

DreamVision are the dreamers

The first time I saw the DreamWeaver projector I was convinced that the designer had watched too many B-movies of the "aliens invade the Earth" genre before conceiving this strikingly beautiful "flying saucer" lookalike. I then found myself thinking just how cool it would be if they could get this projector to just hover in space whilst projecting the movies onto the screen. Maybe that's for the future but right now this is a product that will have tremendous appeal to any prospective customer who cares about design and style. This is not a product to hide away; au contraire, this product is going to be table mounted or hung from the ceiling where everyone and his sister can see it and admire your good taste.



The Paris-based DreamVision company introduced the DreamWeaver Two projector to give True Wide PAL resolution (1024 x 576) from the best resolution match from our existing PAL television standard which has 575 of the 625 scan lines visible on the screen. It achieves this level of performance by using the Texas Instruments Matterhorn DLP™ chipset; a chipset which is highly rated by European projector manufacturers. Other nice pieces of technology include the 6 segment colour wheel; a Carl Zeiss projection lens, the Faroudia DCD processing and scaling system and a 250 watt UHP lamp which gives a generous 1100 ANSI lumens of brightness.

Not only is the case beautifully styled (with a choice of white, silver or black finishes) but it is practical with a removable top section to give access to the various inputs and plenty of cable space so that the cover can be refitted with the cables neatly in place. These

signal inputs include two component video and two S-video inputs together with a non-HDCP compliant DVI input. If you worry about what this means be assured that you can get the benefits of a direct digital connection to a suitably equipped DVD player don't worry about the HDCP bit (see the "Your Guide feature article in this issue to learn more about this intriguing subject). Equipment that has DVI connections can be linked through to



equipment which has HDMI connections using the special adapter cables which are available although rather thin on the ground. Indeed all DVI and HDMI compatible equipment is currently thin on the ground but this technology is the future and soon all good quality home cinema equipment will be suitably equipped. The DreamWeaver supports a wide variety of formats, including all versions of PAL, SECAM, NTSC, ATSC and accepts





picture resolutions up to 1080p and 1080i making it ready for High Definition Television. The HDTV format is something that we at "Your Guide" really rate highly although sadly the majority of our viewing looks set to remain in the standard PAL format for the next year or two.

We soon had this projector set up in front of our favourite screen from Projecta and we discovered that a wide range of picture adjustments are



possible including three colour temperature settings and presets which store your adjustments in a memory. The various memories take you through no end of adjustment options most of which will be meaningless to the average user so we'd suggest that you ask your retailer to go through all the tricky stuff and leave the projector ready to use. The first bit of good news from this projector is that it is really quiet.

There is a fan inside to cool the lamp assembly but it certainly lives up to the moniker "whisper fan"; even with the projector in the same room the noise wasn't apparent. Less desirable was the spillage of some stray light out of the case through the ventilation slots. This would not be a problem with ceiling or rear wall mounting but with table-top mounting it could be an annoyance so be aware.

Linked up to a Pioneer DVD player through the DVI connection the results were pretty stunning. The images were clean and bright with accurate colours; particularly of skin tones which have to look natural if the movie is to be believable. Watching "Cliffhanger" the subtle shades of white were portrayed accurately whilst our old standby "Shrek" was shown with vivid and convincing colours with a real sense of



depth and a freedom from any of the annoying quirks (otherwise known as artifacts) that sometimes appear with this movie. Watching "Terminator 3" we found that the action scenes remained crisp throughout the fast action and all the image edges were sharp; there was good overall detail and clean movements helping to create a real sense of realism.

This projector really looks too gorgeous to be hidden away and with its quiet operation you can leave it visible to all your visitors. Watch them go green with envy as they watch movies with the vividness and realism that the directors intended. This is a projector that justifies its price tag yet just ask yourself. "How can you put a price on beauty?"



FACT FILE

- Projection system: New TI Matterhorn 12° DMD
- Carl Zeiss Projection Lens: F/1.9, 26.7 - 36.8mm focal length
- Color Wheel: 6 segments (RGBRGB)
- 5 x (9000rpm, 300Hz, 6500K colour temperature)
- Resolution: 1024 x 576 16/9
- Contrast Ratio: 1500:1 full on / full off
- Lamp: 200 Watt UHP (3000 hours life time)
- Brightness: 1100 lumens
- Video Processing: Faroudja DCDi: FLI 2300
- Colours: 16.7 millions simultaneously displayable
- Installation: Front, Rear, Table, Ceiling (Ceiling bracket option)
- Keystone Correction: Digital up to +/- 20°
- Inputs:
 - 2 x components - gold RCA
 - 1 x Component - 15-pin D Sub
 - 2 x S-VHS - Mini Din 4-pin
 - 1 x Composite Video - RCA
 - 1 x DVI - M1-DA VESA
 - 1 x HDTV Analog - 15-pin D Sub
 - 1 x RS232 control - 9-pin D Sub
 - 1 x IR Repeater (Niles / Xantech compatible) - 3.5 mm mini-jack
 - 2 x 12V trigger - 3.5 mm mini-jack
 - 1 x USB
 - 1 x Power supply
- Video Compatibility: Component and RGB HDTV
- (720p, 1035i, 1080i, 1080p, 1080p-24Hz)
- Component EDTV (480p, 576p progressive scan), SECAM: M, Component, composite and S-Video standard video.
- (480i, 576i, 576i RGB SCART with adapter, NTSC, NTSC M 4.43, PAL: B, G, H, I, M, N)
- Dimensions: 439 mm Diameter, 127 mm High
- Weight: 4.4 Kg
- Finishes: White, Silver and Black
- Price: £4,500 (approx.)

