ten times that asked here and it would still be good value. What are you waiting for?