



MONITOR AUDIO

design for sound

Product Reviews 2013

"...I can't think of another affordable speaker that better meets such a broad range of needs."
- Stereophile



SILVER RX



"The Monitor Audio GX Gold speakers are for the questing audiophile who's looking to transcend the limitations of run-of-the-mill dome-based tweeters and low-tech woofers..."
- Home Theater Magazine

GOLD GX



PL200
Class A - Restricted Extreme LF
Recommended Components
- Stereophile

PLATINUM



"The sonic sophistication/dollar ratio is pretty much off the charts."
- The Perfect Vision

BRONZE BX & MR



APEX & RADIUS

"Excellent sound, fine styling, clever design, luxurious build."
- What Hi-Fi? Sound and Vision



MASS & SHADOW

"Overall, the MASS 5.1 is quite an amazing set of speakers."
- What Hi-Fi? Sound and Vision



CI & SOUNDFRAME

"Great performance and real value."
- Home Entertainment Magazine



AIRSTREAM

"The perfect size for such a product...And they seal the deal with superb sound that defies their dimensions."
- What Hi-Fi? Sound and Vision



» Platinum PL200

“An engineering feat extraordinaire.”

“...the PL200 speakers are refined and elegant looking, gorgeous in fact... The real wood Veneer finish options are carefully lacquered and stunningly beautiful. When the front black metal grille is removed, luxurious black leather encompassing the drivers is revealed, of the sort normally found as upholstery in the finest automobiles.”

“When I finally began my testing, I enjoyed what I heard right from the start: In less than a fortnight, the PL200s had transformed my listening space into a mini concert hall. Not only were all of my desired speaker improvements significantly addressed, but there was also an unexpected improvement in imaging, soundstage and dynamics, among other things. Wonderful.”

“The staging and imaging were phenomenal, the extended bass was deep, tight and eloquent, and as for resolution/detail: About one minute into the recording, I could hear one of the musicians whispering, from the right channel, and saying things like ‘baby.’ Nothing like that came out of my system before. Tremendous.”

“I put on the Jacques Loussier Trio’s, ‘The Best of Play Bach’ track 2, ‘Italian Concerto: Allegro’. Every cymbal had its own distinct timbre, and I could tell through the PL200s that the drummer, Andre Arpino, was using sticks with plastic tips.”

“Spectacular imaging and soundstage with an impeccably natural sound was exposed by the PL200s; I now had a vibraphone in my apartment upon demand. And I didn’t have to sit in the sweet spot of my couch for that effect: I could stroll around my apartment with a glass of iced tea and still hear the vibes loud and clear.”

“Further favorites of mine for drums revealed just amazing timbre and accuracy. At times I could even hear the snare drum vibrate when the tom toms were played.”

“The piano I was now hearing from the PL200s sounded more full-bodied and rich than I had heard before on my system from piano in general.”

“I cranked up the volume very high to give the PL200s a worthy workout and challenge them. Wow! The PL200s could really handle high volume.”

“By digging for gold, I hit platinum with the Monitor Audio PL200 speakers. With such extraordinary performance, the PL200s are competitive with speakers that cost much more. And, the PL200s offer an additional unexpected plus: When the volume is low, the sound quality is still outstanding.

“The PL200 get my highest recommendation.”

Karl Sigman,
Audiophilia, June 2013



stereophile

» Platinum PL200

Class A – Restricted Extreme LF, Recommended Components, Stereophile

“From a distance, it looks much like any other floorstander. But get closer, and you’ll see that the fit and finish are of a quality far higher than the norm. The wood finish (Santos Rosewood on the review samples) is impeccable: smooth, with a gloss that indicates multiple coats of varnish, each coat (of 11, I’m told) polished to perfection. Joints in the veneer are invisible.”

I heard details of orchestration that simply had not been apparent before.”

“The PL200 also sailed through my other tests of resolution.”

“Soundstaging was simply superb: wide, deep, and precise in the spatial definition of sonic images on the stage.”

“When it came to transparency— defined as an absence of coloration or a distinctive “speaker sound” added to the music being reproduced—the PL200 once again performed like a champ.”

“Many speakers must be driven to high levels to get much of a sense of dynamic contrasts—not so the PL200. Some of my most memorable times with the Monitors were when I listened at night, with the volume set to what most people would consider a background level. The PL200 maintained its resolution at this level—even the softest musical passages had the appropriate dynamic variations.”

“... the PL200 is by no means cheap, but neither is it crazy-priced—the price is justified by the design, the quality of components, the obvious care taken in manufacturing, and most of all, by the sound. It’s a lovely speaker.”

Robert Deutsch,
Stereophile, April 2010

» Platinum PL200

“The tonal balance is lovely with superb neutrality and vanishingly low coloration, alongside an almost magical freedom from boxiness. Stereo imaging is consequently excellent with no tendency to hug the speakers.”

“The dynamic range is outstanding,”

“This speaker not only looks exceptionally beautiful, it also has a delightfully open character without any attendant harshness.”

Paul Messenger
Hi-Fi Choice, January 2010



ULTRAaudio PLATINUM



» Platinum PL200

"The sound is absolutely massive -- are there a thousand players and singers here? Probably not, but the PL200s threw a wall-to-wall soundstage with excellent depth and spacing. I could clearly hear the size of the recording venue, the Mormon Tabernacle, and that the space was well damped and not overly resonant. More important, instruments and voices were exceptionally well fleshed out."

"Did I say extended bass? Oh yeah."

"What was neat, though, was just how well the PL200s managed to keep each sound distinct -- from the snappy snare, odd electronic effects, and guitar that crowded the midrange, right through to the whomp of kick drum and growl of electric bass. Each studio-processed instrument and sound occupied its own point in lateral space, often moving past the speakers' outer side panels -- which, for some reason, doesn't often happen in my room."

"...with the Platinum PL200s, I was able to focus on nifty imaging tricks while still feeling the whole musical performance wash over me."

"This musical contortionism was due in large part to the PL200's seamless transition from bass to midbass, combined with its almost electrostatically clean midrange. The excellence of the speaker's low end consistently surprised me."

"The PL200s gave me each low, open-stringed note down into my guts, and dredged up every nugget of detail around Peacock's fingers as they slipped off the strings. The solo in "Meaning of the Blues" ranges from the lowest open notes up into the midbass, and here was where the PL200's musical coherence came in: There was no sense of a handoff to the midrange, no lumpiness of the low bass trying to keep up with the midrange. Spectacular!"

"Further, the PL200s reproduced the requisite bite of the strings without a hint of glare, which can be the offensive flip side of our good friend Mr. Midrange Detail."

"The PL200 is an intensely satisfying and very musical speaker. And while we're all about sound first here, I don't think I'd be out of line in saying that the PL200's appearance factored into my experience. There was something innately elegant about the way the speaker's materials and proportions have been combined to form something part functional device, part object of art."

"Whenever I spun an album, I was swept up in the music, and that's what this is all about."

"Monitor Audio's Platinum PL200 shows that a big company can also build a product that's flat-out stunning, with off-the-charts sound quality and build quality to match."

Jason Thorpe
ULTRAaudio SoundStage!XTREME
August 2013



HOME THEATER

» Platinum PL300, PL100, PLC350, PLW 15 (Platinum 5.1 System Review)

"Better Than Golden"

"You don't hear the high frequencies from its ribbon tweeter so much as sense them as an integral part of the overall sound."

"Transients started and stopped on a dime, but they never overshoot the mark into zing or raspiness. Strings were silky smooth."

"...the center image was so tight on two-channel material that you'd swear the center speaker was playing, even when it wasn't."

"The Platinum speakers do it all here, with full-bodied, extended bass without bloat, a natural midrange, and crisp, precise highs without edginess."

"...the Platinum system's ease and lack of strain during the soundtrack's greatest challenges **blew me away.**"

"...it is clearly a design, engineering, and sonic tour de force."

Thomas J. Norton
Home Theater Magazine, September 2009



Suono

» Platinum PL300

"The dynamics are rendered with such fluidity and without particular effort that you almost don't notice the significant jolts of energy you are listening to... if you listen to an orchestral crescendo as violent and sudden as it is, the fluidity and naturalness are never missing and this is what happens with the PL300s."

Suono



www.monitoraudio.ca
www.monitoraudiousa.com

SOUND+VISION

» Platinum PL300 AV

"The ribbon tweeters whispered sweet somethings in my ears, producing such an enveloping sound with stereo music that I had to get up to make sure the surround speakers weren't playing. The treble was exceptionally clear."

"...the bass was intense and powerful, as if the speaker had an amplified 15" woofer built in. I can't imagine that many listeners will feel the need for a subwoofer."

"The crystalline sound of the PL300 and PL100, combined with the almost perfectly matched voice of the PL350C, brought a new level of excitement to movie soundtracks."

Brent Butterworth
Sound+Vision



HI-FI WORLD

» Platinum PL100

"Thumbs firmly aloft"



"Shifting to the original seventies LP pressing of [The Who's, Who's Next] was like drawing the curtains wide and opening the window. The recording flooded into the room and the PL100s communicated the majesty of the classic Won't Get Fooled Again."

"Classic rock, in the shape of Dire Straits' Sultans of Swing was a joy. Bass guitar was warm and tuneful, the PL100s bouncing up and down the fretboard as if their very lives depended on it. Mark Knopfler's lead guitar was beautifully rendered, the MAs showcasing their transparency, their ability to convey the innate tonality of the instruments they're asked to play. Vocals were smooth, delicately etched and superbly projected into the room – the MAs imaging with joyful abandon, sounding unfettered and out of the box. Overall, it was a consummately musical performance."

David Price
Hi Fi World

CEPro

» Platinum PL100

"I found the PL100s' soundstage to be wide enough to fill a good amount of space and the speakers imaging qualities to be focused."

"The speakers provide so much detail and precise imaging that they can make up for some of the performance characteristics between a mid level and high-performance amp."

"As a theater speaker, the PL100 doesn't let on that it's a limited range speaker missing a couple of bottom octaves. It sounded detailed enough to reveal subtle foley effects and dynamic enough to smoothly reproduce more dramatic, impactful movie soundtrack noises... The PL100s could be used with just about any high-current amp on the market."

Robert Archer
CE Pro, June 2010

techradar.AV



» Platinum PL200

"It is quite the most luscious and beautiful speaker finish I have ever seen"

"I marvelled at the sheer scale, power and purity of the output."

"They add fabulous detail and edge, as well as incredible staging and placement to the system... I love them to bits and found that they also have a terrific linear response, which means they work just as sweetly at low levels and with music."

techradar.com, August 2010

audiophile PLATINUM

Hi-fi news PURE AUDIO EXCELLENCE

» Platinum PL100

"What will most impress audiophiles is the speed and crispness of upper frequency transients and absence of 'fizz'."

"Take a track that can sound thick and murky, like 'Clocks' from Coldplay's *A Rush To Blood To The Head*, and the PL100 peels away the layers of this dense production."

"...the PL100 offers tremendous insight into recordings."

"Playing this song through the PL100 however, the heightened sense of air was revelatory, the piano accompaniment realistically percussive and incisive."

"...it sounded less 'hi-fi' and more lifelike, with increased vitality and super-sharp clarity."

"The PL100 provides an *astoundingly* open window through which to view the recording engineer's art."

"The PL100 did an excellent job of conveying music's rhythmic pulse."

"The PL100's articulation helped make the vocals clear and intelligible, with natural warmth thanks to the absence of top-end hash."

"This is a loudspeaker that revels in digging out fine details, and is a showcase for superior hi-res recordings."

"The PL100 painted a colourful picture of the orchestra recorded in AIR Studios' Lyndhurst Hall, north London, the texture and tones of strings and brass sounding ultra-vivid in the hall's reverberant recording space."

"Monitor Audio's PL100 is very much an audiophile's speaker."

"But with good ancillaries this speaker shines, and with good recordings it truly sings out, delivering revelatory detail with considerable refinement. A gem."

John Bamford
Hi-Fi News, August 2012

WHAT HI-FI? SOUND AND VISION



» Platinum PL200

FOR: Beautiful build and finish; fabulous cohesion and clarity; genuine scale and drive; agile, expressive stereo presentation

AGAINST: Only that the PL300 AV – much bigger, even more powerful – doesn't cost a great deal more, in context.

"Its front PL200 floorstanders are much smaller than the giant PL300s found in the bigger package and are, as a result, much easier to integrate both acoustically and visually into smaller living rooms."

"The big, beautiful PL100 ...supremely well integrated with the front three speakers, and they're magisterially powerful."

"Voices and subtle effects move from speaker to speaker with exemplary tonal consistency and seemingly absolute accuracy."

"Monitor Audio can consider the new PL200 AV system a triumph."

What HiFi? Sound and Vision, August 2010



» Platinum PL300

"These are truly high-end speakers in a class of their own."

"What is most striking is the consistent excellence of the product: the cabinet, components, assembly, everything."

"From the very first bar, the PL300 demonstrated its potential, and this, even without a breaking-in period. Its scope is surprising: the bass is very deep and well extended; it is clean, agile and well sustained."

"I was enchanted by the total absence of colouration, the clarity and totally balanced sound produced by these speakers, that have an electrostatic-like quality. The PL300 is capable of great tenderness with small ensembles, leaving room for much finesse, detail and precision without ever being aggressive."

Mario Poirier
Quebec Audio and Video



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www.monitoraudiousa.com

SOUND+VISION

» Gold GX200, GXC150, GX FX, GXW-15 (GX200 System Review)



“Excellent build quality and equally impressive sound make the Gold GX a great choice for a multichannel system.”

“...outstanding definition and clarity in the highs, and a soundstage that extended well beyond the towers’ physical locations.”

“The Gold GX system’s crisp, finely layered presentation proved an especially good match for surround music. ...excellent tonal match between the front channels and GXFX surrounds made songs... sound wonderfully seamless. It was like being immersed in a pool of dense, ambient guitar and bass.”

“Drums and bass sounded clean and dynamic — I could clearly feel the wallop of kick drum in my chest. Monitor Golds managed to convey the dense spatial swirl of percussion instruments, keyboards, and background vocals while maintaining excellent clarity on guitars and Bryan Ferry’s front-and-center vocals.”

“...rain really sounded as if it was pouring down in dense sheets from the front of my room. During the chase that ensues, sound-effects pans as the cars swirled and spun out had a convincingly full, near-360° trajectory. The GXW-15 sub was hardly a wallflower during this sequence. When a freight train slams into the cab mid-chase, the resulting impact was bone-rattling. “The GXC 150’s spot-on tonal match with the towers resulted in excellent front-stage clarity.”

“Monitor Audio’s Gold GX system is a well-crafted speaker package that’s capable of pinning you to the couch on movies and drenching your ears with detail on music.”

Al Griffin
Sound+Vision, April-May 2012

CANADA HiFi

» Gold GX200, GXC150, GX FX, GXW-15 (GX 5.1 System Review)

“Visually, each of the models in the Gold GX series is quite attractive and a good selection of finishes means that they’ll integrate comfortably with just about any room décor.”

“The track “As Tears Go By” opens with Keith Richards playing an amazing 12 string acoustic guitar lick and I’ve honestly never heard it sound this good on any home theatre system. The Monitor Audio speakers delivered the richness of the doubled-up guitar strings with fullness in the mid frequencies and an amazing bell-like quality in the higher octaves. The depth and texture of this presentation was as close as I’ve heard from a real 12 string guitar.”

“The ribbon tweeters reproduced the high frequencies of both instruments and voices with an amazing sizzle and a high level of detail. The tweeter presentation was airy, super clean and smoothly integrated with the mid frequencies, not once did I detect any harshness in the upper registers.”

“The Gold GX series served up a perfectly balanced frequency range and one of the cleanest, luscious sounding mid-ranges I’ve had the pleasure of listening to in my home theatre.”

“The ribbon tweeters extracted the finest musical details with the utmost delicacy. Tracks like “So Far Away” and “Money For Nothing” presented me with a holographic soundstage – which reached well beyond the walls of my listening room as drums played all around my listening seat. Meanwhile, the GXW-15 subwoofer blended smoothly with the rest of the speakers and provided perfectly resolved and well articulated bottom frequencies.”

“The bass was presented with great depth and tightness, not just by the subwoofer but also by the surround speakers.”

“During the first few minutes of the film I noticed that the Gold GX had a slight advantage over other speaker designs thanks to their ribbon tweeters. This advantage was the clarity of the dialogue. Unlike with some of the other speakers I’ve listened to in the past, the GX centre channel never failed to deliver a clean rendition of the character voices - regardless of how many other layers of sound were in the mix. Another advantage was that the dialogue was clearly audible even at very low volume levels.”

“While watching Thor on Blu-ray, what I got was a decidedly cinematic experience. The Gold GX speakers handled this incredibly dynamic soundtrack with the utmost control. Sound during quieter scenes was delivered with delicacy and precision. Low frequencies during loud scenes were capable of delivering seismic thumps but always sounded tight and controlled.”

“The Monitor Audio Gold GX series offered a stellar performance in my home theatre.”

“Whether I listened to music or watched movies, they never failed to engage me at the highest level. Voices and instruments sounded true-to-life and hence music was always full of emotion, regardless of choice of genre. On many occasions I felt like the performers were right in my room. During movies with good soundtracks (and visuals) the Gold GX series were capable of creating a total suspension of disbelief, making me feel like I was part of the action. Yes it is possible to assemble a home theatre speaker system for a much smaller amount but you’ll miss out on all the dynamics, details and realism that only a higher-end speaker system like the Monitor Audio Gold GX can deliver.”

Suave Kajko
Canada HiFi Magazine, November 2012

Gold GX

HOME THEATER

» Gold GX50, GXC150, GXW-15 (GX50 System Review)

Shall We Be Speaker-Centric?

"Perhaps the folks who sell specialty home theater gear for a living should focus more on speakers like the Monitor Audio Gold GX: on their seductive curves, on their quality of construction, on the startling clarity of their ribbon tweeters."

"As impressive as the monitor and center are, it's the sub that takes your breath away... LEO is as simple as sub room correction ever gets."

"The movie activated the Monitor ribbon's full and extended high-frequency response in a manner that was surprisingly smooth and sweet... Dispersion from the ribbon tweeters was excellent throughout."

"Desmond Blue: Paul Desmond with strings is one of my treasures... Two GX50s operating in stereo combined with the tubed phone preamp to conjure magic from this period vinyl... the sax was like an undulating three-dimensional living thing... with holographic imaging and a lush, golden smoothness... This was a deeply pleasurable and enlightening experience."

"Best-case demo material was Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5... Right from the opening moments, with clarinet borne aloft by strings, I was entranced... Whenever reeds or woodwinds emerged from the mix, it always felt like a special occasion, with a good balance between midrange solidarity and high-frequency detail."

"The Monitor Audio GX Gold speakers are for the questing audiophile who's looking to transcend the limitations of run-of-the-mill dome-based tweeters and low-tech woofers..."



"Special commendation goes to the GXW-15 subwoofer, one of the most cleverly designed I've ever reviewed... As compelling as the speakers are in their own right, the sub is even more so for its advanced design and features."

"This was a deeply pleasurable and enlightening experience."

Mark Fleischmann
Home Theater Magazine, September 2011

the absolute sound

AVguide.com

» Gold GX300

"Buy 'em, keep 'em, love 'em!"

"As with many good designs, the components in the crossover and the cables used internally are of the highest quality."

"It delivers, clean, clear and vibrant high-frequencies and tidy, deep and powerful lows. Treble instruments and voices soar... The closer you get to naturally recorded, untreated a capella voices, the more important this becomes; The GX300 sailed through this test as if the designer had been listening to renaissance music when putting the GX series through its paces."

"The other end is fabulously well-upholstered for so small a speaker, too... a lot of bass and a lot going on in the bass... Here, the GX300 gets the balance perfectly right — you could spend 10x as much and not get the same result."

"The vocal articulation is excellent, and the midrange clear and true."

"Ultimately, the Monitor Audio sound is one that is big and impressive. It casts a wide soundstage, with full-sized, solid instruments in their own sense of space within that soundstage. It goes loud too. All this, combined with the extension of top and bottom, gives you a sense of immediate impressiveness... few speakers at this price can deliver something this impressive sounding, and even fewer will deliver that while making sure you keep a satisfied smile firmly in place."

"I can't help but think Wilson Audio here. The GX300 are more than training wheels for a pair of Wilson Sashas, but there is a strong similarity in character. Both create a big sound, with lots of extension at either ends of the scale. Both have plenty of detail delivery and both have that ability to excite and stun in equal measure... Where the Monitor Audios win over the Wilsons is their ease in installation and equipment partnering... and that you can buy a wall of GX300s for the price of a pair of Sashas."

"The GX300 gives you a lot of what real people want to hear... It just gives you the sound you like in a fuss-free package. What could be better?"

Alan Sircom
HiFi +, April 2012



www.monitoraudio.ca
www.monitoraudiousa.com

the absolute sound

» Gold GX50

"Visually the GX50 strikes a premium pose from any angle."

"Construction quality and cabinet finish are as good as they get in this price segment. Tolerances appear tight—literally seamless, in fact."

"The GX50 is a midrange-dominant loudspeaker that shines brilliantly on vocals... It relishes the delicacies of musical texture, air, and bloom. It's very effective for its size in mid- and lower-level detail and dynamics with an engaging sense of "being there"—an attribute that encourages you want to keep listening."

"The ribbon is, as I'd expected, sweet, smooth, and superbly detailed in the transient realm. In the case of piano reproduction, it combines a sense of speed and edge detail at the commencement of a note with little to no impression of woolen overhang or smudging at the note's conclusion."



"Its small mid/bass driver is articulate and more than capable of holding its own on tracks from Rutter *Requiem*, many of which feature the undertow of a pipe organ beneath the large chorus."

"However, taken on its own terms, the GX50 is beguiling in its strengths and serious in its intentions, and with that ribbon tweeter adds a distinctively sweet flavor to the under-\$2k category of loudspeakers."

Neil Gader
The Absolute Sound, January 2013



» Gold GX50

New Golds show revolutionary fervour

"...these are some of the most natural-sounding speakers we've heard from Monitor Audio."

"There's a fine sense of transparency and balance to the GX50s sound."

"The ribbon tweeter sounds especially sweet, affording high frequencies a show-stopping level of refinement and finesse."

"...low frequencies sound tight, punchy and agile."

"Vive la revolution!"

For: Great build and finish; clean, transparent presentation; sweet treble, articulate bass.

Against: Nothing of note.

What HiFi? Sound and Vision, September 2011



» Gold GX100

"The pair of speakers I received for review, very smartly finished in Piano Black Gloss, had been used for a while before dispatch, so needed minimal running-in to loosen them up and have them performing as they should."

"And the GX100s' take on 'as they should' is undeniably impressive: this is a fast, dynamic, exciting loudspeaker design, capable of remarkable slam and drive in the bass, along with seamless integration through the midband and on up into one of the sweetest, yet most explicit, top-ends around. The music is never any less than entirely controlled, and yet has that wide-open, rich, detailed presentation that just begs the listener to listen more closely to what's being played, revelling in the sheer amount of character and detail on offer."

"Particularly striking is the openness of the treble, used to delicious effect..."

"Especially impressive is the sense of air and space in the sound, making the most of 'location' recordings, and the way the GX100s deliver a stereo image with both depth and precise location of instruments. With minimal toe-in the sound snaps into focus, and after that the speakers do a fine job of placing music in an entirely realistic fashion."

"The may be larger than the common idea of compact speakers, but the additional weight and power they bring to music, allied to that smoothly explicit midband and sweet, beautifully extended treble, is more than sufficient payback for their extra size."

Tony Williams
Gramophone Magazine, December 2011



» Gold GX100

"...I unboxed the review pair and discovered two of the most exquisite-looking, best-finished cabinets I've seen on any speaker near this price, or even double it."

"The finish was flawless; with the wood's warm, reddish glow and the cabinet's soft, rounded edges, the GX100s had the appearance of fine furniture."

"I consistently heard a very crisp sound with detailed, incisive highs that portrayed instruments and voices with precision and distinction."

"As impressed as I was by the GX100's ribbon tweeter, I was equally impressed by its midrange-woofer, which, in conjunction with its solidly constructed cabinet, helped the speaker deliver deep, powerful bass. When I closed my eyes, I could have sworn I was hearing a pair of floorstanders."

"I found its sound highly engaging, and capable of holding my interest. I was able to sustain my utter enthusiasm for its sound for long periods without ever getting fatigued."

"...the buyer of a pair of Gold GX100s will be rewarded with something he or she can own and cherish for many years. Highly recommended."

Philip Beaudette
SoundStage! Hi-Fi, March 2012



GOLD GX

SoundStage! HI-FI

» Gold GX300

"The sound of the strings was so natural and so brilliantly articulated that I could hear the hollow resonance of the guitar body behind them. Throughout the track, at the far right of the soundstage, a drum beats steadily -- the GX300s did an excellent job of conveying the dynamic thud of each beat... I was impressed with the levels of resolution and neutrality conveyed by the GX300s."

"Listening to it through the GX300s was revelatory: The congestion was gone, leaving me with a deep, wide soundstage. Legend's and Pink's voices were imaged with levels of dimension and texture that I hadn't heard before."

"I cued up the title track of Wish You Were Here, and about a minute later was startled when a precisely imaged acoustic guitar appeared out of thin air directly in front of me."

"In just 20 minutes of listening, it was quite obvious that the Gold GX300 was no stranger to showcasing details; in fact, the speaker seemed to thrive on it."

"Monitor Audio's Gold GX300 offers tremendous value to anyone in the market for a mid sized floorstanding speaker."

"The more time I spent with the Gold GX300s, the more I came to appreciate their distinctive tonal purity and dynamic range, and their uncanny ability to breathe life into pretty much any recording. I thoroughly enjoyed my time with the Gold GX300. I can't help but give it my highest recommendation."



Aron Garrecht
SoundStage! Hi-Fi, April 2012



» Gold GX300

"On the Gemini track, the organ of Maurice Vander is astoundingly real, confirming an almost perfect work on the part of the loudspeaker's mid/tweeter section."

"We look for refinement and, without real surprise, we easily get it. The orchestral body, although held back, is transmitted here with fullness and the Pavane short sequence is smoothly reproduced by the GX 300."

"The ensemble Constantinople's CD, published on Atma label, reveals a pair of loudspeakers suited to reproducing ancient instruments with subtlety, without blandness."

Ian Parent,
TED by Quebec Audio & Video, April-May 2011

CANADA HiFi

» Gold GX200

"The GX200 is a very handsome floor standing speaker with a small enough footprint that it will fit into most listening environments."

"The fit and finish appeared to be perfect."

"The midrange was rich and neutral, as the bass line played cheerfully with good depth and articulation. The GX200's offered excellent stereo imaging and effortless motion as the song demanded the ringing of the strings to flow between the channels."

"I literally heard high frequency components that I haven't heard before. The C-CAM ribbon tweeter played with amazing speed and delivered awesome resolution. The sound of rain, normally placed further in the background by my reference Focal Electra 1008 Be II speakers, had significantly more presence and played with more details than I've become accustomed to. The analog crackle effect which accompanies this track gave it an authentic vintage sound feel. The ribbon tweeter certainly allowed the GX200 to peer deep into the music and pull out tons of subtle high frequencies details. So obviously I was enjoying the benefits of the

ribbon tweeter and to make matters even better, I found that I was able to hear more sonic details at lower volume levels with the GX200 than with other speakers."



"Something else I noticed about the GX200 while listening to "Moon Safari" was its ability to create truly gigantic and three-dimensional soundstage. It's been a while since I remember closing my eyes and being so engaged by the sonic landscape produced by a speaker."

"The GX200 reproduced the sound of the various guitars used throughout the album with extraordinary realism - I felt like I was playing guitar myself."

"The Monitor Audio GX200 delivered an undeniably enjoyable, musically passionate performance during its stay in my home. I took it through the paces with all kinds of music, ranging from classical to hard rock and it always pleased me with its sound. Those who enjoy listening to jazz and classical should find this speaker particularly attractive since it'll extract the finest details from high frequencies and provide a great three dimensional soundstage. The GX200 is indeed a great sounding speaker and offers excellent value at its price point."

Suave Kajko
Canada HiFi Magazine, September 2011

AWARDS



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www.monitoraudiousa.com

stereophile

» Silver RX6

"The Monitor's extended, pristine high frequencies were showcased by another De Leeuw/Schönberg recording, of György Ligeti's Cello Concerto..."

"The Monitor's high-frequency reproduction enabled perfect integration of the fundamentals and harmonics of the trumpet; Wynton Marsalis's instrument on his Levee Low Moan (CD, Columbia CK 47075) was startlingly realistic: The Monitor's integration of the horn's dynamic envelope, timbre, and harmonics inspired me to scribble in my notes: "That's a trumpet!"

"The RX6's high-frequency purity nicely dovetailed with its perfect rendition of crisp, clean, fast transients on recordings with percussive content."

"The Silver RX6's reproduction of bass was also superb. Dave Holland's double-bass intro to Kevin Eubanks's "Nemesis," from Holland's Extensions (CD, ECM 1410), was warm and three-dimensional throughout the instrument's entire range."

"The Monitor's high-level dynamic performance was exceptional, especially for a speaker of this size and price, so I subjected it to the Ellen Test: The closing passage of "Mansour's Gift," from my jazz quartet Attention Screen's Live at Merkin Hall (CD, Stereophile STPH018-2), has a triple-forte crash of piano, bass, and drums that probably spans a wider dynamic range than any other of John Atkinson's recordings for the Stereophile label. I put the recording on at a normal listening level for the piece, then wait for the crash. If my wife, Ellen, runs into the room screaming "Turn that down!", I know the speaker has passed the test. The Silver RX6 passed, with flying colors."

"The Silver RX6 was also a party speaker that could handle loud rock."

"The Monitor was also a great home-theater speaker."

"Despite the advances made in affordable speakers in the six years since I reviewed Monitor Audio's Silver RS6, its replacement, the Silver RX6, excelled in every parameter by today's standards, demonstrating a broad range of strengths and no weaknesses... It was an ideal match for every type of music, from delicate female voices and jazz trios to bombastic orchestral and electronic rock music. And its small footprint, attractive but unassuming appearance, and clean, extended bass performance make it an ideal home-theater speaker: one that obviates the need for a subwoofer. I can't think of another affordable speaker that better meets such a broad range of needs."

Robert J. Reina
Stereophile, June 2012

"Monitor Audio's Silver RX6 offers superb measured performance, supporting BJR's high opinion of its sound quality, at a very affordable price."

John Atkinson
Stereophile, June 2012



» Silver RX8, RX Center, RAFX, RXW-12 (RX8 System Review)

"Turning Silver Into Gold"

"More so that most mid-priced speaker systems I've sampled, Monitor Audio's Silver RX system is capable of sounding like a much higher-end (and higher-priced) system than it really is. Part of the system's inherent goodness revolves around its exceedingly accurate and neutral tonal balance. But accurate tonal balance is only part of the story, because the Silver RX8 also offers excellent transient speed and astonishingly high levels of resolution and detail. Put these factors together and you've got a system that can really dig down deep into good recordings to retrieve layer upon layer of musical or cinematic detail that most systems at this price would either soften or miss altogether."

"The Silver RX8 system handles both large and small-scale dynamic contrasts in a very lively and expressive way – something you'll appreciate when, say, a movie soundtrack presents whispered, low-level dialog and then abruptly transitions to introduce louder sounds. The RX8 system comes across as offering high levels of refinement and detail served up with a real spirit of energy and gusto – a complementary combination of virtues indeed."

"Maybe the biggest surprise of all came in listening to Lenny White play a swooping and elaborate fill on his drum kit, punctuating the fill with hard, sharp shot to his snare drum and a big floor-mounted tom-tom. The Silver RX8 system simply nailed the sound tight 'skin' sounds of the snare drum head and the deep 'pop' and bounce of the floor tom. I don't think I've ever heard a mid-priced surround system do a more realistic rendition of the sound of live drums in action."

"I found the overall level of realism the Silver RX8 system achieved to be pretty mind blowing. Let's put it this way: I've heard of more costly systems that could not do as well as this one did. I would say that it is not just a little but rather a lot better than the Silver RS8 system it replaces – a system that really turns sonic silver into gold."

Chris Martens
Playback / AVGuide.com
December 2009



SILVER RX

HI-FI CHOICE

PASSION FOR SOUND



» Silver RX1

"It set up a warm, spacious groove, almost as if the music had slowed down and you could hear into the mix more (always a good sign, as it's not blurring the notes)."

"I suddenly found myself able to lock on to individual strands better, and enjoy following the maracas and tomtom work. Suddenly I wasn't just hearing notes either; they had differing amounts of dynamic articulation; things weren't all shouting at me."

"Bass was stronger perhaps than all the others here, yet tuneful and less prone to signposting the cabinet's boxiness. Treble was spacious, delicate and crisp, carrying all the harmonics from a trumpet..."

"...that monster bassline didn't detract from a beautiful wash of synth sound further up the frequency range. It sparkled away, scything through the morass of thick bass."

"Overall then, a deeply impressive performer, on every possible level."

David Price, Hi-Fi Choice, July 2012

HOME THEATER

» Silver RX8, RX Center, RX1, RXW-12 (RX8 System Review)



"Bringing Home The Silver"

"The gorgeous Rosenut veneer on our samples is the best simulation of genuine rosewood I've ever seen. Magnets buried beneath the veneer hold the grilles in place, so there's no visible grille-attachment hardware."

"...the bass from the Monitor system was as impressive as any I've heard in my listening room."

"The RX8's neutral midrange lacks any identifiable coloration, and its high end sparkles with detail. It's a lively, arresting sound, with no false emphasis anywhere."

"...with the Silver RX speakers and sub, firing on all cylinders, orchestral soundtrack scores sounded spectacular."

"From vocals to drum kit to piano and instrumental shadings of all varieties in between, the sound through the Monitor system was luscious."



"No single piece of material I auditioned blew me away more than the opening 15 minutes of Star Trek (2009). Music, effects, dialogue, and bass all came together in a spectacular way. Even at the highest playback level I could stand, the sound was highly detailed and never grating."

"...I can say that for less than half the price of a pair of PL300s alone, this Silver RX system is a very special value—and an incredible ride."

Tom Norton,
Home Theater Magazine,
July 2010

Hi-fi news

PURE AUDIO EXCELLENCE

» Silver RX8

"If your main concern is value for money, then it would seem you need to look no further than the Monitor Audio Silver RX8s."

"The Silver RX8s are superbly dynamic, punchy and love to play loud."

"...the bass offered superlative levels of grip, punch and detail, even edging ahead of the impressively capable Tannoys in this respect."

"Detail retrieval was excellent right across the midband and the Monitor Audios were equally capable of creating an expansive soundstage, populated with believable performers."

"The Silver RX8s rounded things off with a treble that was sleek, crisp and vivid."

"Bass weight and detail was not a problem for the Monitor Audios. These had both in spades thanks to their proliferation of drive units and three way configuration, and they loved to be played loud and hard. Fortunately, when everything was reined back they continued to impress with their neutrality, clarity and sheer musicality."

"Build quality was absolutely first-class and the sleek cabinets house a very intelligent driver and port design. They also romp home with the 'most speaker for your money' award."

Hi-Fi News, February 2013



AWARDS



www.monitoraudio.ca
www.monitoraudiousa.com

The Perfect Vision

» Bronze BX5, BX Center, BX FX, BXW 10 (BX5 System Review)



The Bronze Age Returns

"An equally strong element in Monitor's corporate identity is a laudable commitment to value... Nowhere is this commitment more obvious than in the firm's new "entry level" Bronze BX-series speakers".

"Bronze BX models frankly do not look or sound like "entry level" products at all."

"Bronze BX models offer an unusual degree of overall refinement and especially sonic coherency for their price - a quality that I've rarely heard so well executed in speakers in this price range."

"The imaging characteristics of the Bronze models are astonishingly good."

"The Bronze BX models sound more like the Silver RX range than not and for only a fraction of the price meaning that the Bronze BX offers superb sonic value for money."

"The Bronzes conveyed qualities of spaciousness and dynamic expansiveness as few small systems can."

"But what I didn't see coming was the seemingly effortless and almost offhand grace and ease with which the Bronze BX system would capture the voices and stage positions of the instruments used by the quartet."

"The sound of the vibes, as presented by the Bronze BX system, is simply gorgeous."

"The Bronze RX system represents a deliberate and methodical attempt on Monitor Audio's part to build an "entry level" speaker system that in many (indeed, perhaps most) respects sounds more like a very sophisticated mid-priced speaker system. It is, quite simply, a brilliant success. The longer you listen to this system, the more "right" it sounds, and for not a lot of money."

Chris Martens, The Perfect Vision, June 2011

WHAT HI-FI? SOUND AND VISION



» Bronze BX2

"We've long been fans of Monitor Audio's BX2s. They've always been such well-rounded products, as though the people behind them have spent months ironing out any weaknesses, and then months more honing things further."

"No rival we've reviewed feels so solid or is finished to such a high standard."

"These Monitor Audios sound terrific. They have the kind of mature sonic balance that favours long-term satisfaction over the short-term ability to impress at a dealer demo."

"Give them a good long listen and you'll find they deliver an impressive amount of detail. We've yet to come across a rival that can replay Debussy's *Clair De Lune* with such finesse. The speaker's dynamic subtlety is pleasing, as is the bass authority."

"Move onto the music of REM and these speakers excel, delivering *Losing My Religion* with impact and drive."

What Hi-Fi? Sound and Vision, October 2012



WHAT HI-FI? SOUND AND VISION



» Bronze BX5

Bronzes Get A Gold Star!

"Low frequencies enjoy good extension and control, and throughout the frequency range drive-unit integration is smooth, tonality is delightfully neutral and detail is abundant. The BX5s are adept at timing recordings both simple and complex, and there's a degree of effortlessness about their performance that's hard not to admire, especially at this price."

"They are, however, the easiest £500-ish floorstanders to live with we've heard in a good while - which is why these elegant Monitor Audios score the full five stars."

What HiFi? Sound and Vision, September 2010

BRONZE BX & MR

SOUND+VISION
CERTIFIED & RECOMMENDED

» Bronze BX2, BX FX, BX Center, BXW 10 (BX2 System Review)

Super Sonic Value: "Monitor Audio's Affordable, Awesome Speaker Package"

"I began listening as always with 2-channel music, running the Bronze BX2s full-range. And the longer I listened, the more impressed I became by their unforced musicality and easy, natural dynamics."

"And the treble demands were met effortlessly: Horn attacks and drum transients sounded uniformly excellent."

"The Monitor Audio supporting cast, comprising the BX Center and BXFX surrounds, provided solidly, unspectacularly competent reproduction - with the latter characterization meant in the best way."

"The center-channel unit made an unusually close match with the BX2s and, when auditioned on-axis (from the center seating location), created a truly seamless "front stage."

"The Monitor Audio array turned out to have plenty of reserves for louder fare like *Godzilla* - and the little BXW10 proved itself a gamer, willingly laying down a surprisingly solid basis for footballs, crashing buildings, and other assorted mayhem."

"(Monitor Audio) should be proud to have produced a very well-balanced, highly musical, and attractive layout that delivers honest value and then some. The whole BX layout we tested adds up to just a bit over \$1,900, but it holds its own as compared with plenty of systems I've heard that are half again as costly."

Daniel Kumin, Sound+Vision, February-March 2011

SOUND+VISION

» Bronze BX1

"The Monitor Audio Bronze BX1 looks like a high-end product."

"Over and over, the panelists described the BX1's sound as "flat", but they meant that as a compliment. They meant flat in terms of frequency response, i.e., without any peaks and dips that color the sound."

"This is an all-around good speaker. It works really well on rock, pop, acoustic music... almost anything."

"I felt that the BX1's tweeter was definitely the best in this bunch, the only one that showed not a trace of edginess. It was also in perfect balance with the woofer; Monitor's engineers nailed the crossover on this speaker."

"A neutral sound that treats any kind of music with respect. If that's what you want, the BX1 will provide."

Brent Butterworth
Sound+Vision, April 2013



www.monitoraudio.ca
www.monitoraudiousa.com

CANADA HiFi

» MR4, MR1, MR Center & MRW-10 (MR Series 5.1 System Review)

"The polished look of the black oak vinyl suits a variety of décor and is easy to clean."

"The MR1 bookshelf speaker is attractive in appearance and size. It has a solid feel because of its rigid cabinet bracing and it looks just as good, with the grills on or off, as its larger siblings."

"The subwoofer is surprisingly small for the big sound it delivers, outputting frequencies cleanly down to about 30 Hz."

"...vocal clarity was convincingly good — in fact much better than I would expect from a speaker at this price point."

"Immediately I noticed a greatly wider and immersive soundstage on all recordings as well as a much tighter and focussed centre image. The music seemed to move around more, feel more fluid and had room to breathe."

"The MR4 speakers had no difficulties turning my room into a concert hall and delivered the appropriate reverberation and liveliness of the great musicians on stage."

"The loud rock of *"Marilyn Manson: Guns, God, and Government Live in L.A."* pumped out full-on aggression and sounded very dynamic."

"The MRW-10 subwoofer blended very well with the mains and did not disappoint. Where the MR4 and MR1 rolled off, the MRW-10 took over seamlessly. The subwoofer, seemingly endless in output in moderate sized rooms, seemed to transform the MR4 into an entirely different speaker."

"The Monitor Audio MR Series offers a great step forward for those looking for an immersive sound experience from a non-domination speaker system at a very reasonable price point."

"I can honestly say that this system would beat most speakers that you'd find in a big box store, even those sold at significantly higher price points. These speakers are particularly well suited for movie and surround music discs, and come with a subwoofer that's tight without much overhang or distortion."

"When good appearances and sound come together as one in an affordable package - everyone wins!"

Suave Kajko
Canada HiFi Magazine, September 2012



WHAT HI-FI? SOUND AND VISION

» Apex Series

“Large-scale sound; no-nonsense looks; good integration; plenty of punch.”

“Apex doing a great job of placing instruments on the stage around you in space.”

“But the overall impression is one of big standmounters rather than bijou style speakers.”

“It’s a luxurious proposition, this system. ...its sonic character and build do elevate it above the competition.”

“It’s well worth every one of its five stars, too, ... it has the best all-round satellite speakers of its similarly priced peers.”

What HiFi? Sound and Vision, October 2011

WHAT HI-FI? SOUND AND VISION

» Apex 5.1 System: A10, A40, AW-12

For: Excellent sound, fine styling, clever design, luxurious build.

Against: Nothing to note.

“Looks good, sounds even better.”

“...the Apex system delivers. It’s gorgeously styled and expertly assembled.”

“What sets the Apex apart is its sonic prowess - which is considerable.”

“Key to that is the quality of both the cabinets, inert all-metal enclosures and the drive units.”

“This sophisticated design helps the Apex deliver an articulate and reassuringly powerful sound even when listened to in isolation.”

“When the ensemble is underpinned by the stentorian efforts of the AW-12 subwoofer, a compact yet muscular bassmaker, the result is sound that more than matches Monitor Audio’s lofty aspirations. It’s muscular when called upon, but articulate and beautifully integrated too.”



“As a result, it plays music almost as well as it relays film sound, capturing both vocal intonation and instrumental detail with relish.”

“The Monitor Audio Apex is a remarkable newcomer. Why spend more than £2000? Easy: you could have all this...”

Verdict: An expensive style system, to be sure, but also a fabulous one.

What HiFi? Sound and Vision August 2010

WHAT HI-FI? SOUND AND VISION



» Radius R90HT1 System: R90, R200 Center, R390 Subwoofer

“The sum of these separate parts is a system that works together beautifully. Integration between fronts, rears and the sub is seamless.”

“The surround field is gapless, effects flow between channels effortlessly and you’re immersed in the action.”

“Dialogue through the centre channel is clear and communicative.”

“We’ve heard enough bass boxes to know that they can often be the Achilles’ heel of 5.1 systems, but not the 390. It displays a potent combination of precision and weight with no fear of bottoming out or losing its grip.”

“And the Radius speakers work wonders with music, whether you’re playing a CD or listening to a multichannel music Blu-ray. Spin Michael Jackson’s *Beat It* and there’s a solid bassline, a great sense of timing and impressive dynamic clout.”

“We highly recommend it.”

What Hi-Fi? Sound and Vision, August 2013

» Radius R-one-HD

“Despite it doing the work of three home cinema speakers, this speaker-excels... we were able to discern impressive separation in a multichannel mix.”

“...the accuracy of treble detailing and a wide mid-range allows a lot of detail through... this beautifully built speaker is worth considering... An awesomely high build quality and peerless audio.”

LOVE

- Build quality
- Saves on speaker clutter
- Ideal for home cinemas

Jamie Carter
T3.com, February 2012



APEX & RADIUS

CANADA HiFi

» Radius HD 5.1 System: R270HD, R250HD, R90HD, R370HD

"The degree to which the slender R270HD towers and compact sub opened up my room was astonishing. I saw portions of my walls I haven't seen in two years."

"I was immediately struck by the clarity and crispness of the Radius HD's tweeters. Delicate high frequency sounds like the glass breaking as the Comedian goes through the window in the opening scene and the water rushing off Nite Owl's Owlship were extremely detailed, without being overbearing, sharp or piercing."

"The R225HD centre channel in particular impressed me, delivering true, natural sounding dialogue, without any of the characters sounding boxed-in or tinny."

"...very even, consistent sound field, with panning sounds being extremely consistent and not changing in tone as they moved around the room."

"The level of detail the Radius HDs displayed, especially in the high frequencies, really brought the award-winning mix of music and effects present in this album to life."

"...if I had been wearing a blindfold during testing, not once in a million years would I have guessed that these speakers were as small as they actually were. I found their performance to be impressive both with music and film."

Canada HiFi, March 2010

About.com

» Radius R90HD Mini and R360HD Subwoofer

"My first thoughts about the Monitor Audio R90HD Mini Monitors and the R360HD subwoofer are refined, elegant and finely made – even cute. From the finely polished real wood veneer, gold-plated binding post speaker connectors and excellent fit and finish, the Mini Monitor system exudes quality."



"...the Monitor Audio R90HD speakers sound like a larger bookshelf speaker and comfortably blend into almost any room décor."

"In short, the Mini-Monitors are rich-looking speakers with sound quality that matches or exceeds many bookshelf speakers I've tested and are a great value."

about.com, July 2009

WHAT HI-FI? SOUND AND VISION

» Radius R90HD10 System: R90HD, R180HD, R370HD

"The first thing to love about the Radius speakers is the way they look. The traditional shape gives the compact units a more grown-up look than the vast majority of rivals (a trait that can be enhanced by opting for one of the optional wood finishes)..."

Seamless integration

"In action the Radius package is equally lovable. The R90HD satellites hook-up with the R180HD centre perfectly, creating a seamless surround field that's substantial enough to fill even a very large room, and seemingly go beyond the confines of a smaller one."

"The R370HD sub plays its part, with terrific depth and punch lending all the necessary solidity to the big exhausts and bigger crashes of The Fast & Furious."

What HiFi? Sound and Vision Awards 2009, Best Style

RADIUS HD VOTED Europe's Best Home Theater Speaker SYSTEM

The prestigious European Imaging and Sound Association (EISA), comprising the editors of Europe's leading home entertainment magazines, has honoured Monitor Audio's Radius HD sat/sub systems with its European Home Theatre Loudspeaker 2009-2010 Award.



Europe's Best Home Theater Speaker SYSTEM



www.monitoraudio.ca
www.monitoraudiousa.com

SOUND & VISION



» MASS 10, MASS Center, MASS W200 (MASS 5.1 System Review)

"I was startled to hear how well the MASS system conveyed the track's dynamics and wall-of-sound mix: the drums had a thunderous effect that I could literally feel press against my chest, while the droning guitars sounded appropriately dense and spacious."

"Even so, singer Jónsi's fragile countertenor cut through the chaos with its smooth texture intact, and subtle details like a ringing, repetitive piano could be heard amidst the more prominent layers of percussion and guitar."

"Listening to this cut, I noticed that the multiple layers of bells from a keyboard-controlled carillon had a full quality, with natural-sounding decay. Heard via the Monitor 2.1 configuration, the spatial positioning of the bells in the sound field was entirely convincing, while the track's hypnotic bass-and-beats foundation was low-reaching and taut."

"Despite the system's reasonable cost, there was nothing "budget" about the W200 sub's sound; it had both the definition and the extension characteristic of much more expensive models."

"MASS packed a strong dynamic wallop, and it cleanly delineated between the kick drum and the bass guitar in the same manner that impressed me during my time with the Gold GX system."

"Background vocals and percussion instruments had a solid trajectory as they panned from the left/right surrounds to the front speakers."

"Dipping into recent Blu-rays to find a scene to show what MASS could do with movies, I cued up one from *The Bourne Legacy* in which a CIA drone targets the safe house that renegade agent Aaron Cross (Jeremy Renner) holes up in. The arc of the missile as it seemed to travel from the back of my room to the front was rendered vividly by the MASS sats, and the impact of the subsequent explosion was solid, with convincing low-end rumble."

"Dialogue sounded both clear and full over a range of seats."

"With MASS, not only will they get a full 5.1 system at an affordable price, but once they cart it home, set it up, and power it on, the experience is sure to exceed their expectations — and not by a small degree, either."

Al Griffin
Sound & Vision,
September 2013

» MASS 10, MASS Center, MASS W200 (MASS 5.1 System Review)

"The satellites are compact, but solidly made and feel weighty in the hand."

"There's an immediate and wonderful sense of grandness to the MASS sound."

"The sense of scale from the Monitor Audio package is astounding, and gradual shifts in dynamics are handled with more ease by the MASS system, resulting in an engaging experience with whatever film you're watching."

"What struck us immediately was the sense of scale and power — for such petite speakers, we were blown away by the big and confident output of sound."

"Our testing rooms were engulfed in seamless, controlled soaring dynamics. It's not just the magnitude of the sound, but also the amount of detail it's able to convey that really impressed us."

"The gradual build up of anticipation before the Enterprise's first outing is stunning, and there's a sense of grandness that accompanies the epic score to its full effect."

"It does creditably well with stereo music as well."

"...we haven't heard anything better at this price."

"For the money, it delivers heaps of atmosphere and detail — you'll be endlessly entertained."

What Hi-Fi? Sound and Vision
November 2012



MASS & SHADOW

DownunderAudio.com

» MASS 10, MASS Center, MASS W200 (MASS 5.1 System Review)

"The company's new MASS home cinema system breaks that boxy mold for a more streamlined, decor-friendly silhouette that's as sexy as it is industrial yet cutting edge at the same time."

"What impressed me is how these speakers can combine subtlety in music and great dynamics in one package."

"The low-frequency sound effect coupled with music as Merida enters the stone enclave and when the sound building up to create tension of the casting of the spell with a split second of silence just before the explosion is truly impressive. I didn't expect both subtlety and dynamic can go one right after another with such ease."

"The natural sound of rain falling all around to create a feeling of shelter is expansive and realistic while the steering of the singing travelling into the center channel, leading us into a scene from the past, and then bringing us back out by returning to the surrounds and disappearing into the distance is remarkable."

"The Reverb in Merida's voice after she falls into the throne room was reproduced with amazing subtlety and details."

"As Mor'du attacks, his sound—voice, feet, claws, breathing—follow his location. The use of subwoofer and different channels to place emphasis on the ominous and large presence of this behemoth is not something that just any sub-sat speakers can handle. In fact most of them just can't whereas the MASS 5.1 can do it without breaking a sweat."

"Overall, the MASS 5.1 is quite an amazing set of speakers; they are uncannily adept at conveying fine detail. It's a very engaging and immersive system, and its incisive tone is well suited to atmospheric soundtracks. The fast timing and expressive mid-band is perfect for acoustic music and most soundtracks delivered to them."

David Susilo
DownunderAudio.com, March 2013

HOME CINEMA
Choice

"I believe Monitor Audio's MASS system is destined to be a good seller."

» MASS 10, MASS Center, MASS W200 (MASS 5.1 System Review)

"The MASS 5.1 system gives a good account of itself, easily justifying the price tag. As you'd expect given the satellites homogenous nature, there's a smooth sound on show here as material moves around the soundstage. The overriding impression is one of clean high-frequencies and fulsome mid-range."

"Lynyrd Skynyrd's *Greatest Hits* (CD) oozes out of the MAs with foot-tapping panache; the rhythm section unmuddled and tight, the percussive *tocks* and *tings* cleanly picked out."

"Bestowed with fantastic amounts of computer-derived bass, track like *Hocus Pocus* give the MA woofer a chance to flex its muscles, dropping deep and, essentially, turning your living room into a seedy nightclub. It's absolutely awesome."

"...the sound is crisp, detailed and utterly immersive."

"Overall, Monitor Audio's newest product lineup is the perfect partner for a mid-range AVR in a living room cinema setup. Everything from the build quality and design to movie and (sub-assisted) music performance impresses."

Home Cinema Choice, February 2013



www.monitoraudio.ca
www.monitoraudiousa.com



SOUND+VISION

» Shadow Series

"The Shadows sounded really clean at a moderate volume, so I decided to keep turning up the volume until the distortion became uncomfortable. Up and up the level climbed, but the distortion didn't appear. Eventually, I ran out of ammo... my SPL meter reading 106 dB from my listening chair. Yet the Shadows still sounded clear and dynamic."



"I couldn't believe how spacious the sound was.

Not only did I get up and go over to the left surround to make sure it wasn't on, I actually pressed my ear up to it, unable to accept that I was getting such a spacious sound from a pair of on-walls."

"The Monitor Audio Shadow series speakers play really loud and sound really good. Yeah, on-walls are still a compromise, but when you hear these, I think you'll agree that the compromise is minimal."

PLUS:

- Excellent volume output for their size.
- Sleek, décor-friendly design.

VERDICT:

A super-slim set of on-wall speakers that plays loud, clean, and clear.

Brent Butterworth
Sound+Vision, December 2012



HOME ENTERTAINMENT

» 300 Custom Install Series (W380LCR & C380FX)

"The W380LCR and the C380FX speakers have a signature timbre I've heard in other Monitor Audio loudspeakers."

"The Monitor Audio system sounded very natural. The music in the action sequences immersed the viewer in the suspense and the speakers created a very convincing soundfield with excellent dialog clarity."



"The Monitor Audio Series 300 in-wall/in-ceiling speakers offer great performance and real value. They have a musical sound quality that will likely please the ears of casual and critical listeners alike."

Home Entertainment Magazine



» Trimless Series

"Blending precision engineering with excellent technological and design innovation, the five-strong CWT 'Trimless' series speakers have been created to raise the level of audio and installation performance. Having a physical depth of less than 4", the CWT models are ideal for standard stud walls and where depth is restricted, offering a near invisible easy-to-install format. Overall size is much smaller than similar in-ceiling products, while still featuring 4", 6" and 8" driver sizes."



Monitor Audio

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

» Controlled Performance Series (CP Gold IC & IW)

"I see immediately that the CP Golds feature better drivers than most in-wall and in-ceiling speakers do."

"Indeed, the CP Golds achieve far better sound quality than most other in-walls."

"Would it be too much to say that the Monitor Audio CP Gold In-Walls and In-Ceilings are the speakers that the world has been waiting for?"



"... they are definitely speakers that I have been waiting for - and I know many music aficionados, movie fans and custom installers will agree."

Brent Butterworth
Home Entertainment Magazine



» SoundFrame SF1

"Very impressive, and a good alternative to conventional cabinet speakers."

"These are well-made, well-finished units."

"They'll surprise with the reach and agility of their bass, while their clever drive unit arrangement ensures that imaging, even when the speakers are some way above your seat, is excellent."

"We can't see any reason not to select the SoundFrame 1s. In any case, at the price they're an attractive proposition."

"Smooth, spacious sound; good weight; excellent build and finish; comparative value"

What HiFi? Sound and Vision
February 2012



CI & SOUNDFRAME

**Trusted
Reviews**

» SoundFrame Series & R370HD



"SoundFrame is a flat speaker system designed to blend harmoniously with your décor, and thanks to the selection of fashionable grilles it really will make a stunning addition to any room. But it's more than a pretty face, delivering astonishingly smooth and powerful sound"

"But as you'd expect from a respected audiophile brand like Monitor Audio, SoundFrame is much more than just a pretty face. The same audio tech found in the company's full-size speakers has been squeezed into these slender picture frame-sized enclosures, which means there should be plenty of substance behind the style."

"Pretty they may be, but the style is backed up by stunning build quality."

"What's more, the Radius 370HD subwoofer is quite possibly the most stylish we've encountered. That's primarily due to the achingly gorgeous black lacquer finish, but the convenient top-mounted silver control panel and curved corners are the icing on the cake."

"Never mind comparing SoundFrame with other flatpanel speakers – these bad boys put many floorstanders to shame. Their sound quality is sensational, and leaves you wondering how they're able to imbue movies with such an amazing sense of depth and authority given the slimness of the cabinets."

"The SF1s and SF2s boast power in spades and achieve an awe-inspiring sense of scale with action sequences."

"But what's most impressive is how smooth it all sounds. Effects glide around the soundstage like butter on a hot knife, high frequencies never grate (even the screech as the Elemental flings a car at a helicopter) and there's a general fluidity and sophistication to the sound."

"Also impressive is the sense of cohesion across the whole system. Each speaker is perfectly matched to the others, and even the Radius 370HD sub –

the nominal black sheep of this family – seems tailor made for the SoundFrame speakers, lending tight, intense yet beautifully integrated bass."

"Add to that the rich and distinctive voice reproduction, insightful detail and silky music playback and you've got a real winner on your hands."

Verdict

Monitor Audio's SoundFrame series is not only innovative and stylish but also a wonderful performer, delivering a logic-defying sense of scale and power that puts many full-sized speakers to shame. The range of grille options is a great idea, bringing with it a sense of fun, while build quality is superb...if you want a system that blends seamlessly with your décor then SoundFrame is money well spent.

Danny Phillips
Trusted Reviews, October 2011

**Residential
Systems**

» SoundFrame Series

"The SoundFrame both complements slim video displays and also adds its own element of stylish room design with a selection of distinctive frames and customizable grille cloths."

"With only 3.5 inches of depth, the SoundFrame speaker is unobtrusive, whether mounted on a wall or flush into standard cavity wall construction and is simple to install either way."

"A high-gloss, lacquer frame further contributes to the aesthetically pleasing design."



According to Sheldon Ginn, VP of Sales & Marketing for Kevro, "I think what makes SoundFrame special is a collection of things, including its discreet, yet stylish appearance, Monitor Audio's proprietary driver technology, the MDF back boxes that provide a controlled performance every time, and the selection of grille options, which allow clients to use their own choice of images for a true custom product."

Lindsey Adler
Residential Systems
October 2011

AWARDS



www.monitoraudio.ca
www.monitoraudiousa.com

AIRSTREAM



» Airstream WS100

"The Monitor Audio WS100s sound really good... They sound surprisingly full-bodied considering they're rated at 80Hz - 25kHz."

"The WS100s sound, in a word, fun... the very clever in-built hinged stands provide just the right amount of tilt to deliver that surprisingly full-bodied sound to your ears."

"I find them well-balanced and engaging and the Wi-Fi worked flawlessly in-room as advertised. And they look good, especially with like designed computers."

"If you are looking for a small, attractive, good-sounding, reasonably-priced powered wireless speaker with a built-in DAC and stands for near-field listening, I would send you to Monitor Audio and their WS100s in a heart beat."

Michael Lavorgna
AudioStream.com, November 2012

truly
gadgets

» Airstream WS100

"Installation is easier than any other desktop speaker system you've ever used."

"These are the best 2.0 speakers this size that we've heard, with lush and vibrant mids and surprisingly present highs."

"We played through around a hundred hours of music and movies, and found few instances where we were anything less than impressed."

"Nothing was ever harsh, and acoustic tracks (think B.B. King) had appropriate punch."

"Altogether, Monitor offers an easy, sleek, and winning package."

Greg May
TrulyGadgets.com, May 2013

SOUND+VISION

» Airstream WS100

"Monitor Audio's WS100 sports a streamlined design that will let it blend with most environments."

"With its fleshed-out, dynamic sound, the compact WS100 performs better than most desktop speakers I've encountered: Guitars and other acoustic instruments had texture and body, and drums sounded like actual drums."

"...the bass it does put out sounds tuneful and tight. And it plays loud! With the WS100 sitting on a desk 3 feet from your head, chances are you'll cry uncle and turn the volume down long before these speakers show signs of strain."

Al Griffin, Sound+Vision
November 2012



» Airstream A100

Winner of the **2013 Resi Award** from *Residential Systems*, the Airstream A100, a multi-zone wireless integrated stereo amplifier, is able to drive all but the largest of speakers by generating 50 watts of powerful Class A/B amplification per channel. With the A100, you'll be able to navigate the music collections on your Mac® or PC, iPhone®, iPad®, iPod touch® or from apps installed on your smartphone or tablet, and then stream uncompressed audio to your speakers in any room. Away from a WiFi router, you can still play to the A100 directly from your iOS device using AirPlay Direct.



» ASB-2 Soundbar

Winner of the **Excite Award** from *Technology Integrator*, the new Monitor Audio ASB-2 Soundbar combines a high performance, powered audio system with the latest wireless streaming technologies including AirPlay, in a beautifully engineered design. The ASB-2 will deliver audiophile quality sound from Blu-rays, DVDs, game consoles, STBs, and high end sound (compliments of MA's proprietary C-CAM driver technology) from tablets, smartphones, computers and even from CD's! The sleekly curved ASB-2 offers an irresistible blend of size-defying performance, easy-to-install lifestyle appeal and comprehensive fuss-free functionality.



» Airstream WS100

"And they sound great... there's impressive scale for speakers so small."

"Timing is good, while there's impressive punch and detail."

"Bass notes go deep and remain clear and controlled. Turn the WS100s up and not only will you be impressed by the volume and clarity, you'll really notice the punch and dynamics."



"Wireless music delivery gives you added flexibility, and audio performance remains impressive. There's little drop-off in sound quality, and the connection proves solid, suffering no drop-outs or instability even in our listening rooms, which are surrounded by more wireless networks and devices than the average home or office."

"These Monitor Audio WS100 speakers remain a great set of stylish, compact and excellent-sounding desktop speakers, with the added flexibility of wireless connectivity. They come highly recommended."

"The perfect size for such a product, nicely styled with a neat design feature, and offering wireless streaming, they're the complete desktop speaker on paper. And they seal the deal with superb sound that defies their dimensions."

What Hi-Fi? Sound and Vision, April 2013

www.monitoraudio.ca
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design for sound