



Customer review MODEL ONE AS-3 REFERENCE PRO

After vacation, I made some small changes to my audio set up that I have to listen properly. I have so far only made a simple change, but it was in fact very audible. I went to purchase a new set of signal cables to use between my power amp and preamp. It is challenging how these cables changed the music experience . And yes - we're talking solid silver cables here...

But another interesting thing that happened right before the holidays was that I came in contact with Ketil Hansen Nordic Sound Design. They had a set of stand speakers that I have not heard before, but that was very exciting to me listen to them. So after some mail exchange this pair finally arrived to my home for trial: Contrast Audio Model One AS3- Reference Pro.

First impressions is that this speakers are build and finished up to amazingly good craftsmanship standard! Finished in piano black, gorgeous design of the cabinets as well as a considerable weight are evidence that Company put a lot of time and effort into cabinet execution. I have tried to do my best as a photographer and here I got a few pictures for you to have a look and justify, but they really look far more gorgeous in flash

From what I've read and being informed as well seems clear that all elements are made of Contrast Audio itself. The units employed are 1 "soft dome tweeter and a 5.5" woofer made of paper with wooden phase plug (!)

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Otherwise, the speakers technical specifications as follows:

- Treble: 1x1 "tweeter (HD-16)
- Bass: 1 * 5.5 "mid-range/bass
- Dimensions (H x W x D): 350mm x 200mm x 320mm
- Load: 80w
- Nominal Impedance: 16 Ohm
- Sensitivity: 95 dB (1 W / 1 m)
- Frequency response: 36 Hz - 20,000 Hz (\pm 3dB)

The back of the speakers spoils nor the craft enthusiasts and audiophiles: The speakers are produced in Ukraine (a country I had no idea there are any speakers produced till now), but after some searching on the Internet I realised that Contrast Audio is already relatively well-known brand in the international audio world community. But what's even more positive is: The sound.

At first I struggled a bit with the speakers which sounded a bit withdrawn and low dynamic to my ears. But more I got used to the sound I realised that there is something considerably good about that A great deal of "musical consideration"! Ultimately, "relaxed" speakers to such an extent that the treble and midrange really sang. The tweeter had such a flick that I was sure I've been listening to really good softdomer at the same time as it hung well with the tone that gave the necessary fullness to music. Quick, without being too mushy or undefined. It just hung together well and it sounded great, specially on female voices. Flow, resolution, touch, dynamics and feel.

Now I seriously felt that my MI 10.1 SE came into its own (and that was so far meaning to try speakers). The sound opened up in all directions and the perspective and depth of the soundstage forwarded. Stage became surprisingly large and lifelike. The dynamics of the music reached such dimension that I got a feeling that I can stay comfortable with my 10.1 MI SE and now I know what it is able to produce.comfortable with my 10.1 MI SE and now I know what it is able to produce.