

## Reprint:

### **Abstract of AREADVD review from 11/23/2011, semi active CYGNUS – audio 2.1 Setup is setting benchmark and became reference in many disciplines!**

#### **Workmanship and design:**

The CYGNUS – audio Quasar compact monitor are geared to a conventional and functional design with classical proportions and details like a modern material mix and massive side panels. CYGNUS – audio is very flexible and provides his customers many options for a customized finish like multilayer glossy lacquer (various colors on request) and veneers on request. The top cover of both components, speaker and subwoofer, can be ordered in Glass, Stone or Acryl. The front panel for the monitor speaker comes in metal design either brushed or polished alloy or 24 carat gold plated on request.



**Image 1: CYGNUS Quasar finish light gray glossy lacquer, fitting to the customer's interior.**

**Image 2: CYGNUS Quasar with external Crossover below the custom made stand, on the right hand the DiSubX15 active Dipole Subwoofer**

The overall workmanship implies an immense value and long lasting quality of the enclosures which is a multilayer MDF sandwich construction, stabilized with an inner matrix to reduce resonances to an absolute minimum. Both chassis have a separate closed chamber with inner damping material providing optimal environment for undisturbed working conditions and without interfering and distortion free sound reproduction. The model Quasar is engineered as a classical 2 way monitor in closed enclosure design with out placed crossover.



**Image 3: Two pairs of heavy-duty WBT terminals mounted on a thick laser carved metal plate taking signals for the High-Midrange iso-dynamic foil transducer and the Mid-Bass woofer separately**

The non compromising design and ambition to perfection is evident also on the back side of the speakers: A massive metal plate serves as base for four solid WBT-terminals, ready to take any kind of high quality cable, blank or confectioned with bananas or pole shoes, which can be fixed securely and very easily. The external crossovers came with special confectioned 4 pole interconnecting cables and decrease the same high quality finish like the speakers themselves.

#### **Sound description:**

We checked the probes from the manufacturer CYGNUS –audio against known references in the same price level and discovered, that the newcomer brand is providing not only attitudes that are absolute competitive but us setting benchmarks in some important disciplines. The tonal balancing is tuned to absolute linearity and shows from the beginning that there is a speaker in our test room that is designed as a non compromising studio monitor for critical mastering. Through a very precise bass reproduction which is by trend more slim, and an immense ability to reproduce fine details in the midrange and high-frequency range, the listener becomes aware of an authentic analytical sound image. All pass ways between the different frequency ranges are very smooth and absolutely without any gap so the musical flow is without any break. Quasar and DiSubX15 have the ambition to reproduce music with maximum authenticity and without any artificial effects or interpretation of the music signal which is delivered to the speaker inputs. The CYGNUS Quasar monitor is optimized to reproduce the first wave front of a musical event with maximal possible accurate timing to reach the listener's pair of ears. This emphasizes all room and timing information included in the recording, not more and nothing less. The CYGNUS setup handles this sovereign and plays music very cultivated. The entire musical spectrum is covered with the same high accuracy and large dynamic steps are represented masterly and comprehensively. Especially when the recording forces the speaker to accentuate smaller fine dynamic variations out of complex arrangements the set has convinced us totally. The speakers own a very seldom talent, they have the capability to differentiate between deep sound structures of a big orchestra in terms of details and dynamic levels. The basis for the excellent result is most previously to be sought in the extreme fastness of drawing transients where even tiniest nuances are captured very precisely. The Quasars provide a capability to resolve those details which have been thought to be possible to date only with speakers which are equipped with ceramic chassis only. In this context the speaker verifies an enormous accuracy in modeling high frequency events and a high level of light and breezily sound reproduction at the same time. This is not a matter of course for speaker concepts that are focusing on brilliance and maximum resolution, which is a very important brick for the excellent overall tuning. The Quasar is engineered for audiophile music lovers

that would like to enjoy totally the emotional sense of arts for a couple of hours (preferably with a good taste of an excellent wine). Thanks of the clever tuned sound dispersion there is a localization of sound events which is sharp like a knife with an authenticity which is partly almost scary.

### **About the DiSub:**

Also in the bass and sub bass region the system orientates on audiophile virtue. The subwoofer focuses a maximum precession with best in class deep frequency reproduction. The sub accords itself in this context as a real deep bass junkie, which emphases even organ pipes around 20 Hz in his full contour. It is remarkable that the device do not have any appendage to rumble or smooth up even at high listening levels and in the deepest frequency cellar. The DiSubX15 plays dry and controlled all the time and provides a clear and tight bass reproduction with a differentiation which is benchmarking. Here is clearly visible that the developers had a priority: The sound reproduction should be fast as an arrow without delay. Speedy like a weasel the subwoofer jumps through complex bass arrangements while modeling deep sound events with an accuratess which is superior compared with most high end floor standers. Thus the 2.1 set conquers an other summit and sets a benchmark, getting reference status referring the homogeneity between subwoofer and satellites.

As a result of the superb precession and tremendous ultra low frequency reproduction down to 15 Hz we also tested the DiSubX15 on his qualities to play within a home cinema arrangement, where the unit shows also his capability to cope intensive LFE effects. Keeping his typical performance characteristics the dipoles subwoofer provides real join in listening when Anakin Skywalker invites for the Podrace and the subwoofer reproduces all deep bass events dray like bones and whithout any delay or post-pulse oscillation. Here it is even placed superior compared to actual reference which have been marked by the active servo controlled A.C.T. AL4x4.

Normally any subwoofer is audible somehow, not so with the CYGNUS – system: Everything plays together in great harmony, the deep dimension picture and velocity is at the same very high level at all components. The integration of the subwoofer and satellites is unsurpassed and we really realised only by mute the subwoofer sometimes which great amount it has to the musical events happened in our listening room.

One of the brightest sides the CYGNUS 2.1 set reveals in the midrange where the test probes provides one of the best results we ever heard!. The Quasars presents a tremendous diversity of sound colors and thus they are in the condition to provide a unmatched differentiation in instrumentation and human voices. There are not much audiophile loudspeaker systems in the marked which provide a similar maximum load. Thus it becomes clear that the CYGNUS 2.1 sound system represents a kind of its art that is technically for engineered for high levels but at the same time provides a lot of join also by listening at low levels. Under normal conditions most probably never one will reach the overload border of the system.

### **Conclusion:**

Whereas other small manufactures mainly focus on details like cables or passive electronic parts the CYGNUS – audio team pays attention to every part of the whole thing: Quasar and DiSubX15 presents a technical opulence which may not be self-evident even at established companies. In particular remarkable is the fact, that the high level of quality is in manufacturing details and technical perfection at the same time. CYGNUS – audio donates his products a clear direction of non compromising high tech and the developer team documents clearly and very impressive the ambition to perfection in sound reproduction at home. The semi active 2.1 setup provides a prospering flood of details with impressive precision in all frequency ranges. Hereby the analytical true working whithout diffusing reminds in positive manner to the sound characteristics of high level professional studio monitors for critical mastering. Music gourmets which would like to dive deep into the rendition of musical arts and wont to listen intentional and intensive will love this setup.