



Audio Physic Avantera Floorstanding Loudspeaker Reviewed

By: Terry London, November 3, 2011

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HTR Product Rating

Performance

Value

Overall

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High Points

- The Avantera possesses a level of transparency and seamless sound rarely heard or produced by a multi-driver loudspeaker.
- The Avantera is able to playback micro-details and information that is often not heard with **speakers** through speakers with higher noise floors.
- The Avantera creates a huge and precisely layered soundstage that fills the room and brings the listener into the ambience of the space where the recording was originally done.
- The Avantera offers tremendous dynamics and a bottom end that is accurate and blends with great cohesion with midrange frequencies.

Low Points

- The Avantera is not an especially hard speaker to position in your listening space, but to get it to perform optimally will take time, patience and effort to get the right spot for them to "sing."
- The Avantera is truly an "open window" to what signal is being sent to it. So the upstream gear has to be of a reference level; otherwise, any weaknesses will be exposed.
- The Avnatera will sound their best with higher watt amplifiers that offer high current ability; therefore, this rules out amps with low current loading.



Competition and Comparison

The major competitors based both on price and performance would be either the Vienna Acoustics "The Music" which is valued at \$27,000.00 or the **Wilson Audio Sasha W/P**, which is valued at \$27,900.00. Both of these speakers are above sonic reproach and offer reference level performance. However, I believe that the Avantera, with a smaller physical footprint, edge out both these speakers in the areas of transparency, micro-details and seamlessness between the drivers along with more explosive dynamics and a lower noise floor.

Conclusion

With the Avantera, Audio Physic has joined the ranks of some of the most highly regarded speaker manufacturers on the current high-end market. If you are the type of music listener that wants your speaker to give a pure path back to the source material, you will love the Avanteras.

I want to be very clear that the Avantera is not an analytical, ruthlessly over-detailed, cold or edgy speaker in its voicing. It's very precise and totally honest to the signal driving it with natural timbres and harmonics. Therefore, the upstream gear better be up to the task of providing quality information to this world-class speaker. Though I always stress that there is no "best" in high-end audio. Keeping in mind that my opinion is based on my personal taste and system synergy with that particular piece of equipment, I think that the Avantera is one of the best box enclosure speakers that I have ever heard at this lofty price level and urge you to put it on your audition list before you make your decision to purchase your next pair of speakers in this price range. Highly recommended.

Additional Resources

- Read [more floorstanding speaker reviews](#) from Home Theater Review's staff.
- Explore subwoofer options in our [Subwoofer Review section](#).
- Look for amps to drive the Avantera in our [Amplifier Review section](#).

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