



Floorstanding Loudspeaker of the Year

Joint winner: YG Acoustics Carmel 2 floorstanding loudspeaker

With build quality that would do military aircraft proud, YG Acoustics' Carmel 2 is an exceptionally well-made two-way floorstanding speaker that, despite its modest size, delivers sonic performance that would put any number of larger and/or more costly loudspeakers to shame. Part of the speakers' success involves their largely handmade drivers and the extraordinary quality of the parts (resistors, capacitors, inductors, and even machined—not printed—circuit boards) used in their crossover networks. But perhaps the biggest single factor influencing the Carmel 2's sound is the proprietary, Yoav Geva-developed CAD/CAM software used to design the speakers—software said to be the only design package of its kind that simultaneously optimises both frequency and phase response. The result is a very nearly full-range speaker ideal for use in small-to-mid-size listening rooms and one whose qualities of focus, resolution, soundstaging, and overarching neutrality are second to none. (Reviewed in Issue 128).

