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be certified as producing superb
performance!"



HECO Direkt



HECO

Lise-Meitner-Str. 9 · 50259 Pulheim · Germany · www.heco-audio.de

Trenddokument
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Back to the future

A bit of retro regarding the look, plenty of sound and a concept reduced to what is most practical and sensible. And then you have a loudspeaker that not only sounds great, it will also break your heart!

Loudspeakers can certainly also make a statement. In visual terms. In addition, they should sound good and - if we can make another wish - be affordable. Well, being affordable is relative; what we mean is that the Direkt from Heco does still come under the category of affordable at a price of almost €1,500 each. It is desirable in any case! The team at Heco, it would appear, has traced the subject of the loudspeaker back to its origins. At the forefront of the design are the intended acoustic abilities. It should sound good without getting lost in horrendous technological complexity. So a two-way system is used: one tweeter for the treble range, what else, and a decent subwoofer for everything that goes on below that. "What goes on below" does, of course, have its physical limits, as we know. Similar to traditional engine design, the displacement (diaphragm area times deflection) is indispensable in acoustics, too, because, without this, the air would not be able to surge between the speaker and the owner. For this reason, the Heco Direkt has been fitted with an ample 27 cm subwoofer.

Its driver cone - also very classic - comprises a paper mixture, a material used back in the prehistoric times of loudspeaker construction. The treble range is taken care of by a silk dome only a tenth of the size of the subwoofer, i.e. 28 mm. As the name suggests, this produces a pleasantly soft sound. The subwoofer also determines roughly how big the loudspeaker must be, but instead of tailoring the enclosure to "minimalist" proportions, the development engineers have gone on the offensive: The housing measures a formidable 44 cm in width and, even more impressively, is 90 cm high. To compensate, it is only 20 cm deep, turning the usual or even fashionable notions of a loudspeakers pretty much upside down.

The unusual concept is completed by the three metal feet which firstly raise the Direkt and, secondly, tilt it to give it even more presence. Efficient and classy: The "back to the roots" technology also has other benefits, providing the Direkt with an excellent efficiency level. At one watt, the speaker produces an impressive 95 dB, which allows the use of a tube amplifier, for example. The manufacturer recommends an output of at least 10 watts so as to ensure a broad selection with regard to amplification. For example, the affiliated company, Magnat, has excellent tube amplifiers in its portfolio which harmonise perfectly with the Heco.

In terms of sound, the beautiful loudspeaker from Pulheim can be certified as producing superb performance. On the one hand, it really lives up to its name by playing in a very direct and overt way while, on the other hand, also being a long way from the souped-up cling-clang of many high-end transducers that can often score well in individual disciplines but sometimes lack real passion. In contrast, the Direkt likes everything: Pop, rock, jazz and, if necessary, even classical. The fact that the subwoofer operates in a bass reflex enclosure that exploits the rearward energy of the chassis through the openings pointing downwards to the base is also very clever. This means that the location of the Heco in the room is irrelevant as the additional bass energy is generated discreetly, yet directly towards the listening position.

Heco Direkt

If you really want to listen to music again properly, the Direkt is definitely the speaker for you. Uncomplicated and without any pretentious claims in terms of electronics, it conjures up music as you would expect it and not dissected into individual components. Its visually appealing retro design is also a very pleasant side effect.

