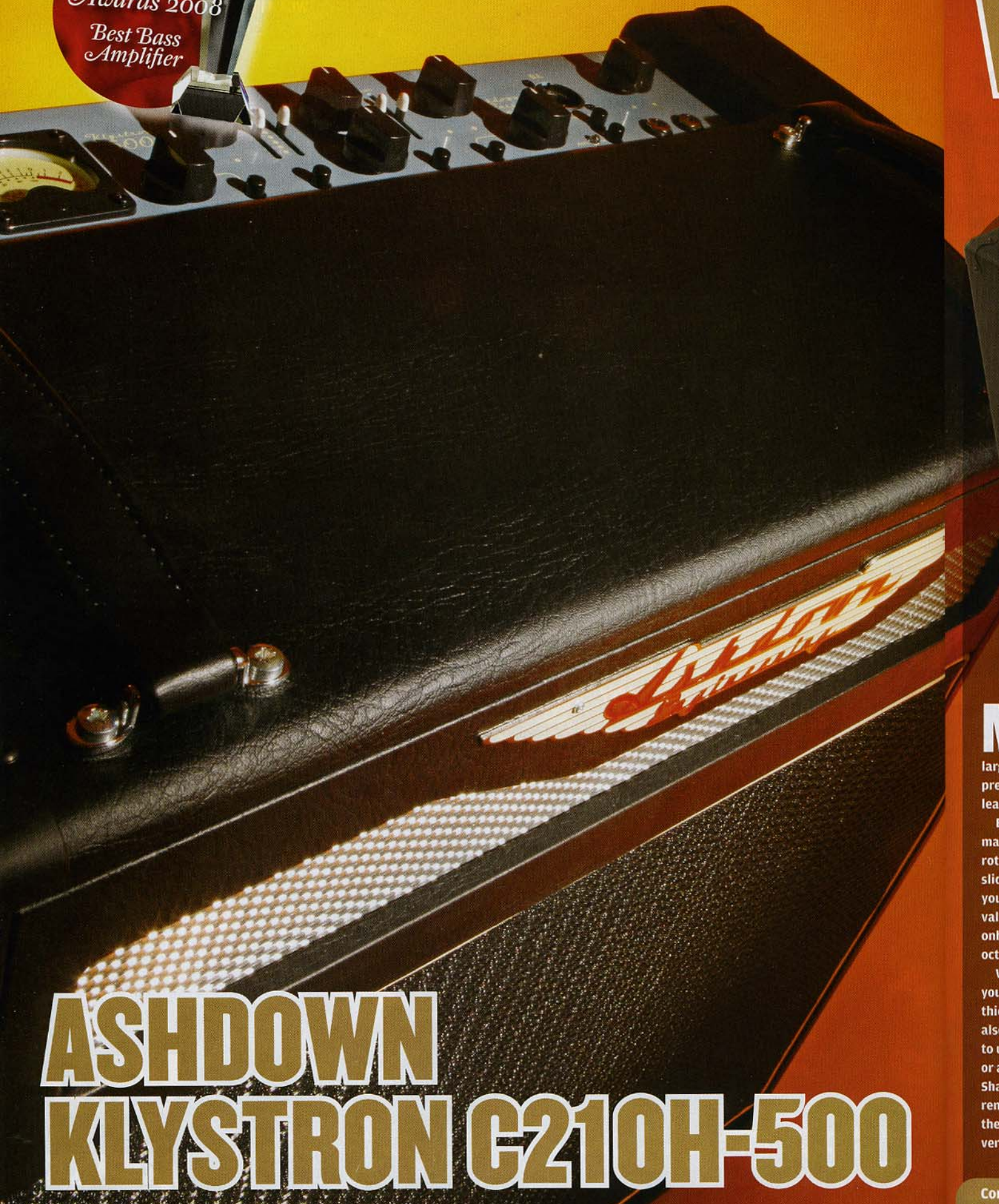
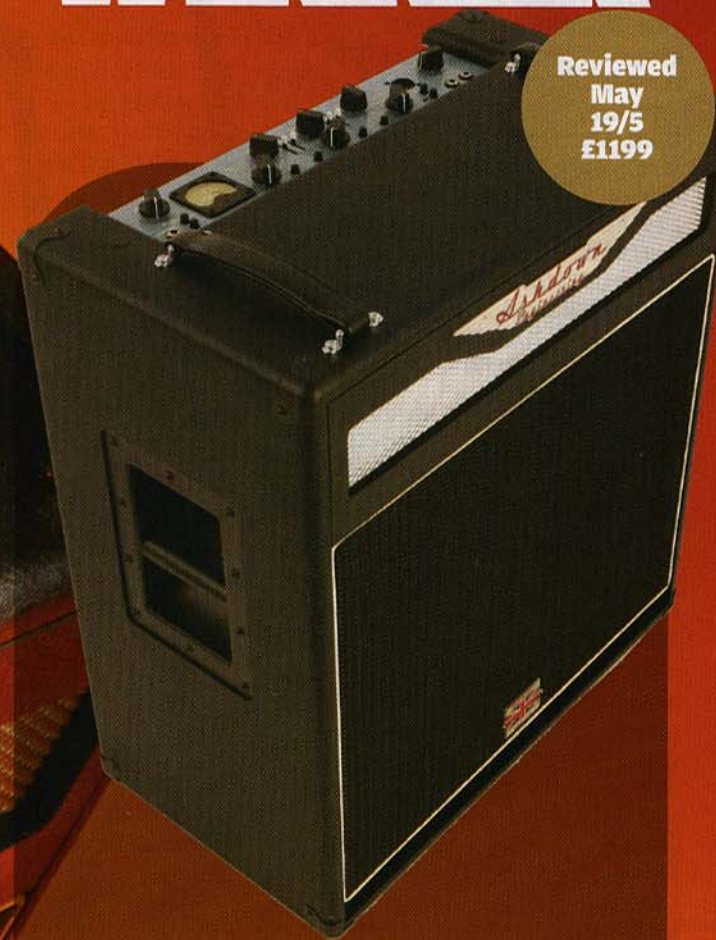


WINNER
Guitar
Awards 2008
Best Bass
Amplifier



WINNER

Reviewed
May
19/5
£1199



ASHDOWN KLYSTRON C210H-500

Made in good old Blighty, the C210 is a triumph of both style and substance. The leatherette vinyl, winged logo and 'radiator' grille exude a classy retro look. It's on the large side, but 37kg/81lbs versus 500W of serious boom is a pretty fair trade-off, and side-mounted recessed handles and leather straps on top maximise portability.

Behind the cloth speaker cover lurk two 10" neodymium-magnet speakers and a piezo tweeter. Along with three basic rotary tone controls offering 20dB cut/boost, four additional sliders offer more detailed control and a Valve Drive control lets you blend solid state with the dual triode circuit with its ECC83 valve. There's a handy footswitch for remote control of the onboard compression, Ashdown's trademark Sub-Harmonics octaver, the EQ, and Valve Drive.

With the EQ flat the Klystron reproduces the natural sound of your bass beautifully. If you feel the need for extra oomph or a thicker tone, boosting Bass gets the room shaking; hiking 160Hz also thickens the matters nicely. Use the low mid slider (340Hz) to unleash the Klystron's inner pugilist with a dark, raspy vibe, or access a brighter, burpy sound via the Middle rotary. Sharpening focus and attack is easy with the help of the remaining 1.3 and 2.6kHz sliders, although the tweeter lessens the need for additional Treble. All in all, this high-quality, versatile and easy-to-use belter is a winner in every respect.

Contact: Ashdown Engineering 01245 441155

Web: www.ashdownmusic.com