

R8 Arreté (p.41)

A signature product · A volitional creation

Absolutely a signature product showing its technological contents! Its playback is highly expressive and precise which allowed me to receive more details and feel the emotions being transmitted through the speakers. Contrary to the pure analytical playback of monitors, this pair of speakers can be described as quite freewill in terms of expressing emotions. It should make it easier for one to find music with emotions in the middle of the interpretation....

A new member of the flagship series (p.42)

The arrival of the R8 Arreté denotes a technological upgrade and revolution from bottom to top. A Hi-end creation containing 40 years of speaker design and manufacturing experience, especially teardrop shaped speakers, with some design, technology, structure and materials applied on the R11 Arreté, as well as the brand's latest R&D results.

Crisscross carbon fibre weave in sandwich layers

The all-new Audiovector mid/low drive unit is debuted through the R8 Arreté, built with sandwich layers of crisscross carbon fibre weave....

Freedom Cable (p.44)

A brand new "Freedom" grounding system being applied on the R8 Arreté for the first time. ..

I had also tested both with and without the Freedom Cable and the switch, and the resulting difference in is so dramatic, a very big improvement! If one says that he could not hear the difference, or thinks that the Freedom Cable is not a "must use" item, then I would suggest him not to spend money on the R8 Arreté, or further, not to buy hi-fi equipment and save some money!

At a price of a around HK\$ 550,000 which is similar to the price of a pair of Octave Jubilee 300B power amplifiers, these two are quite a good match, both price-wise and performance-wise. Most importantly, I can hear more details and subtle changes during music playback.

Speaker placement is very simple; just setup the speakers and the listening position in an equilateral triangle...(p.45)

Sound presents the picture, the singer is up-close! (p.46)

Pairing with an integrated amplifier

With CH Precision I1 Universal integrated amp. ...R8 is easy to drive, a good integrated amp is capable of presenting all the merits of the speaker....We also used inakustik Reference 2404 XLR interconnect and also LS-804 pure copper speaker cables...

The R8 does not belong to the “pure listening to hi-fi” group of products, rather, it is something that one must feel and digest the music bit by bit, and taste the playback which **is full of dynamics, rich textures and vivid details.....difficult to criticize!**

(p.47)

The AMT unit of the R8 does not have redundant “SSSS” or interdental sound. No obvious coloration, not overly sharp nor bright, but very smooth and natural. The whole response spectrum is smooth and continuous throughout...

I am drawn to the R8. It can be a good companion to music lovers, and it allows one to listen to them for years and would still remain loyal. The R8 is very easy to drive, just a sonically matching integrated amp like the CH Precision I1 can pair with it to provide great music playbacks. Super music lovers must have a listening test on the R8 to find out its merits.

No. 1 choice for great sounding European furniture for luxurious homes in Hong Kong (p.48)

It's human nature to appreciate beautiful things, and thus most audiophile would focus on the look and finish of the speakers when they make purchase decisions, and the quality of the equipment would usually come second...

Since the average home in Hong Kong is relatively small, so for speakers, a smaller footprint is always more preferable, and then it should not be overly tall to look too imposing, especially to the lady of the house☺. Third, it should look nice and luxurious, and lastly it should be of a considerable value (such as HKD 500,000). The R8 Arreté can fulfill all the above conditions.

(p.49)

After listening to a selection of music CDs, my conclusion is that the R8 is best at playbacks of music rich in rhythm and dynamics. The R8's 6"+8" isobaric compound bass system can play below 100Hz down to 22Hz !

Audiovector R8 can fully demonstrate the CD, {{Psychoacoustics}}, its audiophile grade hi-fi quality and taste. With electronic bass as the foundation, the 3D music space is very dense. Music enters from left and right which has created a music space like looking into a kaleidoscope, and the sound stage is so huge that all the beauty, dynamics and sexiness of the music is being presented...

Discovering aesthetics between valleys and peaks (p.50 /51)

The golden color of the AMT drivers, and the glossy finish of the mid/low drivers imply that this is a new model.

The tone of the R8 makes one think of the Audi R8 – with a similar character, power, speed, energy, and dynamics but not directly onto one's face.

Quick response, and huge contrast in dynamics....very linear across the FR curve, no squeaking sound....

Playbacks. HF is rich and sweet, clean without irritations...no colorations, very pure, natural and effortless. Images on the soundstage are very vivid, and one can tell the approximate distance among them.

NO sharp edges but warmth and smoothness...the listener is totally surrounded by the playback.

R8 Arreté is capable of presenting a very wide FR spectrum and a lot of contrast in dynamics.

Fast but not in a rush, powerful but not violent, highly analytical...

Very rich ambience when doing classical music playbacks

The R8 Arreté is like an educated and muscular gentleman with the manner and also power to perform the acts effortlessly...