

Review of the tonearm(s) EAT C-Note, by Holger Barske, 04/2018, on :

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EAT C note 9, EAT C note 10.5, EAT C-note 12



Since the release of the record player C -Sharp the Czech manufacturer's EAT was to be expected: The Tonarmmarkt is growing  
For many years it was simple: as of record players one spaxte something nice for Pro-Ject, Rega, Jelco or, if it could be a little more expensive, SME on its products and was the subject of "tone arm" regarded as settled. Now the turntable market has proven to be strong but pleasant and down the country grew the desire of manufacturers to offer customers an in-house solution. In just a situation that put "Euro Audio Team" led by Jozefina Lichtenegger. Which would have for its ambitious turntable easily from the range of her husband Heinz Lichtenegger - can operate, but that she did only when equipping the second largest EAT Model "Forte S" (of which you have with us - aka Mr. Pro-Ject already read). Otherwise you stocked Japanese (Ikeda) or American (Graham). First ambition to make something of their own in terms of arm to his feet, showed the exotic and flat carbon fiber arm of the model E-Flat, then came the C-Sharp, which is equipped with the nine-inch version of our volunteers called "C-Note" , Who has the colleague Schmidt when testing the C-Sharp (LP 1/2015) already very much and now I have to say, and rightly so. The C-Note is a classically gimbal-mounted in both planes arm. It is available in the usual three lengths: nine, ten and a half and twelve inches.



Prices range from 1,600, 1,800, respectively 2,000 euros. All three models are apart from the effective length of the same. we start at the beginning: the head shell forms a simple aluminum plate which is attached with two screws on an aluminum transition piece. That the very solid connection forms to slightly conical arm tube made of a thick coated carbon fiber braid. That makes a fairly light and rigid impression of the knock test also still produces a fairly dry "Tock". At the rear end of the pipe is pushed onto an aluminum stub and, as forward also locked with a screw. This spigot opens in pretty massive bearing housing, a rotating member with two flattened sides. At the opposite end of the rear stumps exits, which is responsible for carrying the counterweight. That's a pretty solid piece of - I suspect - steel. The rear recess is lined with a high-damping rubber-like material, also the counterweight is uncoupled from the arm. For the 10.5 inches long arm applies: In this way pickup from five to nine grams can be mounted. If that is not enough, the mass of the counterweight with a magnetically retained ring from 125 to 142 grams can be increased. Gained enables balance pickup 8.5 to 13 grams.

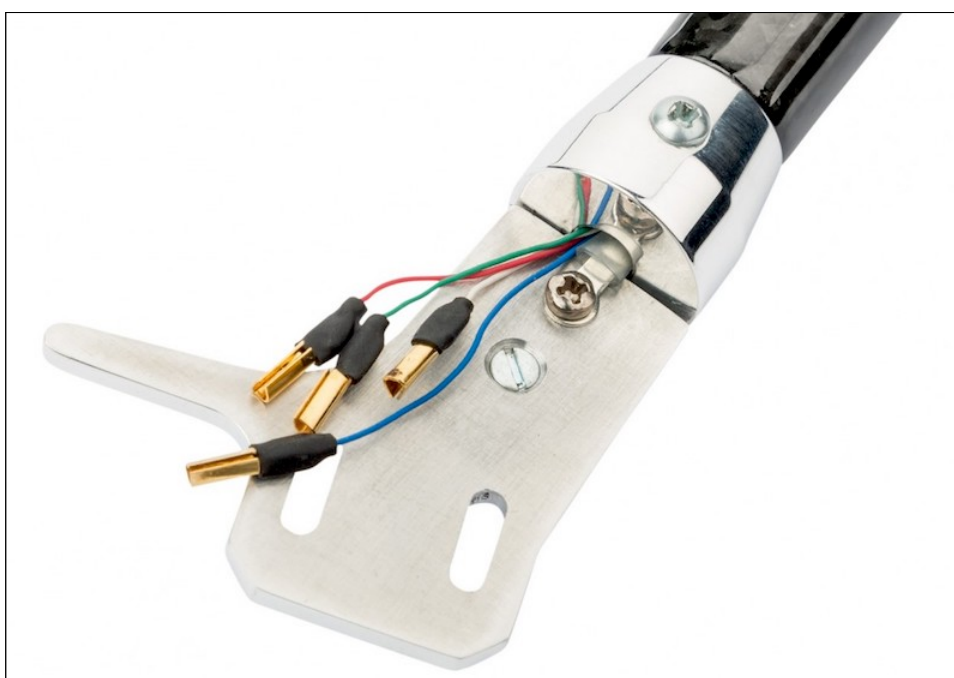


The counterbalance structure is identical for all three models. This is actually not such a good idea because of the Nine inch model would need a lighter counterweight because of the changed lever ratios, the twelve-inch model heavier. In practice, this is rarely a concern, because you have the additional weight sufficient scope. Nevertheless, I would suggest beilzulegen the twelve-inch model a slightly thicker and heavier additional weight. Also at the other end, I would have found it right to wear the different geometric conditions into account: All three headshells are the same bent, which is simply flawed because of the different effective lengths. You can make do with a twisted installation of the scanner, the slots allow sufficient leeway in Abtastermontage in practice at nine and twelve-incher. Helpful, here is also that those slots are quite broad failed. Not the end, the problem could be solved through the exchange of only the Head shell plate. To excuse the manufacturer, I have to say that we are obviously dealing here with very early patterns of the arms, and I have no idea how far they are still away from the series standard.



The ten-fives is impeccable, as one would expect: He is the archetype of the series, everything fits. In Tonarmschaft the extremely smooth ball bearings stuck for the rotational movement of the arm. Any traces of bearing play, I could not make the best of intentions. The shaft also serves as the attachment of the arm, which is the production car does not quite simple: If your turntable already has a flange, which can be locked, a 25 millimeter by measuring stem, you're off the hook, otherwise you have no choice but to just 100 euros purchase such flange. He wants to be fastened with three screws to Linn standard on the drive. I had none, but for the tool even ways to cut something suitable for my Transrotor Fat Bob. Of course, to the ability to move the shaft in height and thus change the vertical scanning. That's when Originalflansch course. a needle-sharp tip can be unscrewed the top of the bearing housing. The assumption that those may form a bearing mandrel is obvious, however, is incorrect. The tip immersed in an arranged underneath "cup", which is filled with viscous silicone oil and represents a damping device.

Depending on how far into it, turn the screw with the tip, you can vary the amount of damping. I'm not a big fan of it and they've usually screwed out completely. The C-Note has an anti-skating mechanism based on the "weight-pulling-by-thread" - principle. Conscious thread is a piece to wrapped, the bearing housing and hooked with a loop on a pin on the opposite side there's a boom, at the end a roller sits with a further weight-loaded arm. The yarn engages the roller, the boom moves the more to the thread, the more the weight is slid to the outside. EAT has defined three positions for the weight defi that depend on the Cartridge downforce - that's fine like this. Installation and adjustment of the three arms designed a little tricky in my case because I possess no geometric data for the installation. So I had to vary until the attached two-point stencil reported clean zero crossings the distance between arm pivot axis and plates with built-in scanner. When nine- and twelve-inch model's took a while because the sampler here, as expected, slightly twisted wanted to be installed. Once reliable data on the arm geometry are available, we will of course supply later.



All three C-Note models are fully capable to lead high-quality scanner appropriate. The 10.5-inch version seemed to me the most universal, the twelve-inch model yielded an average of most substance in the bass, he was best with the SPU Classic NE rightly, that in this issue is elsewhere topic. The audio exclusive 103 actually liked best in the nine-inch model, here it developed the liveliest and most agile character. The ten-fives also liked the two major Lyra and had no problems at all to differentiate the bone-dry pace of Etna from exuberant playful nature of the atlas. This works very well, with a few small changes in the two new models certainly a bit more convenient.

#### Conclusion

EAT has been associated with the model C-Note a very strong sound and universal tone arm on the market. Of the three variants can at the present time convincing with 10.5 inches long at most.