

HOME CINEMA

HIGH-PERFORMANCE SOUND & VISION

Choice



- REVIEWS**
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 - Samsung Q7F TV
 - Monitor Audio Silver 500 5.1
 - Sony 4K BD player
 - Roku streamer
 - Cello 55in TV

SONY'S 4K MONSTER

Why the 100in ZD9 is the world's biggest, best HDR display

FUTURE VISION
Blade Runner 2049 blows us away on Blu-ray, p24

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OLED! PREMIUM 4K SCREENS UNVEILED

FILM & TV

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- JUNGLE ■ SUSPIRIA

Sonic saviour
Marantz SR7012 flies the flag for 3D audio

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'And the award goes to...'

Check out a room featuring 9.1.6 Atmos sonics, Trinnov processing, 4K projection and an owner with a passion for sci-fi flicks

KIT CHECKLIST

TRINNOV: Altitude32 processor

ROTEL: Power amplifiers

SONY: VPL-VW520ES native 4K/HDR projector, ISF calibrated

SCREEN EXCELLENCE: 130in 2.37:1 acoustically transparent projector screen

ARTCOUSTIC: 9.1.6 Dolby Atmos audio system featuring on-wall Spitfire 8-4s and 6-3s, in-ceiling Architect 2-1 SLs, and Control 2 subwoofer

OPPO: 4K Blu-ray player

SKY: Q Silver PVR

APPLE: Apple TV

AMAZON: Fire TV

FRONT ROW: Home cinema seating

CONTROL 4: 7in touchpanel control



THE OWNER OF this cinema room has an extra reason to love it – last year it was crowned Best Home Cinema in the £40,000-£100,000 category in the CEDIA Awards. Completed by London/south coast-based pro outfit Pyramid AV, it features native 4K projection and a state-of-the-art Dolby Atmos speaker configuration.

It's the first dedicated home cinema room that Vince, its owner, has had: 'Like many others, we've had others rooms with AV kit installed – but nothing on this scale.' It's part of a self-build property, where the space for a cinema was one of the first areas to be created.

The room has six seats spread over two tiers, with each one getting uninhibited line of sight to its centre-piece – a 130in, 2.37:1 projector screen that acts as the canvas for a Sony VPL-VW520ES 4K projector.

It's a largescale theatre then, and has the audio to match. A 9.1.6-channel Dolby Atmos Artcoustic array, fed by high-end Trinnov processing and established with guidance from Dolby in the US due to the cinema's angled ceilings, handles soundmixes from the associated 4K BD, Sky Q, Apple and Amazon sources. Power comes from Rotel amplifiers.

A. Oh, what an atmosphere!

The cinema features six in-ceiling speakers, ensuring an immersive canopy to accompany the nine-channel bed

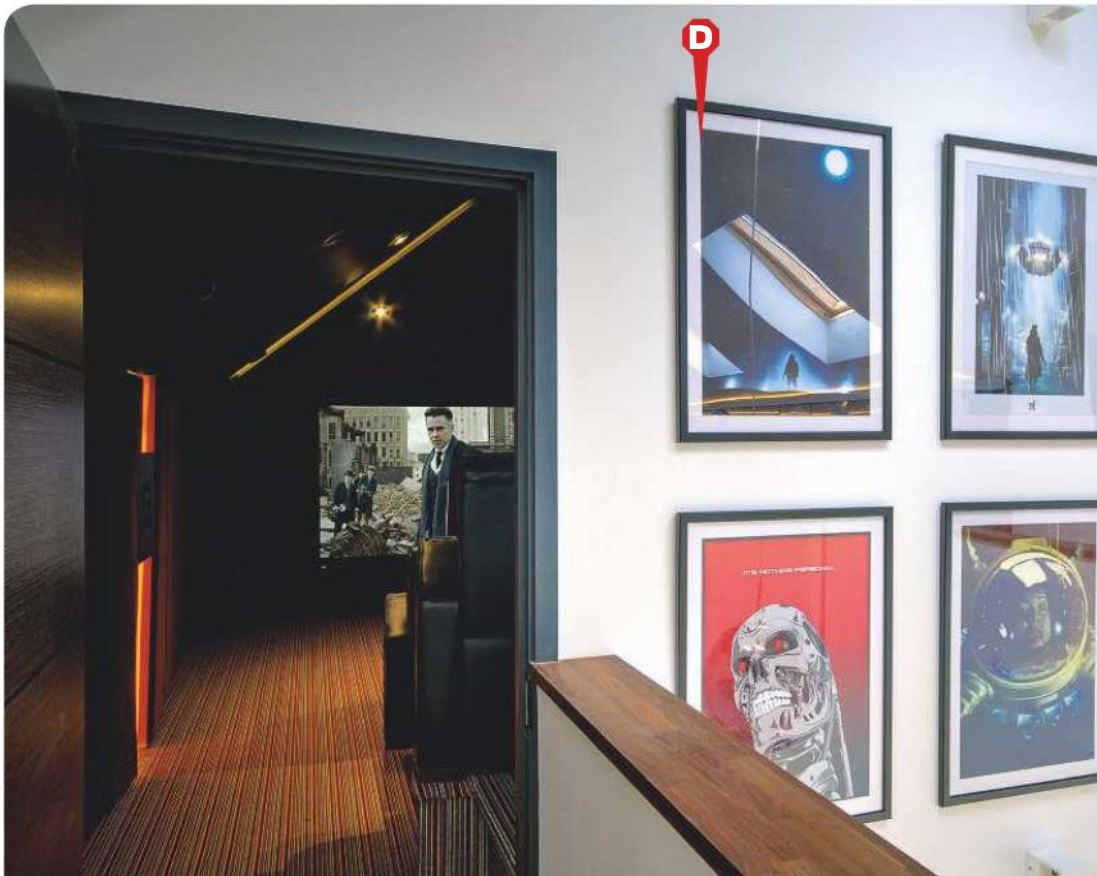
B. Wide boy

Making the most of CinemaScope ratio movies is this 2.37:1 fixed-frame Screen Excellence screen, fitted with acoustically transparent material to allow the LCR speakers to be mounted behind

C. Touch and go

For system control, Pyramid AV specced a Control4 setup (also used throughout the house), accessible from this 7in touchscreen or the family's smart devices, which grants simplified, automated control over AV hardware and lighting





D. Take a look

Before entering Vince's theatre, guests are treated to a gallery of iconic movie art – with an obvious sci-fi theme

E. Two-way precision

Artcoustic's Spitfire 6-3 on-wall speaker uses six midrange and three high-frequency drivers, for a claimed sensitivity of 98dB and a frequency response of 65Hz to 40kHz

F. A head for heights

The heart of the room's 16-speaker Atmos system is Trinnov's ultra-premium Altitude32 processor, which can handle up to 32 channels



The setup is controlled via a wider Control4 network that marshals other zones in the property. 'This was the right choice for us,' says Vince. 'We have AV across the house and a single remote – or smartphone – allows us to control just about every device we have.'

Let's get ready to rumble

Vince wasted little time in putting his new room to the test with some choice demo favourites. 'Pacific Rim was one of the first we sat and watched. It's FX-heavy – visually and sonically – and delivered a seat-shaking experience.

'The amount of detail you can hear and the way the sound moves around using Atmos is just incredible. Nic [Pyramid AV MD] has delivered perfection to one of his fussiest customers!'

Sci-fi makes up a large part of Vince's viewing – he ranks *Oblivion*, *Interstellar*, *Inception*, *Gravity* and *Everest* as his five film favourites. 'Oblivion in 4K looks and sounds incredible,' he tells us.

Music is getting a lot of play, too. 'Blu-ray audio sounds amazing. As a 1980s' music fan, sticking on some remastered Simple Minds or Tears for Fears brings out so much from these classic albums – they sound so different to vinyl or CD. I think that's an often overlooked feature.'

Saturday evenings and Sunday afternoons are now marked in the diary for movie viewing in the new room. 'But,' says Vince, 'the system is just as good for normal TV viewing – boxset binges are handled in comfort! The quality of the technology, environment and acoustics makes for a truly awesome experience.' ■

