



Allnic HPA-300B

WINNER
PERSONAL AUDIO – ELECTRONICS

It's an idle boast in some headphone amplifier circles; that they deliver enough power to drive a pair of loudspeakers. However, in the case of the Allnic HPA-300B, it's more than a boast; the amp's pair of 300B power tubes can not only drive any non-electrostatic headphone system in existence, but that 8W power output is sufficient to power (admittedly very efficient) loudspeakers. The Korean headphone powerhouse amplifier has three sets of RCA and two sets of XLR inputs, plus banana output sockets for speakers at the rear and two four-pin XLR headphone sockets and two 6.3mm single-ended sockets on the front panel. It uses Allnic's Constant Impedance Attenuator, that keeps the impedance at a steady 10kΩ throughout. The two VU meters on the front panel display tube bias status. The amp automatically biases its tubes, but a tube's death throes are visible here.

Top of his game

Allnic visionary Kang Su Park designs all of the transformers and chokes used in Allnic products and, according to Kevin Fiske in his review, "on the evidence of the HPA-300B he is still right at the top of his game. The amplifier sounds fast and energetic both into headphones and into speakers. It is less a typical 300B amplifier, if there is such an animal, more a modern-sounding amplifier that just happens to use tubes." The HPA-300B worked with Kevin's test headphones pairs so well, "it made it feel as if the headphones were working with the Allnic rather than being bossed by it." He concluded by suggesting, "buyers who demand excellent performance from headphones and loudspeakers... and compactness and affordability. The Allnic HPA-300B is for them."

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