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> Vincent CD-S7 DAC Hybrid CD Player User Manual

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Model: CD-S7

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for choosing the Vincent CD-S7 DAC Hybrid CD Player. This high-fidelity audio component combines a premium CD transport with an exceptional digital-to-analog converter (DAC) and a tube-buffered analog output stage, delivering a rich and detailed sound experience. Its versatile design allows it to function as a standalone CD player or as a high-performance DAC for external digital sources. Please read this manual thoroughly before operation to ensure proper setup and optimal performance.

SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

To prevent fire, electric shock, and damage to the unit, please observe the following safety precautions:

- **Power Source:** Connect the unit only to an AC power outlet of the voltage specified on the rear panel.
- **Ventilation:** Ensure adequate ventilation. Do not block ventilation openings. Allow sufficient space around the unit for proper airflow.
- **Water and Moisture:** Do not expose the unit to rain or moisture. Do not place objects filled with liquids, such as vases, on the unit.
- **Heat Sources:** Keep the unit away from heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
- **Cleaning:** Clean only with a dry cloth. Do not use liquid or aerosol cleaners.
- **Servicing:** Do not attempt to service this unit yourself. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Opening the unit may expose you to dangerous voltages or other hazards.
- **Power Cord Protection:** Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched, particularly at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the unit.
- **Foreign Objects:** Do not insert any objects into the unit's openings, as they may touch dangerous voltage points or short-out parts that could result in a fire or electric shock.

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Vincent CD-S7 DAC features a robust design with a clear layout for ease of use. Below is an image illustrating the front panel controls and indicators.



Figure 1: Front Panel of the Vincent CD-S7 DAC. This image displays the sleek black finish of the unit, with the CD loading tray on the left, a circular window revealing the glowing vacuum tubes in the center, and a digital display on the right showing track information and time. Below these are various control buttons for playback, input selection, and a headphone jack with a level control knob.

Front Panel Features:

- **Power Button:** Turns the unit on or off.
- **Warm Up Indicator:** Illuminates during the tube warm-up period.
- **CD Tray:** For loading and unloading compact discs.
- **Vacuum Tube Window:** Displays the operational vacuum tubes.
- **Display:** Shows track number, time, and input source.
- **Playback Controls:** Play/Pause, Stop, Skip Forward/Backward.
- **Select Button:** Cycles through digital input sources (Optical, Coaxial, USB).
- **Phones Jack (6.3mm):** For connecting headphones.
- **Level Knob:** Adjusts the headphone output volume.

Rear Panel Features (Typical):

- **Analog Outputs:** Stereo RCA and Balanced XLR outputs for connecting to an amplifier or preamplifier.
- **Digital Inputs:** Optical (Toslink), Coaxial (RCA), and USB-B inputs for external digital audio sources.
- **Digital Output:** Coaxial digital output.
- **Power Inlet:** For connecting the AC power cord.
- **Power Control Jacks (3.5mm):** For synchronized power control with other Vincent components.

SETUP

1. Unpacking and Placement:

- Carefully remove the CD-S7 DAC from its packaging. Retain all packaging materials for future transport or servicing.
- Place the unit on a stable, level surface, ensuring adequate ventilation around all sides. Avoid placing it near heat-generating components.

2. Power Connection:

- Ensure the unit's power switch is in the OFF position.
- Connect the supplied AC power cord to the power inlet on the rear panel of the CD-S7 DAC and then to a suitable wall outlet.

3. Audio Connections:

Choose the appropriate connection method for your audio system:

Analog Output to Amplifier/Preamplifier:

- **RCA (Unbalanced):** Connect RCA cables from the "RCA Stereo Out" jacks on the CD-S7 DAC to an available analog input (e.g., "CD," "Aux") on your amplifier or preamplifier.
- **XLR (Balanced):** For optimal performance with compatible equipment, connect XLR cables from the "XLR Stereo Out" jacks on the CD-S7 DAC to balanced XLR inputs on your amplifier or preamplifier.

Digital Input from External Sources (DAC Functionality):

- **USB:** Connect a USB-B cable from your computer or digital audio transport to the "USB In" port on the CD-S7 DAC.
- **Optical:** Connect an optical (Toslink) cable from your digital source (e.g., TV, game console) to the "Optical In" port.
- **Coaxial:** Connect a coaxial (RCA) digital cable from your digital source to the "Coaxial In" port.

Headphone Connection:

- Insert your 6.3mm (1/4 inch) headphone plug into the "Phones" jack on the front panel.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Powering On:

- Press the "Power" button on the front panel. The "Warm Up" indicator will illuminate.
- Allow approximately 30-60 seconds for the vacuum tubes to warm up and stabilize. The "Warm Up" indicator will turn off when the unit is ready for operation.

2. Playing a CD:

- Press the "Open/Close" button (usually indicated by an eject symbol) to open the CD tray.
- Place a CD, label side up, into the tray.
- Press the "Open/Close" button again to close the tray. The unit will read the disc.
- Press the "Play/Pause" button to begin playback. The display will show track information and elapsed time.
- Use the "Skip Forward/Backward" buttons to navigate between tracks.
- Press "Stop" to halt playback.

3. Using DAC Inputs:

- Ensure your external digital source is connected to the appropriate input (USB, Optical, or Coaxial) on the rear panel.
- Press the "Select" button on the front panel to cycle through the available digital inputs until the desired input is displayed.

- Start playback from your external digital source. The CD-S7 DAC will process the digital audio signal.

4. Headphone Operation:

- Connect your headphones to the "Phones" jack.
- Adjust the headphone volume using the "Level" knob. Note that this knob only controls the headphone output, not the main analog outputs.

5. Supported Audio Formats:

The CD-S7 DAC supports a wide range of audio formats for digital inputs, including WAV, FLAC, APE, LPCM, MP3, ACC, AC3, and WMA.

MAINTENANCE

1. Cleaning:

- Always disconnect the power cord before cleaning.
- Use a soft, dry, lint-free cloth to wipe the exterior surfaces.
- Do not use abrasive cleaners, waxes, or solvents, as they may damage the finish.

2. Tube Replacement:

The vacuum tubes in your CD-S7 DAC have a finite lifespan. While designed for longevity, they may eventually require replacement to maintain optimal sound quality. This procedure should ideally be performed by qualified service personnel. If you are experienced with tube audio equipment and choose to replace them yourself, ensure the unit is unplugged and completely cooled down before attempting. Refer to the specifications for tube types (2 x 6922, 1 x 6Z4, 1 x 12AX7).

3. Storage:

- If storing the unit for an extended period, disconnect it from power and place it in its original packaging in a dry, temperature-controlled environment.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your Vincent CD-S7 DAC, please consult the following table before contacting service personnel:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No power / Unit does not turn on.	Power cord not securely connected. Power outlet not active. Unit's internal fuse blown.	Check power cord connection at both ends. Test the outlet with another device. Contact qualified service personnel for fuse replacement.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No sound from speakers.	Incorrect input selected on amplifier. Audio cables not connected properly. CD-S7 DAC input not selected. Amplifier/preamplifier volume too low.	Select the correct input on your amplifier. Ensure RCA/XLR cables are securely connected. Press "Select" on CD-S7 DAC to choose correct input (CD, USB, Optical, Coaxial). Increase volume on your amplifier.
CD does not play / Disc error.	Disc is dirty or scratched. Disc inserted incorrectly. Unsupported disc format.	Clean the disc with a soft cloth. Try another disc. Ensure disc is inserted label side up. Verify the disc is a standard audio CD.
No sound from headphones.	Headphones not fully plugged in. Headphone "Level" knob set too low.	Ensure headphone plug is fully inserted. Rotate the "Level" knob clockwise to increase volume.
DAC input (USB/Optical/Coaxial) not working.	Incorrect input selected on CD-S7 DAC. Digital cable not connected properly. External source not sending signal. Driver issue (for USB on computer).	Press "Select" to cycle to the correct digital input. Check digital cable connections. Verify the external source is playing audio. For USB, ensure necessary drivers are installed on your computer (if required by Vincent).

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model	CD-S7 DAC
D/A Converter	Burr-Brown D/A PCM 1796, 24 bit/192 kHz
Frequency Response	20 Hz - 20 kHz (+/- 0.5 dB)
Total Harmonic Distortion (THD)	<0.005%
Signal-to-Noise Ratio	> 94 dB
Dynamic Range	> 100 dB
Output Voltage	2.5 V
Channel Separation	>90 dB
Max. Power Consumption	25 Watts

Feature	Detail
Inputs	1 x USB, 1 x Optical, 1 x Coaxial, 1 x 3.5 mm Jack (Power Control)
Outputs	1 x Stereo RCA, 1 x Stereo XLR, 1 x Coaxial, 1 x 6.3 mm Headphone Jack, 1 x 3.5 mm Jack (Power Control)
Tubes	2 x 6922, 1 x 6Z4, 1 x 12AX7
Supported Audio Formats	WAV, FLAC, APE, LPCM, MP3, ACC, AC3, WMA
Dimensions (W x H x D)	430 x 132 x 356 mm (16.9 x 5.2 x 14 inches approx.)
Weight	9 kg (19.8 lbs approx.)

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Vincent products are manufactured to the highest quality standards. For information regarding your product's warranty, please refer to the warranty card included with your purchase or visit the official Vincent Audio website. For technical support, service, or inquiries about replacement parts (such as vacuum tubes), please contact your authorized Vincent dealer or distributor. Do not attempt to repair the unit yourself, as this may void your warranty and pose a safety risk. For further assistance, you may visit the official Vincent Audio website:www.vincent-tac.de

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