

Piega Premium 301 Gen2

HIGHLY COMMENDED STAND-MOUNT LOUDSPEAKER UNDER £5K

ike many Piega models, the Premium 301 Gen2 stand-mounts from the Swiss brand are the kind of loudspeakers which initially attract through their impeccable build quality and finish, and keep you there with a sound performance that proves just as appealing. The gently curving and sandblasted extruded aluminium cabinets are classy, but the technology inside also warrants some attention.

The magnetostatic ribbon tweeter is the brand-new RM 01-24 design. The advantage of a true ribbon driver is its lightness, and Piega says this particular one weighs around 50 times less than a typical dome tweeter. That's joined by a new FSD-M 140mm mid/bass driver. Inside the

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rearward-ported cabinet is Piega's own exclusive internal damping material and the wooden matrix from the pricier Coax series models.

Style and substance

With classy style comes convincing substance. First impressions are of a sound that is clean, detailed, dynamic and able to weave a coherent, seamless overall picture without any undue emphasis in any part of the frequency spectrum. The ribbon tweeter is superbly integrated, and you get the bass you'd normally expect from a bigger box. "The 301 Gen2 have a sweet balance, free from any nasties", reports Chris Frankland, "but at the same time have the dynamics and control to deliver complex musical arrangements with poise and control". From top to toe, they offer outstanding performance for the money.

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