

^{the} **Stereo Times**
Most Wanted Components
2009

Red Wine Audio Isabella Preamplifier

Damn it's hard to find a good preamp, isn't it? I should know- I've been through like umpteen of 'em in the past few years and judging by some of the more recent a-gon threads, so have you! Enter Isabella. Fleet of foot, compact, quiet, reliable and damnably low in coloration and seasoning, I've kept her around in preference to many a better known adversary.

You're gonna change amps; you're gonna change wires- you're gonna change speakers- hell, you're an audiophile! So you owe it to yourself for once and all to have a centerpiece- a lynchpin- a piece around which everything else can turn. That's Isabella! Walking a quivering gnats' whisker between the dark and the light, Isabella might not be all to all, but I predict she'll be more to many. I'm home. Are you?

David Abramson