

SIMPLY GORGEOUS



HECO

Aleva GT 5.1 SET



HECO

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Simply gorgeous

The original version of Heco's Aleva series aroused enthusiasm and excitement, as it combined an elegant design with a premium sound. The new Aleva GT version remains true to these virtues, which have been further refined.

The Aleva series may not be Heco's premium offering, but its position in the company's range only seems to be based on its relatively low price. This is because, at first and second glance, the models in the Aleva series seem to feature virtually all of the technology used for the company's top-of-the-range "Celan" and "The Statement" series. The Aleva speakers are in no way inferior either when it comes to build quality: their first-class finish and elegant design speak for themselves.

Aleva GT

The current Aleva GT series has been further refined compared to its predecessor and is now in its third generation (GT: Generation Three). Its elegant piano lacquer coating, which is optionally available in a high gloss black or white finish – along with the chassis' polished die-cast aluminium baskets – immediately catch the eye. Heco's developers have also demonstrated excellent skill in shaping the floorstanding speakers in the Aleva GT series, as the proportions of the Aleva GT 602 speakers used in our 5.1-set seem perfectly balanced. The slightly rounded edges of the baffles exhibited by all Aleva GT models are acoustically advantageous in that they reduce the sound refractions of the otherwise hard edges. The walls of the Aleva GT housing are extremely sturdy and, along with the elaborate internal bracing, they ensure the Aleva GT models have extremely low resonance proper-

ties – perfect for an unadulterated sound. All of the chassis used in the current Aleva GT models have been redesigned with detailed solutions that are the culmination of many years of research by Heco. The woofer cones in the Aleva series have been manufactured from Heco's tried and tested, long-fibre kraft paper, which ensures optimum rigidity with high internal damping. Cutting edge research has also been used to shape the flow-optimised die-cast aluminium baskets that are utilised for the bass and bass-midrange. The treble range in all Aleva GT models is catered for by an identical tweeter with a large 28 mm silk compound dome. This is extremely durable thanks to a ferrofluid cooling element and a double magnet system and it ensures a high level of dynamism over a wide frequency range. Our Aleva GT 5.1 surround set consists of the 110 cm high Aleva GT 602 3-way floorstanding speakers with dual 110 mm woofers, one centre speaker with two 110 mm bass-midrange drivers, namely the Aleva GT Center 32, and two compact Aleva GT 202 2-way shelf speakers with a 110-mm bass-midrange driver. All of the models in our set are also equipped with the new 28 mm dome tweeters – the virtually identical chassis configuration exhibited by all of the speakers guarantees a homogeneous sound pattern. The subwoofer, which has been perfectly coordinated for the set, goes by the name Aleva GT Sub 322. Its slim housing, which is just 29 cm wide, accommodates a side-mounted 260 mm woofer.

Laboratory and practice

The Aleva GT speakers revealed particularly low distortion properties and high signal fidelity straight away in the acoustic lab. A slight increase of the high frequencies became apparent in all models from approx. 4 kHz, which can be advantageous in heavily furnished rooms.

The low frequency performance generated by the slim and compact Aleva GT 322 subwoofer, which came into full effect from 45 Hz, was also amazing. Our measurements were accurately translated into practice thanks to the impulsive and crystal clear reproduction of the Aleva GT set. Action scenes from R.E.D. 2 were thoroughly compelling thanks to a detailed soundscape, which enabled each individual shot to be precisely located and explosions to rumble with full force in the listening room, thereby drawing the audience completely into the thick of the action. Heco's Aleva GT set mastered the complex soundtrack of R.E.D. 2 with flying colours without ever obscuring the clarity of the dialogue, even amidst the tumult of the fast chase scenes. The slight overemphasis in the presence range was handled quite well by the Aleva GT series, however, Heco's set did lose a touch of airiness and clarity; saying that though, it never appeared aggressive or strenuous. The Aleva GT set impressed us most by its realistic tones, unbridled enthusiasm and homogeneity over all channels.

Conclusion

Heco has once again come up trumps with the latest generation of its tried and tested Aleva GT series. The current Aleva GT models are extremely impressive with a sensationally good sound in every respect. Heco's set generates a compelling performance in the home cinema with a crystal clear, neutral sound and a dynamic, enthralling character. In addition, the Aleva GT speakers look astonishingly good, exhibit high quality workmanship and are worth every cent of their recommended retail price.