

Hi-Fi Choice

„All told, the Heco Elementa 300 proves that there’s plenty of life and potential left in the time-honoured traditions of loudspeaker design and production methods. It’s a remarkably fine, multi-talented all-rounder.“



HECO

Elementa 300

SOUND QUALITY



VALUE FOR MONEY



BUILD QUALITY



EASE OF DRIVE



OVERALL



LIKE: Big vibrant sound, full of life and colour; build and finish

WE SAY: A fine, entertaining speaker that ticks a lot of boxes

HECO

Lise-Meitner-Str. 9 · 50259 Pulheim · Germany · www.heco-audio.de

hifichoice.co.uk 03/17
United Kingdom





Heco

Elementa 300 **£700**



THE METHOD

There's nothing complex about the way Heco sets its goals. In fact, there is only one. It's the result that counts. The company's objective is to produce a perfectly balanced, transparent and dynamic sound and it claims to spare no expense if it discovers there's a potential for improvement. This goes for development, material quality and the use of technology and has resulted in the emergence of new concepts over the decades that have made their mark in the speaker industry. Heco admits to reinventing itself time and again over more than 60 years of its history. But it sees this as a testament to the strength and innovative power of the brand. Heco continues to develop products that seek to achieve an unrivalled price-to-performance ratio and, with an enduringly loyal band of customers, it certainly appears to be doing something right.

Germany's contender may seem a little straight laced in this company, but sometimes experience counts

DETAILS

PRODUCT
Heco Elementa 300

ORIGIN
Germany

TYPE
2-way standmount loudspeaker

WEIGHT
7.5kg

DIMENSIONS (WxHxD)
266 x 368 x 325mm

FEATURES

- 28mm fabric dome tweeter
- 170mm mid/bass driver
- Quoted sensitivity: 90dB/1W/1m

DISTRIBUTOR
Puresound

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WEBSITE
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You'd never guess it, but priced at £700, this is the least expensive speaker in the group. The satin white finish applied to the sturdy, multi-braced, MDF cabinet looks and feels a cut above the EB2S' similar and perfectly acceptable treatment. The rear-firing reflex-ported box also has proper curves (rather than just rounded edges) to disrupt internal standing waves. As for the chunky twin binding posts, they wouldn't look out of place on a speaker costing three times as much. It goes without saying, reassuring first impressions aren't to be underestimated.

The appearance of the drivers, with their shiny aluminium base plates, provides further positive reinforcement. A little larger than usual, the 28mm silk dome tweeter has a ferrofluid-cooled and damped double magnet assembly for high power handling and a wave guide to optimise coupling with the air. The equally handsome mid/bass driver uses a solid aluminium die-cast chassis with a diamond polish finish and light, woven, long fibre paper cones mounted in long-throw surrounds to the benefit of precision and efficiency according to Heco.

Sound quality

Precision and efficiency. You can add scale, bass, vivacity and generosity of spirit to that. In fact, the Heco is a bit of a blast from the off. On the stunningly soulful *Take The Box*, we

have a beautifully judged Amy vocal with body and emotion – even a little warmth – and just enough raw edge to convince, but minus the sometimes accompanying teeth-troubling sting. The Sarah Vaughan and Diana Washington influences are easy to hear and track through the song. This loudspeaker is transparent and tonally bang on the money.

Rhythmically secure, too. With Marcus Miller's *Tightrope*, things are super snappy and fun. It's even possible to make out the odd word from Dr John's mystifyingly indistinct, but nevertheless highly enjoyable, monologue. Marcus is on fire and the Elementa locks onto the groove with a kind of canine tenacity and doesn't let go. The way it focuses so sharply when delivering the bigger picture with colour, texture and verve is quite simply joyous.

The speaker's excellent bass weight and extension lends *Somewhere Down The Crazy River* a far richer, more full bodied and organic feel, and Robertson's part-spoken vocal is pure, finely graded gravel. It also makes Tony Williams' drum kit on *The Trio Of Doom's Drum Improvisation* cut sound bigger and more urgent, the kick drum in particular gaining depth and muscle. All told, the Heco Elementa 300 proves that there's plenty of life and potential left in the time-honoured traditions of loudspeaker design and production methods. It's a remarkably fine, multi-talented all-rounder ●

The build quality looks bomb proof



Hi-Fi Choice

OUR VERDICT

SOUND QUALITY



VALUE FOR MONEY



BUILD QUALITY



EASE OF DRIVE



OVERALL



LIKE: Big vibrant sound, full of life and colour; build and finish

DISLIKE: Not quite the last word in speed and subtlety

WESAY: A fine, entertaining speaker that ticks a lot of boxes