



500 watts of power into 8 ohms

Small-amp musicality thanks to modular design

Exclusive Balanced Bridged topology for superior sound quality

1,600-watt toroidal transformer delivers maximum headroom

Huge heat sinks and engineered ventilation enhance reliability

The Centaur Mono is an extraordinary creation indeed, a monoblock amplifier that delivers 500 watts per channel yet has the musical sound quality of a small, single-ended triode tube amp. This is no empty claim—our “dream team” of engineers and designers actually created a revolutionary modular circuit topology with exactly this goal in mind.

Every centimeter of the Centaur Mono presents evidence of Constellation’s radical—and radically good-sounding—approach. The front, top and sides show the refined industrial design of Alex Rasmussen of Neal Feay Corporation. The ventilated side panels and visually integrated top and bottom vents reveal our careful approach to cooling. The back panel includes our proprietary

Constellation Direct input, for the best possible sound quality when fed by our Altair or Virgo preamps.

For those who do not have the space or budget for the Reference series Hercules amplifier, the Centaur Mono is a more practical way to get the same sound quality, with lower but still beyond-impressive power output.

### Revolutionary Circuit Design

The Centaur Mono shares its unique circuit design with the Reference series Hercules amplifier. This circuit topology, found in no other amplifier, is the proud creation of our engineering “dream team.”

Our exclusive Balanced Bridged design maintains the perfect signal balance that is the hallmark of all Constellation Audio products. The amplifier is built from matched, single-ended modules using only N-type output transistors. Because both halves of the signal pass through exactly the same types of transistors, they remain perfectly balanced. Other balanced amplifiers use N-type transistors for the positive half of the audio signal and P-type transistors for the negative half of the signal, so the two halves of the signal are not perfectly matched.

We could have achieved the Centaur Mono’s extreme power by merely bulking up a smaller amplifier with more transistors, but we would have lost that



delicacy for which audiophiles praise small amplifiers. Instead, we built the Centaur Mono from multiple 125-watt modules. The full 500-watt amplifier sounds exactly the same as the smaller amp it's built from, it just plays much louder.

### Incredible Power

With output of 500 watts into 8 ohms, and the ability to drive 4- and 2-ohm speakers with ease, the Centaur Mono delivers all the power any speaker could ever need. With so much power on tap, there is never a concern about dynamics or amplifier distortion. By providing the Centaur Mono with a 1,600-watt custom-wound toroidal transformer and large storage capacitors, we assure ample headroom for even the most intense musical peaks.

Although the Centaur Mono has the awesome power of a Ferrari, it's built to be as reliable as a truck. Two large heat sinks run front-to-back, top-to-bottom. Hundreds of side vents, ingeniously varied in airflow impedance, create turbulence that enhances cooling.

### Proprietary Input Section

The Centaur Mono's input section offers XLR and RCA connections that allow it to be used with any preamp, but its Constellation Direct input makes it work especially well with Constellation Audio's Virgo and Altair preamps. The Virgo and Altair use our Line Stage Gain Modules, so they output a perfectly balanced signal. By using these preamps with the Constellation Direct input, one gain stage can be entirely bypassed and superior sound quality can be achieved.

In order to get the best possible sound with other brands of preamps, we include a Line Stage Gain Module in the Centaur Mono. This module uses servo circuits and hand-selected, ultra-low-noise FETs to deliver the same perfectly balanced output that our preamps achieve.

### Extraordinary Results

The Centaur Mono is the perfect amplifier for those who do not demand the extreme, 1.1-kilowatt power of the Reference series Hercules monoblock. Only a very small number of audiophile amplifiers can approach its power. And no amp of any other brand can match its musicality. The fortunate owners of the Centaur Mono can rest assured that they are achieving the best possible performance from any speaker they choose to connect.

*Constellation reserves the right to change designs, and / or specifications*

## SPECIFICATIONS

### Centaur Mono Amplifier

Inputs .....	1 Constellation Direct XLR 1 standard balanced XLR 1 unbalanced RCA
Outputs.....	dual metal binding posts
Power output, 8Ω (1 kHz @ 1% THD+N) .....	500 watts
Power output, 4Ω (1 kHz @ 1% THD+N) .....	800 watts
Power output, 2Ω (1 kHz @ 1% THD+N) .....	1000 watts
Frequency response.....	10 Hz to 100 kHz +1/-0.5 dB
Gain.....	14 dB Constellation Direct 26 dB Balanced & RCA
THD+N (1 kHz @ up to 90% of rated power).....	<0.05%
Output impedance.....	0.1Ω
Damping factor (8Ω load) .....	80
Input impedance .....	200KΩ Constellation Direct 200KΩ XLR balanced 100KΩ RCA unbalanced
Output noise.....	<70 μV, 500 kHz BW -116 dB @ 250 watts
Weight.....	103 lbs/46.7 kg
Dimensions (hwd).....	11.00 x 17.00 x 20.00 in 280 x 432 x 508 mm

 **constellation audio**

Simply, Light Years Ahead.

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