



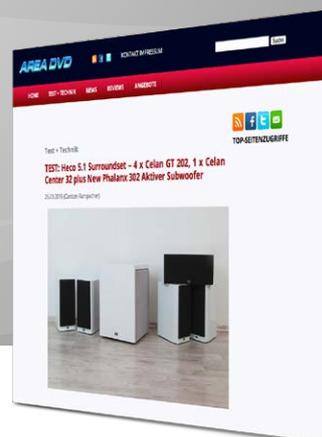
**"First-Class Finish meets excellent musicality."**

# HECO

Celan GT 202,  
Celan GT Center 32  
and the New Phalanx 302



- + Outstanding for stereo and multi-channel music
- + Premium active subwoofer
- + Newly designed tweeter with an exquisite resolution
- + Celan components with lovingly designed details
- + Reasonable price



# HECO

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**Heco has introduced a compact, modern and powerful 5.1 speaker set with components from its Celan GT-series and a New Phalanx active subwoofer. For our practical test we used the following components in a chic white finish:**

- HECO Celan GT 202 (4x) at a price of € 858.00 / pair
- Heco Celan GT Center 32 at a price of €559.00
- New Phalanx 302 (subwoofer) at a price of € 649.00
- Total cost: € 2,924 for the complete 5.1 ensemble

Let's start by taking a look at Heco's Celan GT 202 speakers, four of which are used in this setup at a cost of €858 per pair. These very attractive and high quality speakers are equipped with a two-way bass reflex configuration. The Celan GT 202 exhibits a 90 watt RMS rating and a maximum output of 150 watts, while its frequency response ranges from 34 Hz to 50 kHz. The speaker, which measures 196 mm wide by 335 mm high and 320 mm deep (including its terminal), is available in a Piano Black, Piano White and an extremely elegant Piano Espresso finish.

Between the front two Celan GT 202 speakers in our setup is the Celan GT Center 32, which is equipped with two 130 mm bass-midrange drivers and a tweeter with a 30 mm PFC dome. This tweeter is capable of reproducing frequencies of up to 50 kHz, which means the Celan GT components are also extremely well-suited for high resolution audio files.

The only thing that's missing now is a specialist unit for the low frequencies. This is where the New Phalanx 302 comes in. It is available in a Piano White and Piano Black finish, but not in Piano Espresso. The active subwoofer features a continuously adjustable volume and crossover frequency, as well as a variable bass equalizer that ranges from 0 to +6 dB.

## Sound

We start our test with the film "The A-Team - The Movie" on Blu ray in DTS-HD Master Audio (English soundtrack). As soon as the 20th Century Fox logo appears it's clear that the New Phalanx 302 is capable of generating a lot of power, and the first rumbling sounds during the fast tracking shot through the Mexican desert further enhance this impression.

The tough, hard punches that are delivered in the dark hallway sound dynamic and powerful. The center speaker reproduces speech extremely well. Small details, such as when one of the gangsters grabs and cocks his weapon, sound really clear. The barking of the dogs in the distance is integrated well into the overall sound pattern. The active sub masters powerful bass segments superbly well and produces a thoroughly compelling performance in terms of volume and depth. The level of precision is also good. The struggle with the two dogs is turned into a real spectacle. When Hannibal strikes a match to light his cigar shortly afterwards, the effect is reproduced in a very credible manner and with an excellent resolution.

What about when it comes to playing music? We listen to "Days Of Eternity" by Lichtmond 3 on Blu ray in DTS-HD Master Audio 5.1. Heco's ensemble really makes us sit up and take notice: A tremendous amount of listening pleasure is generated thanks to the homogeneous and coherent sound pattern together with outstanding support from the New Phalanx 302. The female vocals are reproduced cleanly and the level of spatiality created is compelling through its uniform distribution. The male vocals are also seamlessly integrated, thereby resulting in an impressive, emphatic and energetic overall sound.

We continue our test with the final concert by Norwegian pop icons a-ha. This concert took place in Oslo in 2010 and has been reproduced on Blu ray with an excellent DTS-HD Master Audio soundtrack. We opted to listen to "The Sun Always Shine On TV". At the very beginning of the track we became aware of the perfectly incorporated applause of the enthusiastic concert goers. The New Phalanx quickly becomes involved in the action and generates a tangible foundation that fills the room.

The clapping of the audience emanates from all channels to generate a dense, immersive 5.1 sound experience from our test ensemble.

What is the set like in a 2.1 stereo configuration? When playing "Raptor" by Digital X (trance track) the active subwoofer produces a powerful performance, while the two Celan GT 202 speakers create a natural and lively playback.

Overall, a very good degree of spatiality is realized with a clean differentiation of the bass and broad audio range. The two Heco shelf speakers operate in a really snappy manner. The sound is extremely spirited and dynamic. The tight bass range generated by the New Phalanx active subwoofer rounds off the overall performance impressively.

Heco's components produce a sound that is completely different, but equally impressive, with Andrea Bocelli's "Love In Portofino". Andrea's vocals sound multi-faceted with a lively structure. The strings are integrated harmoniously, yet still manage to flourish within the piece. The level of emotion that is conveyed acoustically can actually be seen, or rather, "heard". We find the superior, well-founded reproduction extremely good. Following our listening tests we can conclude that Heco's Celan/New Phalanx combination is also exquisite when used as a 2.1 system.

## Conclusion

Heco's Celan GT/New Phalanx 302 speaker system is thoroughly compelling thanks to its clean workmanship, attractive visual details of the passive components and enormous degree of musicality. Multi-channel music material and stereo sources are reproduced with an outstanding foundation, excellent level of spatiality and a lively overall performance. When reproducing movie soundtracks in a home cinema setup the excellent New Phalanx 302 sets the scene extremely well. Depth, vigor and precision are all of a very high level. The rest of the ensemble performs valiantly with movies, however, the overall result is not quite as sophisticated as that produced when playing music.