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## HARMONIX TU-800M/W LP mat

.....Let's try the TU-800M first, and after listening to a few familiar LPs, I found that the extension of the two poles is indeed wide, and the sound is also lively and vividly. However, the more dramatic is that when you switch to the TU-800M-W, the sound that makes the full frequency extraordinarily thick and warm, it is like changing the piano from Steinway to Bosendorfer! .....





As mentioned in the previous issue, how astonishing is the performance of Mr. Kiuchi's TU-812MX Million Maestro record clamp. First of all, its six-petal cyber shape is eye-catching. As for the heavy chrome plating and high-gloss polishing, it also shows the ultimate in Japanese audio craftsmanship. After the re-adjustment of the wood and the use of the new wood and metal formula by Mr. Kiuchi, the sound effect has significantly improved.

I remember that when I listened to the TU-812MX Million Maestro record clamp, I first playback a few classical pieces for warm-up, but the real-time sense of the sound was like walking into the golden hall of Vienna Auditorium from the Hong Kong City Hall! Followed by the jazz disc, the result is very deep & thick and splendid, whether the vocal of Nat King Cole or the trumpet of Miles Davis. However, the TU-812MX Million Maestro is the one which I love the most and can't leave it mostly. It is the portrayal of the

low-frequency contours, especially when playing the classical orchestra of large-scale symphonies. The static low-frequency air felt fascinating when it is static; as to the dynamic bursting passage, the low frequency undulations are extraordinarily embossed than without it. At the end, even rock music was released, and the results have repeatedly proved that Million Maestro is equally effective for any type of LP music.

In fact, in addition to the abovementioned TU-812MX Million Maestro record clamp, the distributor also sent two record mats being well-designed by Mr. Kiuchi. Speaking of the record mat, I have tried many of them! However, in the past 30 years, these types of products that I have experienced are nothing more than the use of different materials to tune the sound effects of the designers wanted, such as plastic, felt, wood, cork, glass, metal, etc. and of course, there are some using mixed materials. For example, the British RINGMAT that I have tried many years ago is made up of paper and pine cork, but I have never seen such exquisite craftsmanship of these well-designed record mats by Mr. Kiuchi!





## TU-800M/W Record Mat

The two record mats by Mr. Kiuchi belong to the same series as Million Maestro, and the models are TU-800M and TU-800M-W respectively. According to the factory data, they are all labeled "Tribute". The reason is that both can reproduce the music content of the album more realistically, to let the listener further experience the art of the sound; thereby enhancing the social culture, to pay tribute to the original music creators and musicians. Although this sounds a bit abstract, after seeing the

actual TU-800M and TU-800M-W, it is not difficult to understand the tuning philosophy and the art of the sound that Mr. Kiuchi has done on them.

The outer boxes of TU-800M and TU-800M-W were opened one after another, and the results were shocked by their inner packaging! Both of them were sealed with a red Japanese lacquer frame engraved with the word "捧". It can be seen that the Japanese packaging culture is far more sophisticated and refined. First,

taking out the TU-800M, just like holding a very thin piece of the exact same size of a vinyl record. Although lighter than I thought, the straight and flexible texture is quite special. What kind of material is this made of? The factory did not mention, but I am more interested in the metal pellets

and sliver stripes pasted on to it, because they immediately reminded me of the "gold tuning dots" by Mr. Kiuchi that was once famous in the past. As for the layout of a Bagua, I guess it might be the secret of his tuning in sound.



Then taking out the TU-800M-W, although the body is the same as the former, it is also very thin, straight and flexible, but the tuning materials being pasted on the surface are quite different, and the shapes and layouts are completely different! In fact, being pasted on top of the TU-800M-W, all are ultra-thin wood blocks, the diameter is divided into two sizes, a total of eight pieces, and the geometric

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distribution is evenly dazzling, and the W on this model number refers to these woods are used.

Well, no matter how strange it is, judging it by how good it sounds should be the highest principle. Let's play with the TU-800M first. After listening to a few LPs that I used to listen, I realized that the extension of the two poles (frequency ends) is indeed wide, and the sound is obviously a lot more lively and vivid. However, the more dramatic is that when

you switch to the TU-800M-W, the sound that makes the full-range becomes extraordinarily rich and warm, it is just like changing the piano from Steinway to Bosendorf!

## **Conclusion**

Finally, according to the manufacturer's suggestion, it should be used together with the TU-812MX Million Maestro record clamp, and the results are truly instantly amazing! Now, playing LP is really fun.....