



AURALiC ARIES G1.1

HIGHLY COMMENDED WIRELESS STREAMING TRANSPORTER

AURALiC's ARIES G1.1 is a 'Wireless Streaming Transporter', with no DAC onboard. It is a wired or wireless streamer with twin antenna sockets at either end of the rear panel. It offers the usual array of digital outputs including USB and AES/EBU on XLR and has a second USB A socket that can serve several purposes; it can connect a USB drive with music files onboard, and can also connect to a disc drive. This means the ARIES can both play and rip discs to your music library or even an internal drive. ARIES G1.1 can receive wireless signals via Airplay 2 and Bluetooth (usefully these can be switched off) and those who want a richer browsing experience can control the ARIES with Roon, as well as the company's own Lightning app (this is also the name for AURALiC's dedicated server software). The ARIES G1.1 was developed with a swathe of software improvements, all of which are backwards compatible with early examples of the ARIES.

If you think that a streamer with no DAC has no intrinsic sound of its own, the ARIES G1.1 will change your mind. According to Jason Kennedy, "sound quality is what this streamer specialises in with an even-handed, high-resolution output that brings out the best in the attached DAC." The USB output in particular produces a sound "as full, rich, dynamic and three-dimensional as the recording and the DAC allow."

Jason concluded his review, saying "AURALiC has done a fine job of enhancing the performance of its entry-level ARIES streamer, adding a wide range of functionality and refining the already good Lightning DS control app. The company's ability to support earlier models is also encouraging, all the features mentioned are available on the first ARIES as well as the latest. But this one is a lot more substantial and superbly finished, if you want to know what streaming can do in 2022 this will give you a very good idea."

Reviewed in Issue **213**

Manufacturer • auralic.com

“ Sound quality is what this streamer specialises in with an even-handed, high-resolution output that brings out the best in the attached DAC.

