

GRATIS  
MUSIK-CD

01/2013

www.audio.de Deutschland 6,- €

# AUDIO

HIFI · SURROUND · HIGH END · MUSIK

## HECO

### The New Statement

Powerful and elegant. The speaker, which weighs in at nearly 50 kilos, is elegantly rounded and perfectly processed down the smallest detail. The die-cast baskets have been refined with a high gloss finish.



**AUDIO** 01/13

**Sound: 97 Points**

**Price/Performance: outstanding**

# HECO®

## The New Statement

“The name Heco is closely associated with the history of AUDIO. Thanks to an extensive range of products, the speaker manufacturer, which was founded in the 50s in Schmitten, has been regularly represented in the industry and has frequently enjoyed test success. Heco always maintained a grip on reality and defined itself as a mid-range brand, whose aim is to ensure a healthy relationship between price and performance. The largest and most expensive speaker produced by Heco during its time in Schmitten was the Concerto Grosso in 1990, which was then listed at a price of 10,000 marks. More than 20 years later its product range culminates in the New Statement, with a price tag of €4800. Despite a lower purchase price (taking inflation into account), Heco's current flagship model offers some special features that were simply unthinkable for a Concerto Grosso. These include baskets manufactured from solid die-cast aluminium, whose visible components are refined in a high gloss finish. Three vertically arranged bass reflex tubes of the same high quality are screwed to the rear wall of the speaker, where they ensure a powerful room stimulus that remains free of flow noise, even when operated at the highest levels. A terminal area is embedded underneath, which will delight both tactile enthusiasts and audio perfectionists alike. The terminals are huge, easy to grasp and suitable for accommodating all kinds of connectors and cable shoes. Local adaptation for the mid- and treble range is also offered, which will satisfy users if room or installation conditions are not quite optimal. The carefully damped part of the housing associated with the midrange driver ends at the rear of the speaker with a sound-permeable grille, which allows energy to flow to the rear to a certain extent. This provides the dispersion pattern with a moderate dipole character. The speaker, therefore, should not be positioned too close to the rear wall or set up in a heavily damped environment. The midrange driver is not exposed to any reflections from inside the speaker housing, which allows it to operate in an uninhibited manner. The large cone driver, which consists of a sound-sensitive kraft paper fabric, is driven by an Alnico magnet system. The elegant mixture of iron,

**AUDIO** 01/13

**Sound: 97 Points**

**Price/Performance: outstanding**

aluminium, nickel and cobalt is less susceptible to fluctuating temperatures than ferrite. The treble range is catered for by a large dome system with a double magnet and low-resonance polyfibre cone. The New Statement truly is a sight to behold. The surfaces are provided with a high-gloss finish as standard. This finish is either available in a black piano lacquer (like our test sample) or a dark brown wood veneer, which goes by the apt name of 'espresso'. The low wattage requirements of the New Statement, which harmonises extremely well with delicate amplifiers, is an extremely welcome feature. From the very first tone the speaker reproduces a highly spirited and sensual style of play, with rich timbres and a superb feel for all nuances. "The Shrew" by folk band Beirut links brass segments with crisp male vocals in a partly tongue-in-cheek manner. The ostensibly simple mixture sparkles with wit and vitality, which Heco's unit reproduces incredibly well with rich colours and a velvety texture. At the end there's not a dry eye in the house. The finest differences in volume were enriched effortlessly here. It seemed as though the lead singer was standing right in front of us in a completely unobscured manner. The price Heco is asking for its New Statement is realistic and well-grounded. It is a speaker which even makes listening to normal tracks an animalistic pleasure."

In the test field: Gauder Akustik, Heco, Cabasse, Dali, T+A