



STAND-MOUNT LOUDSPEAKER OF THE YEAR

Audiovector R1 Arreté | Reviewed in Issue 176

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Audiovector's new R-Series is gaining a lot of friends. Still very new, the line has already developed a commanding reputation for being almost incapable of sounding bad in shows and demonstrations around the world. As before, Audiovector offers the R-Series in an upgradable good-better-best configuration across all its sizes, and we went with the best of the smallest model: the R1 Arreté. This two-way rear-ported stand-mount loudspeaker features Audiovector's own AMT tweeter, a cryo-treated crossover, and improved damping. Most significantly, it also features the company's Freedom grounding cable system first seen in its high-end R8 model. These elements combine to make a loudspeaker that is perfect for sophisticated small-room systems – especially those that feature the best of attainably-priced audio equipment – as it combines the fine imaging properties seemingly inherent to small stand-mount designs with a healthy amount of bass energy and drive that belie its size. The Freedom grounding throws the Audiovector's fine detail, good dynamic range, image focus and deep bass into sharp focus, too. And, best of all, it sounds enjoyable as well.

