THE FISHER Stereo Companion

Introduction

THE FISHER Stereo Companion is a superb high fidelity remote amplifier and speaker system housed in an unusually attractive furniture cabinet. It has been designed especially for use with THE FISHER Radio-Phonographs and Phonographs to complete your stereophonic installation. It can also be used in any system requiring an amplifier-speaker, and two may be used to complete a stereo system of any kind. Operation of THE FISHER Stereo Companion is completely remote. There are no controls, and only two adjustments to make. Physical placement of the unit, and two plug-in connections complete the installation.

STEREOPHONIC SOUND

In monaural high fidelity systems, the reproduced sound has all the characteristics of the original performance— with two exceptions. These are direction and distance. With the advent of stereophonic high fidelity systems, all the characteristics of live sound are now capable of being reproduced in the home or auditorium.

Reproduction of the live sound characteristics of direction and distance are made possible by the use of two sound sources and two sound channels. For example, two microphones are placed before an orchestra so that they “hear” the music as we would, with both ears. What is picked up by each microphone is then recorded separately and independently on record or tape, or broadcast as a stereo radio program. The stereo program is then reproduced through two separate sound channels. The sound originally picked up by the microphone on the right is used to drive a speaker system on the right, while the sound picked up by the speaker on the left simultaneously drives a speaker system placed on your left.

The effectiveness of stereophonic sound in achieving realism is much greater than might be imagined on the basis of the simple explanation just given. The stereo system actually spreads out the orchestral sound in the same manner as it would emanate from the stage. In other words, instruments located at center stage are heard at a point midway between the speakers. The other orchestral instruments can be located accordingly from left to right. This results in a realism and clarity never before possible in high fidelity systems.

INSTALLATION

THE FISHER Stereo Companion operates on AC only. The AC Power Cord should be connected to an auxiliary AC receptacle on the chassis of the instrument with which it is used. This receptacle is marked AUX AC on some FISHER instruments, and STEREO AC on others. AC power is then furnished to the Stereo Companion only when the AC switch on the main unit is turned on or off.
THE FISHER Stereo Companion operates at 105 to 125 volts, 50-60 cycles. Total power consumption is 85 watts. A 1-ampere fuse of the Slo-Blo type is used to safeguard the instrument. Never insert a fuse of rating higher than specified, or severe damage may result.

A twelve-foot shielded signal cable is supplied with the Stereo Companion. Plug one end of this cable into the Input Jack, and the other end into the Amplifier Output Jack on THE FISHER Radio-Phonograph or Phonograph. If you have some other type of installation, plug the other end of this cable into the output provided for the second amplifier.

An auxiliary AC receptacle is also provided on the chassis of the Stereo Companion. This receptacle can furnish up to 90 watts of AC power to a piece of associated equipment.

Stereo Speaker Arrangement

In positioning the two speaker systems for best stereo listening, certain precautions should be observed. Placing the units in the room corners may introduce undesirable acoustic effects. Instead, try placing them against the same wall, but a short distance from the room corners. Allow for a minimum separation of about five feet between the units. As a rule-of-thumb, the distance from the speaker wall to the listening area should be about twice the distance between the units. If your installation is to be set up in a long narrow room, placing the units against the long wall may be preferable to arranging them against the short wall of the room.

Sound from Speakers

When the Stereo Companion is used in conjunction with a stereo-equipped FISHER, sound is heard from both speaker systems whether the installation is being operated stereophonically or monaurally. Convenient terminals are also provided on the back of the Stereo Companion for connecting a remote speaker system. Wiring directions are provided on the terminal strip.

Input Level Adjustment

This adjustment, located on the rear panel, should first be set at maximum (clockwise). When the Stereo Companion is part of a stereophonic installation, this adjustment — in conjunction with one on the other amplifier-speaker — provides a way to obtain an equal volume of sound from both speakers. Set both amplifier level adjustments to maximum. Reduce one or the other, as necessary, to obtain the proper volume balance.

At Your Service

It is the constant desire of Fisher Radio Corporation to have your FISHER give you its best possible performance. Toward that objective, we solicit your correspondence on any special problems that may arise. After you have had an opportunity to familiarize yourself with THE FISHER, we would appreciate your letting us know how it is meeting your requirements.

Your FISHER Dealer

Be sure to consult your FISHER Dealer promptly if any situation arises that indicates a possible defect. Your FISHER Dealer stands ready to assist you at any time.