

“Grand, dynamic, without compression.
Special praise for outstanding workmanship.”



HECO Celan GT 602

stereoplay
Testresult

Edition 03/15

Heco Celan GT 602

Sound: Top Class

55 points

Overall Result: good-very good

76 points

Price/Performance: very good



HECO

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A kraft paper cone is a special vibrating component that Heco uses for its bass and mid-range speaker units. It is the reason for the success of the dynamic chassis. For over a decade, these cones were the standard until polypropylene came along and the advances made using paper fell by the wayside. However, the paper cone's fall from favor did not last long. Now paper is back – and not only in Heco products. You're thinking retro, right? Not necessarily. Heco uses "kraft pulp" which is made, as per German tradition, according to its own DIN norm. More than 90 percent of the material must consist of long fibers. For this purpose, Heco purchases paper made of Nordic conifers which offer the perfect fiber structure. Wool threads are then added to the mixture which is pressed into "kraft paper cone," thus producing a component made of precious material that Heco places in front of the well-ventilated aluminum die-cast baskets.

Extremely slim

Those who come across the Celan GT 602 for the first time are astounded by its detailed craftsmanship, such as the custom-fit paneling and elegant screw connections. The company has succeeded in transferring the aesthetics of its premium line to its mid-range products. In doing so, however, Heco has stayed true to one design principle: The mid-range speakers are still placed at the highest point in the housing with the tweeters below. It looks like the D'Appolito stereo configuration in disguise, but in reality, the Celan GT 602 is a genuine three-way configuration with two identical 13 centimeter chasses in the bass. When looking at it, there is also another surprising detail: The front is broad and equipped with cones. Even the polyfiber tweeter with its 30 mm range and the sound-conducting aluminum front panel is commanding, but its overall appearance remains astoundingly lean. The MDF housing tapers off in the rear and emphasizes an elegance that Heco purposely calls the "slim fit" factor. What's even more impressive is that its already rich sound can be reinforced from the rear with not two, not four – but five terminals for greater amplification.

In addition to bi-wiring or bi-amping, Heco also features a +2 decibel volume adjustment option in the tweeter range: You simply plug in the cable correctly, but don't forget to throw the terminals in single wiring mode.



Do the speakers have sufficient throw? Yes, if the amplifiers are sound and located in an appropriate listening area. We experimented and were surprised that the minor adjustment did not add more air to the sound pattern, as expected, rather took away compressive force from some of the singing voices. We think Heco performs best in the linear mode. First, we liked the bass output – it featured thrust and perfectly locked the chain of association to the "kraft cone." To test these speakers, we listened to Leonard Cohen's album "Popular Problems" and found that it no longer had a bass foundation and lung volume.

Our tip: The amplifier for the GT 602 does not have to be extremely powerful, but fast. Otherwise, listeners can take pleasure from the air in the sound pattern. In our January edition, we used as our test CD outstanding tracks from Stockfish Studios. Among other tracks, the Baroque Orchestra played Vivaldi's "La Folia" with sophisticated dynamics and a defined reverberant sound. It quickly becomes one-dimensional in loudspeakers that excel only in the bass range.

The Heco performed the mix of power, dynamics and airiness between the instruments. The Focal Aria adds more room information. Yet the Heco speakers appeal to those who find their ideal sound in the physical dimension of the individual voices. This means the dynamic fun factor of the Heco is its greatest asset.

Evaluation

More than enough power – smooth sound that fills the room. In view of the compact design, it goes astoundingly deep into the bass range. Grand, dynamic, without compression. Extra praise for the craftsmanship.

Sound: Top class

Overall rating:

good - very good

Price/performance

ratio: very good