

THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS

A SPEEDIER VIDEO CHIP MAKES DREAMVISION'S CINEMA TEN PRO PROJECTEUR A SERIOUS CONTENDER.

BY MIKE MCGANN PHOTOGRAPHY BY PUGLIESE

The lure of this pro-grade chip is speed. DLP chips incorporate thousands of tiny mirrors (one for each pixel) that create a video picture by selectively reflecting light from a bulb.

According to Dream Vision, the pro-grade chip's mirrors move four times faster than do the HD2's. Dream Vision chose the pro-grade DLP chip for its new projector.

Cinema Ten's swoopy case is a departure from the usual boxy projector look; it also helps contain fan noise as well as light leakage from the bright bulb inside two chronic problems with DLP projectors.

Cinema Ten looks fine when I use its internal scaler, but I decide to set it up as I think most users will using an external scaler for extra flexibility and better picture quality. Once connected this projector is able to generate **a lush, smooth picture. I find myself entranced by the image quality. It is more film-like than I have previously seen from DLP, with less of the "shimmering" effect that the slower DLP chips tend to produce**

With many DLP projectors, the darkest parts of the picture appear gray instead of black. With the Cinema Ten, though, the blacks look fairly good. I can differentiate between the darkest shade of black and slightly lighter than black, which is not typical for projectors like this.

In addition to running test patterns and my favorite test scenes from DVDs, I always test each projector by watching a few movies with the family. Two things become immediately clear: I do not find myself distracted by picture problems; and my wife immediately notices the difference in picture quality, declaring that it is **just like going to the movies.**

Does speed matter? Better believe it. Faster mirrors may solve many of the problems that have plagued DLP and make it a better option for videophiles and film lovers. **Dream Vision has created a DLP projector that offers performance in line with that of the best 8-inch CRT projectors, offering a high-quality picture from a low-maintenance device. This is a big step forward for DLP.**

