

TEST

Mit Musik-CD
80 Min. – Super-Klang

www.audio.de Deutschland 5,30 €

AUDIO

HIFI · SURROUND · HIGH END · MUSIK



06/2011

HECO

Victa 301

AUDIO

TEST WINNER

COMPACT LOUDSPEAKERS 06/11

+ An effectively coordinated speaker



TESTWINNER

"The degree of scepticism among our editorial staff was significant given the price range that encompasses these three compact speakers. Prices between 200 and 260 Euro per pair immediately seem to be a red flag that discounts any kind of high-fidelity approach in the development stage. But on the other hand, the numerous application possibilities offered by the three newcomers make us really curious... These reasonably priced shelf speakers lend themselves ideally to new student digs due to the generally perceived low household budget. The new box has to be able to withstand countless parties stretching over many semesters - i.e. its audio configuration, despite the low budget, needs to be solid, which is clearly a trait of a branded speaker. These speakers are also just as suitable for use in children's bedrooms, as well as for playing music in a study. Naturally they are also apt for all other areas that are devoid of music - it makes no difference whether they have their own a small, separate hifi system, or whether the music signal is generated by the zone 2 output of a potent AV-receiver in the living room. One or other of our test candidates can even be docked to create surround speakers, thereby reproducing the spatial information incorporated in multi-channel sound. The operating fields are even more diverse than they appear at first glance.

High-End-Flair

Heco's 220 Euro Victa 301 series really draws attention to itself with its slim, tapered housing, whose special shape is facilitated by slotted MDF that can be bent to a certain degree. The curved appearance of the unit belies its enormous depth of 31 centimetres. It creates an internal volume of around 13 litres, which is twice as much as the Boston unit. In terms of diameter the woofer's paper cone is on par with the Teufel driver. It also features four large ventilation slots in the basket that not only cool the voice coil, but also decompress the space behind the centre spider. Pole core ventilation is likewise present. A special feature of the tweeter is the slightly more pronounced horn attachment in its silver plastic panel. The high-pass filter separates at 18dB per octave, while the 12dB low-pass filter has been modified with an R-C element parallel to the coil, in a similar configuration to the Boston unit. Heco's speaker is the only one in the test field to

offer a bi-wiring terminal, which allows the bi-amping capability offered by modern AV receivers to be utilised if required.

Three target groups

The Heco unit takes the golden middle ground in the listening area. It did not quite attain the harmonious and natural overall image produced by the Boston, but it breathed more vitality into tracks, such as Katie Melua's "Ghost Town", which left you subconsciously tapping your foot to the reggae beat. The Boston depicted the contours here with a sharp pencil, while the Heco seemed to generate a larger aura - almost as if the contours had been painted with an airbrush. These fundamental differences were evident with all musical genres: The Boston always remained down to earth with a slight degree of displacement, while the Heco sounded more candid, robust and lively. It wasn't quite as accurate in reproducing the vocals of Xavier Naidoo in "Alles lebt", but it did provide a more powerful tone and a breath of fresh air with more pep and liveliness. It earned its 61 sound points fair and square - mainly thanks to a large dose of vitality and charm. "



"Detailed work: Four wide openings in the metal basket cool the voice coil of the 17 cm bass driver, while a clear horn attachment supports the tweeter."

In the test field: Boston (A 25), Teufel (Ultima 20), Heco (Victa 301)