

Loudspeaker

Jean Marie Reynaud

Orféo



Fresh from the Jean-Marie Reynaud factory, the new Orféo borrows several components from the prestigious Concorde Signature. First, there is the Concorde's double ribbon tweeter housed in the same massive head in solid wood. Second, there are the cones of the two 7-inch woofers, fixed in Zamac baskets (alloy to basis of zinc), made of a mixture of Kevlar and graphite, providing a membrane as light as it is resilient. The crossover (cut off frequencies at 600 Hz and 2 800 Hz) use thick air copper coils and polypropylène capacitors wired without circuit boards. These components are housed in a thick medite material cabinet (20 and 26 millimeters) veneered with aniégré (an African wood) on its internal and external sides.



LISTENING - In baptizing an Orféo speaker, Jean-Marie Reynaud reveals the measure of his ambition. With his song, Orfeo playing the lyre could domesticate the most terrifying wildcat and charm the most sour-tempered humans. Could this floorstander have the same magic powers? As listeners, we come to believe this as she hypnotises us. Without the help of artificial smoke or of dark magic, but by continuous musical enchantment. Its crystalline transparency will never confound a cheap violin with a Stradivarius nor soften the extra-vivid qualities of a recording. On the other hand, it offers to music lovers the largest orchestras of the world and the best artists in a space which can seem unlimited although very structured. Instantaneously and without rudeness, the essence of an interpretation shines through: tiny details of nuance, truth of breathing, background vocal clarity, precision of the rhythm, speed of attacks, exemplary mastery of the low end. Nothing escapes this loudspeaker. It seduces us by its lyric talents and its capacity to play the music in its real dimensions. The Orféos are impossible to resist. Would we be less moved by the heart of the inflexible Charon or the dangerous Pluto?

(Philippe Venturini)

Qualities: The music, All the Music, Only the Music

Weaknesses: None

Timbers: ★★★★★
Transparency: ★★★★★
Spatial restitution: ★★★★★
Finishing: ★★★★★
Quality/Price value: ★★★★★

(Maximum rate ★★★★★)