

MERIDIAN 800 SERIES

From the outset, Meridian's design philosophy has combined great looks and a total approach to ergonomics, with a relentless pursuit of the best sound – in particular regarding spatiality, transparency and tonality. This philosophy has also established a Meridian tradition which encourages a readiness for new ideas and an unfettered view of audio system architecture. This approach has led to ground-breaking innovations like Active and DSP loudspeakers – as well as earlier, now widely accepted, innovations like the CD Transport.

The 800 Series dramatically illustrates the results of this design approach. Here the goal is the highest quality sound, in a futureproof, flexible, upgradeable, open-ended format. The 800 Series provides no-cost-compromise audiophile performance in a handsome large-format presentation. In the 800 Series, important audiophile features are addressed – including low-noise power supplies, the provision of more

connections (including balanced audio), and highly

transparent analogue and digital audio and video processing. The

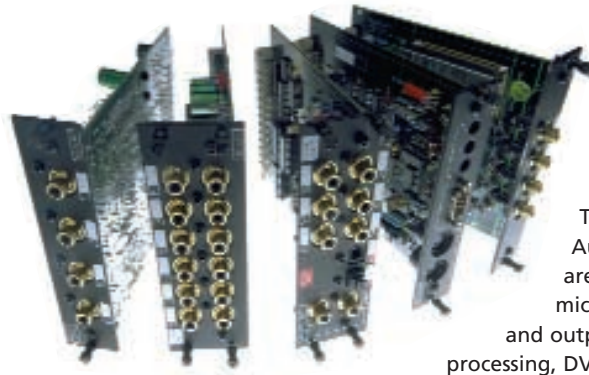
Digital Signal Processing used in the 800 Series has a superb pedigree – Meridian is famous for its Conversion, Resolution Enhancement and DSP for Surround and Loudspeakers.

The 800 Series is built as a card-based Audiophile Digital Computer. All functions are plug-in cards: including control microprocessor, analogue and digital inputs and outputs, DSP processors, video routing and processing, DVD decoders and custom interfaces.

The list is always growing.

In this way a user can put together the right functions, and any aspect of the machine's performance can be altered later – either by downloading new software into its flash memory, or by adding new plug-in cards. In common with other Meridian products, the 800 Series has full remote control and complete inter-operability with Meridian 500 Series components, using RS232 and the Meridian Comms connections.

The 800 Series 19" (450mm) cabinet is of double-skinned construction for complete immunity from sound-damaging RF radiation. The heavy die-cast front panel houses a highly visible display and provides the most commonly required controls on the front face. A hinged switch panel provides keys to access all of the unit's functions. In common with other Meridian components, the top and display window use 4mm plate glass for durable finish and mechanical damping. The 800 Series appeals to a very wide audience – it offers unique performance for the audiophile or videophile, it brings PC connectivity for multimedia and a degree of flexibility that is welcomed by professional and semi-pro recording engineers.



800 DVD/CD Player



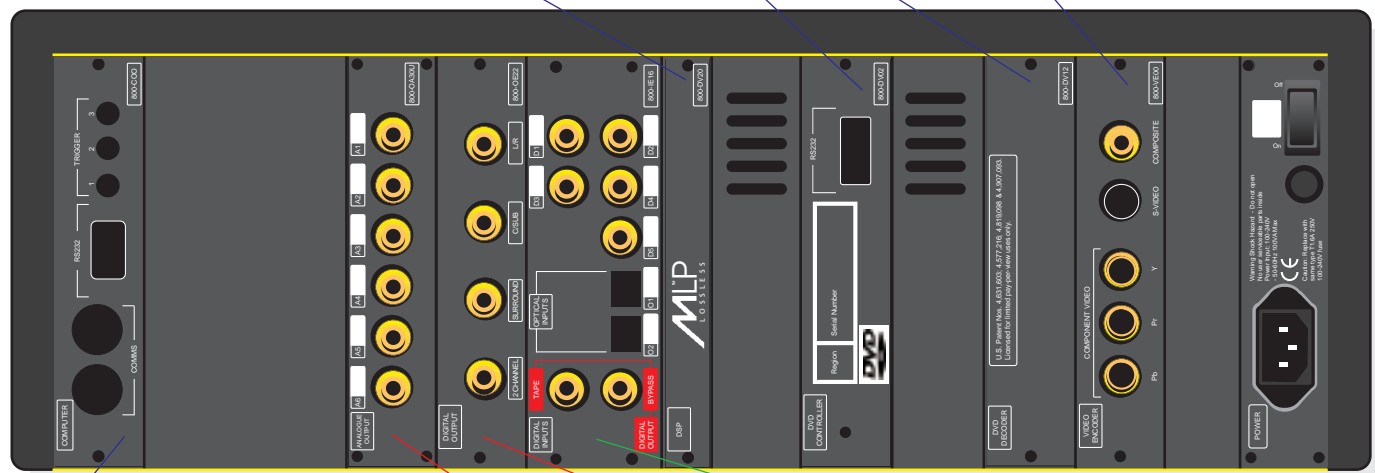
This diagram of an 800 rear panel shows a typical selection of cards. Other options are listed. As more become available they will be listed on the Meridian Website.

**DV20
DSP Processor**
Always fitted
A new DSP processing engine.

**DV02
DVD controller**
Always fitted.
Complete with Flash memory, RS232.

**DV12
Video Decoder**
Always fitted.
DSP card for DVD stream decoding, MPEG video and basic Dolby Digital decoding.

**VE00
Video Encoder**
Always fitted.
Generates NTSC or PAL in composite, S-Video or Component formats.



C000 Control computer
Always fitted complete with Flash memory, RS232, 3 trigger outputs and Meridian Comms.

IA00 Analogue input
6 pairs analogue input on phono. Very high quality 20-bit A/D conversion.

Extensions:
IA10 Analogue input
2 pairs of fully balanced analogue input on XLR.
IA20
adds 3 pairs of unbalanced analogue input on phono.
IA30/35
adds capability for MC/MM pickup on phono.

IA45 Multi-channel input.
6 channel analogue inputs for multichannel sources like DVD-A and SACD.

OA30U Multichannel Output
6 analogue outputs for multichannel connection.

OA30B
6 balanced outputs for multichannel connection on mini XLR.

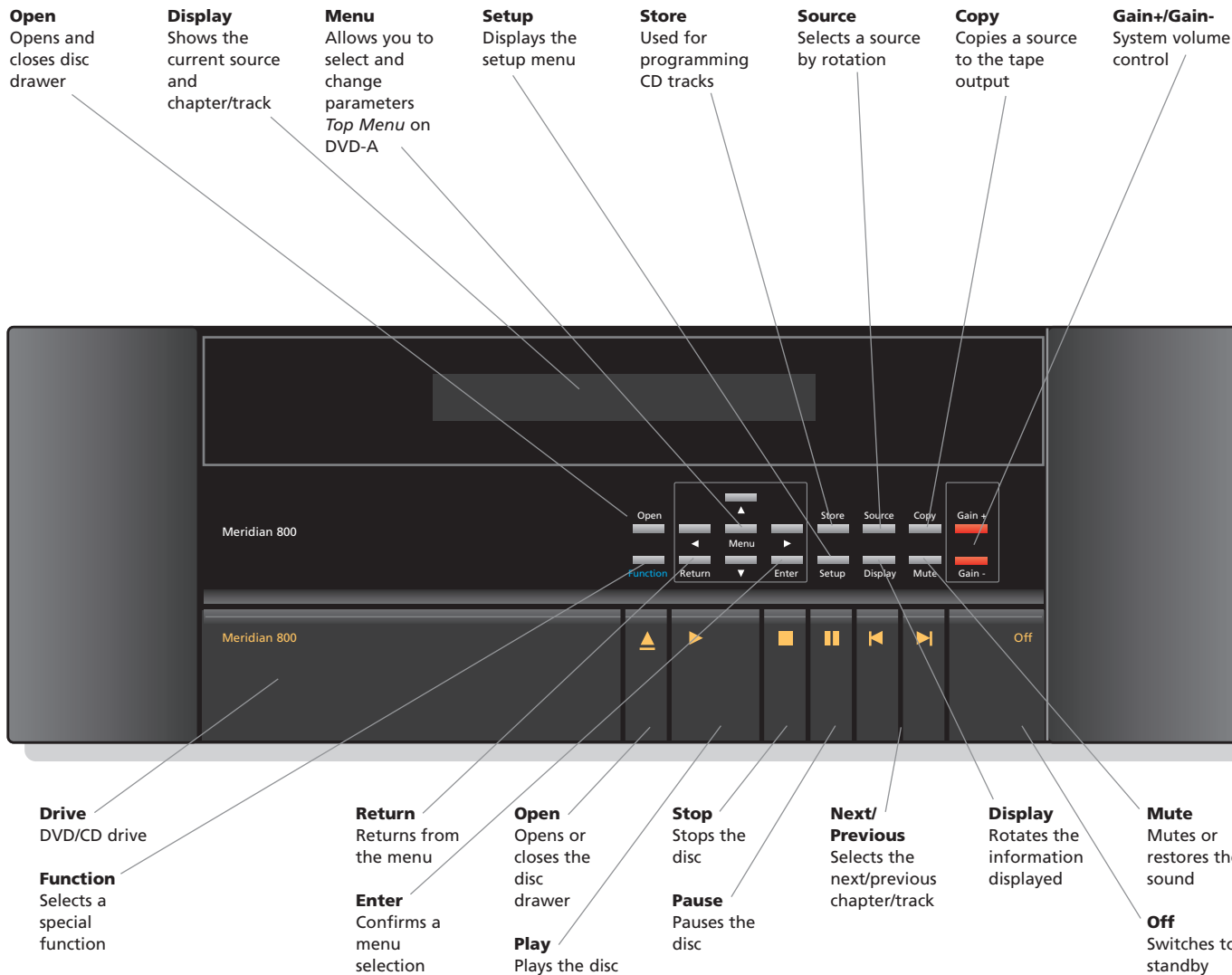
OE22 Multichannel Digital output
3 x Coaxial outputs. Contains ultra-low-jitter master oscillators. 1 x Coaxial for 2 channel downmix.

IE16 Digital input
Optional
5 SPDIF/IE C1937 cable inputs, 2 TOSLINK optical inputs. Two digital outputs; bypass and Tape/2-room. This card contains a DSP de-jittering system.

ID20 Extension to IE16 adds capability for 2 SPDIF and 2 Toslink inputs.

ID30 Extension to IE16 adds capability for 3 AES/EBU inputs on XLR and 1 AT&T.

Power Input
Always fitted
Power switch, fuse and power input socket.



From the Masters of Digital, the 800 combines all that Meridian stands for in a delicious looking package that bristles with technology.

Firstly, the 800 is an unusual CD Player that features unique drive technology to extract every last bit of information from your CD collection and processing that increases bit depth and sampling rate to perfectly match the latest DAC technology available. The result is so astounding that Stereophile Magazine has created a new Class A+ for the 800.

So, breathe new life into your existing CDs!

The 800 is also a Class AA rated DVD-Video Player. The same ROM technology is utilized on both audio and video followed by carefully designed video circuitry. At the heart of the 800, navigation and control is proprietary to Meridian. This enables us to achieve the highest possible quality and allows for future updates.

The 800 now includes multichannel decoding and a

proprietary digital link to the 861 Processor so enabling 96kHz 24 bit movie playback for the first time: an achievement that raises the standards of home cinema to heights never thought possible.

Incredibly, 800 now has DVD-Audio capability. Yet another in a long line of firsts, the 800 DVD-A sets the absolute benchmark for audiophile DVD-A playback. As the provider of the MLP lossless compression system, mandatory for the DVD-A format, and an active member of the associated forums, we are perfectly placed

to provide the highest quality solution, now and in the future. DVD-Audio can provide up to six discrete channels of 96kHz 24 bit information. With this media, the artists can surround you with every nuance and emotion of their performance. The 800, utilizing all that we have learnt, gives you those nuances and emotions like no other player can.

The 800 DVD/CD Machine is an object of desire – one which will bring new dimensions to your music and film experiences. Enjoy it!

trim this area off

800 SPECIFICATION

The architecture of the 800 Series has always provided wide flexibility – future sources and formats are handled by upgrading software, cards or drives. The 800 Reference DVD/CD Machine has been radically updated to provide DVD-A functionality. This is not just the addition of a new card but an all-encompassing design that impacts every area of performance. Apart from Meridian, very few manufacturers have the depth of knowledge and experience necessary to include both proprietary software for better navigation, MLP decoding, FIFO buffering and upsampling.

Being card based, the 800 Series also offers multiple output functions including multichannel analogue in either balanced or unbalanced configuration and a proprietary digital output for connection to Meridian processors. Functionality has also been dramatically improved with a new user interface and PC setup suite.

In the process of adding DVD-Audio capability, even higher resolution performance and functionality have been made possible for both CD and DVD-Video replay; for example, the 800 will now decode Dolby Digital and DTS sound tracks as discrete channels. These can be sent across Meridian's proprietary link to the 861 where 6 channels of 48kHz 20-bit can be upsampled to 96/24. This holistic design approach provides unmatched clarity and dynamic performance for both audio and video.

INPUTS

The 800 Reference DVD/CD machine incorporates a DVD CD-ROM Drive. The data is read asynchronously from the drive, buffered and de-jittered, ensuring perfect output timing independent of the performance of the drives or other sources. The 800 is also a full-system controller preamp that provides five digital inputs and two optical inputs. Analogue inputs can also be fitted as an option.

PROCESSING

The 800 Reference DVD/CD Player incorporates extensive DSP for resolution enhancement and other signal processing on the data stream.

OUTPUTS

The 800 provides digital outputs for direct connection to a surround processor such as the Meridian 861 Reference Digital Surround Processor. Alternatively, it can be used as a standalone DVD/CD player and preamplifier using the digital output to connect directly to Meridian DSP speakers.

VIDEO

The 800 provides composite video, S-Video and Component video (Y,Pr, Pb) outputs in PAL or NTSC format suitable for driving virtually any television, monitor or projection system. In addition to providing high-quality video, the 800 has the ability to help and control system feedback information through On-Screen display.

AUDIO IN AND OUT

Up to 11 analogue inputs. User adjustable sensitivity. Renameable legends. Up to 11 digital inputs. Renameable legends. 32 to 96kHz sampling and up to 24-bit precision. 4 x digital source outputs, normal or encrypted, PCM or compressed. 2 to 6 channels of analogue output available balanced and unbalanced.

SIGNAL PROCESSING

Meridian proprietary DSP software provides the following powerful modes: Upsampling/Downsampling, Error correction, Resolution enhancement.

VIDEO

Composite, S-Video or Component video. NTSC or PAL, 16.9 or 4.3 letterbox/panscan, Extend Black option for NTSC.

DISPLAY

20 character dot-matrix with adjustable brightness and contrast. Indicators for Drive A, Drive B, Repeat and DVD/CD Disc.

SIZE

480 (18.9") wide x 175 (6.9") high x 411 (16.2") deep
Rack mount option available.



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<http://www.meridian-audio.com>

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