

# Belles Aria Preamplifier



*Simplicity.* It has been a cornerstone of David Belles' audio design philosophy for nearly 40 years. Over that span of time each successive generation of Belles amplifier or preamplifier has surpassed the last. And yet all have embodied the same mantra of simplicity. Form is driven by function. A straight line is the shortest circuit path. If it's better, yet costs less, build it.

Consistent with these long-standing tenets, Belles has moved to the next logical level. Introducing the Aria Preamplifier!

The Aria preamplifier delivers a pure analog experience in one understated yet elegant enclosure. All the functional components necessary to its superlative performance: phono, line and headphone stages, are in straight-line proximity to one another. Part of a natural evolution of the Aria family, this preamplifier shares its topology with the critically acclaimed Aria Integrated Amplifier. The base chassis and preamplifier circuitry are the same. It's the perfect companion to the new Belles Aria Monoblock Power Amplifier.

The design is truly state of the art. Belles products are well known for their use of carefully selected, high-grade components. This applies to every stage of the signal path, as well as mechanical hardware. Phono, headphone and preamplifier stages all use Burr-Brown amplifiers which are known in pro circles for their ultra-low distortion characteristics. The integrated moving magnet phono stage is a revelation. In fact it's so good you won't even consider an outboard phono preamp.

Notably, David Belles started his audio company several years prior to the availability of CD's and other digital audio material. Throughout his career he has evaluated his designs by listening. He knows analog!

The technical embodiments of this preamplifier are simply a means to an end. As with all Belles products, the objective is to create a musical delivery system which is as faithful as possible to the source. Of course, pretty much all audio companies make this claim. We invite you to visit a Belles dealer. Bring some of your favorite recordings and run the Aria Preamplifier through its paces. You'll discover a truly superlative audio experience doesn't have to come at a high price.

## Key Features

- Moving magnet phono stage using Burr-Brown amplifiers for ultra-low distortion. Precision resistor and polypropylene capacitor equalization network results in an accurate RIAA curve
- Inputs: 1 moving magnet phono; 3 line
- LED indicators for input, monitor and mute
- Manual and remote controlled Alps volume potentiometer
- Black or silver machined aluminum front panels
- Preamp line stage is powered by a Burr Brown OPA551 pro amplifier, capable of driving up to 200mA of current and operate up to  $\pm 30$  volts of power. The result is low distortion, wide bandwidth and effortless headphone amplification
- Mute control
- Remote control included
- Headphone jack & preamp outputs
- Premium, machined, gold-plated RCA connectors



*Rear view showing machined, gold plated input jacks*

## Specifications

Line Section		Functions etc.	
<b>Frequency Response</b>	1.5 to 250,000 Hz $\pm$ 3dB	<b>Unbalanced stereo inputs</b>	3 line; 1 phono moving magnet; 1 bypass and 1 monitor
<b>Distortion</b>	IM and THD < 0.001%	<b>Unbalanced stereo outputs</b>	1 monitor, 1 preamplifier and 1 headphone
<b>Gain</b>	3 voltage, 9.54dB	<b>Pushbutton &amp; Remote Controls</b>	Power; Mute; Inputs (1, 2, 3, Phono); Mon (monitor/bypass); Volume
<b>Noise</b>	>100dB	<b>Power Rating</b>	120VAC, 0.5A or 200-240VAC, 0.5A (SB fuse)
<b>Headphone Section</b>	Power: 600 milliwatts into 30 $\Omega$ peak	<b>Dimensions (WxHxD)</b>	16.5 x 3.125 x 14" / 419 x 79 x 356mm (excluding jacks and controls)
<b>Moving Magnet Phone Section</b>		<b>Shipping Weight</b>	14lb / 6.4 kg
<b>Frequency Response</b>	20 to 20,000 Hz $\pm$ 0.05dB	<b>Warranty</b>	5 years
<b>Gain</b>	33dB @ 1kHz	<b>Designed and built in Pittsford, New York USA</b>	
<b>Noise</b>	>80dB		
<b>Distortion</b>	< 0.0001%		