

Awards for **Best Sounds** at HI-FI '98

J. Peter Moncrieff, IAR Hotline!

Legend Audio Design

Legend repeats their triumph from the trade-only 1998 CES, so you too can hear their sonic magic (which was reviewed in IAR 76-79). Their LM-Triode amp earned an **IAR Best Buy**, and you can hear it driving the very revealing Legend mini-monitors (ask to hear Holly Cole singing Tennessee Waltz). Hear how naturally the system reproduces subtle details, without the artificial 'hi-fi' colorations you hear elsewhere. And, if you manage to sit near the center, hear how solid and coherent the stereo image of her voice is. On a great system, the phantom center channel doesn't have to sound phantom! Legend also has on silent display their new 4 chassis single ended triode amp, putting out not 3 watts, nor 10 watts, but 200 watts! The Triode 200 SE uses an 833A radio transmitter output tube, with a KT90 (normally an output tube itself) just to drive the 833A. Of all the amps at the show, this is the one we'd **most want to take home**.