

Cinematic Home A/V Speaker Comparison Event

Review by David Das

I had the pleasure of attending the [Cinematic Home A/V](#) Entry Level Speaker Comparison Event on Wednesday, September 23, 2026.



This event was hosted by [John Akers](#), Owner & President of Cinematic Home A/V located at 10658 N 32nd St, Phoenix, AZ 85028.

John has built an 11.6.6 State-of-the-Art Dolby ATMOS Reference Home Theater showcasing the revolutionary Trinnov [WaveForming](#) Technology to deliver the ultimate immersive cinematic experience. For a detailed description of the equipment please read my [40-page review](#).

This acoustically treated Reference Home Theater room was used for comparing the speakers.

The scope of this event was to compare entry level speakers from [Estelon](#), [YG Acoustics](#), [Fyne Audio](#) and [Totem Acoustic](#). These are some of the brands carried by Cinematic Home A/V.

Unfortunately, the Totem Acoustic speaker got damaged at CEDIA leaving us with these 3 contenders:

- [Estelon AURA](#) (\$31,800/pair)
- [YG Acoustics Talus](#) (\$19,900/pair)
- [Fyne Audio F702S](#) (\$11,999/pair)

Estelon AURA

The [Estelon AURA](#) is a sculptural, high-end floorstanding loudspeaker engineered to combine exceptional musicality with a striking industrial design. Its sealed, thermoformed mineral-composite cabinet minimizes unwanted resonances, while a downward-firing 10" woofer, dual 5.2" midwoofers and a 1" textile-dome tweeter deliver a wide, immersive soundstage with impressive bass depth and detail.

Key Specifications:

System: 3-way, 4-driver sealed enclosure

Woofer: 10" FaitalPro hard-pressed paper cone, downward firing

Midwoofers: 2 x 5.2" SB Acoustics Satori Egyptian Papyrus Fiber

Tweeter: 1" Scan-Speak Illuminator textile dome

Frequency Response: 37Hz – 30kHz

Sensitivity: 88dB / 2.83V

Impedance: 4 ohm (minimum 2 ohm at 58Hz)

Minimum Amplifier Power: 30W

Dimensions: 53.8" H x 15.1" W x 14.4" D

Weight: 75 lbs each



YG Acoustics Talus

The [YG Acoustics Talus](#) is a compact yet exceptionally capable floorstanding loudspeaker from YG's Peak series. Its sealed cabinet, precision-machined aluminum front baffle, proprietary ForgeCore tweeter and 7.25" aluminum-cone midbass driver deliver exceptional clarity, imaging and dynamic scale. Despite its relatively compact footprint, Talus reaches down to 32Hz and is designed to perform convincingly in both smaller and larger listening rooms.

Key Specifications:

System: 2-way passive floorstanding loudspeaker

Tweeter: Proprietary YG Acoustics ForgeCore

Midbass: 7.25" proprietary YG Aluminum-cone driver

Frequency Response: 32Hz – 40kHz

Sensitivity: 89dB

Impedance: 7 ohm average (3.7 Ohm minimum)

Dimensions: 40"H x 10.6"W x 12.8"D

Weight: 95 lbs each

Cabinet: Sealed, heavily braced dense resin-fiber construction



Fyne Audio F702S

The Fyne Audio F702S is a high-performance floorstanding loudspeaker designed to deliver exceptional clarity, dynamics and scale in medium to large listening rooms. Its 2½-way design combines Fyne Audio's 200mm IsoFlare point-source driver with a dedicated 200mm bass driver, while the down-firing BassTrax Tractrix diffuser helps produce smooth, controlled bass throughout the room.

Key Specifications:

System: 2½-way floorstanding loudspeaker

Drivers: 200mm IsoFlare point-source driver + 200mm bass driver

Tweeter: 25mm magnesium dome compression tweeter

Frequency Response: 30Hz – 34kHz

Sensitivity: 92dB

Impedance: 8 ohm

Recommended Amplifier Power: 30 – 200W

Dimensions: 43.7"H x 15.1"W x 17.3"D

Weight: 67.2 lbs each



Accuphase E-3000

The [Accuphase E-3000](#) was used as a stereo power amp to drive the speakers. It is a precision integrated stereo amplifier that combines Accuphase's renowned analog engineering with substantial Class AB power. Its AAVA volume control, balanced instrumentation-amplifier configuration and three-fold parallel push-pull output stage provide exceptionally clean, uncontrolled and dynamic performance. With 100 watts per channel into 8 ohms and 150 watts into 4 ohms, the E-3000 is designed to serve as the heart of a high-performance two-channel system.

Key Specifications:

Type: Integrated stereo amplifier

Power Output: 100W/ch @ 8 ohm; 150W/ch @ 4 ohm

Amplification: Class AB, three-fold parallel push-pull

Volume Control: AAVA (Accuphase Analog Variable gain Amplifier)

Damping Factor: 600

Frequency Response: 3Hz – 150 kHz (+0, -3dB)

Inputs: Balanced and unbalanced line inputs; optional DAC/phono boards

Expansion: 2 option-board slots

Dimensions: 18.3"W x 6.3"H x 16.6"D

Weight: 50.9 lbs



HiFi Rose RS520

The [HiFi Rose RS520](#) was used as a DAC and music streamer. The HiFi Rose RS520 is a high-performance all-in-one audio system combining a network streamer, high-resolution DAC, and a powerful integrated amplifier in a single chassis. Its large 12.6" touchscreen provides an intuitive interface for music playback, album artwork, music videos and system control, while its GaN FET Class AD amplifier delivers substantial power with excellent efficiency. The RS520 also supports Roon Ready Qobuz, TIDAL, Spotify Connect, Apple Music, AirPlay and 4K video playback.

Key Specifications

Type: Network streamer / DAC / Integrated amplifier

Amplifier: GaN FET Class AD

Power Output: 250W/ch @ 8 ohm

DAC: ESS SABRE ES9038PRO

Resolution: PCM up to 32-bit/768kHz; Native DSD512

Frequency Response: 10Hz – 85kHz

Display: 12.6" wide-viewing angle multi-touch LCD

Streaming: Roon Ready, Qobuz, TIDAL, Spotify Connect, Apple Music, AirPlay & DLNA

Video: HDMI 2.0 output with support up to 4K/60Hz

Dimensions: 13.6"W x 5"H x 12.9"D

Weight: 17.8 lbs



AudioQuest Rocket 44

The [AudioQuest Rocket 44](#) was used for the speaker cables. This is a high-performance speaker cable designed to provide a clean, detailed, low-distortion connection between an amplifier and loudspeaker. It combines solid PSC+ and PSC copper conductors with AudioQuest's Double Star-Quad geometry, Carbon-Based Noise-Dissipation System and Foamed-Polyethylene insulation to minimize distortion and reduce radio-frequency interference.

Key Specifications:

Type: Full-range speaker cable

Conductors: Solid PSC+ and PSC copper

Geometry: Double Star-Quad

Insulation: Foamed-Polyethylene

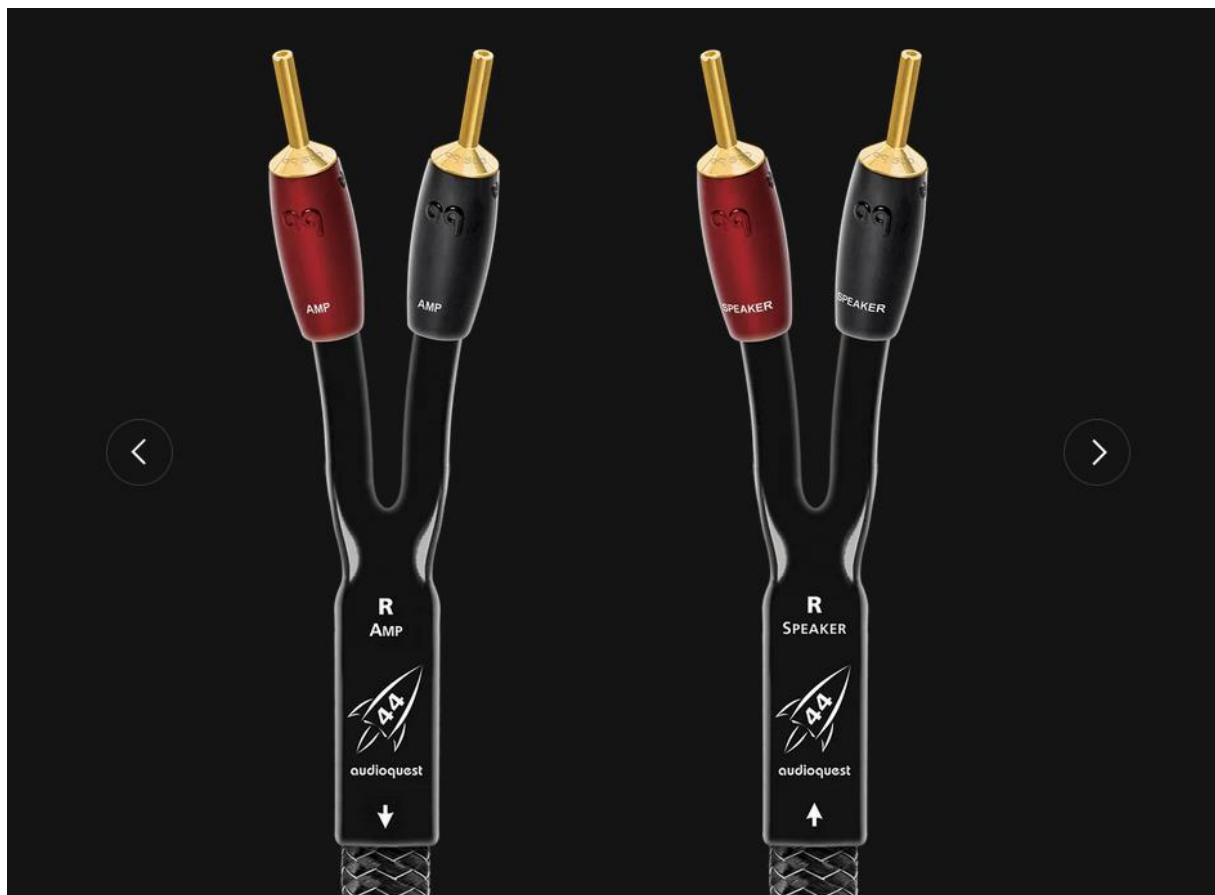
Noise Control: Carbon-Based Noise-Dissipation System

Directionality: Direction-Controlled conductors

Terminations: SureGrip 500 banana or multi-spade connectors

Available Lengths: 8ft, 10ft, 12ft and 15ft

Configurations: Full-Range, Single-BiWire and Single BiAmp



AudioQuest Red River

[AudioQuest Red River](#) interconnect cables were used to connect the HiFi Rose RS520 to the Accuphase E-3000 power amp. The AudioQuest Red River is a high-performance analog interconnect designed to deliver clean, detailed signal transfer while minimizing distortion and radio-frequency interference. It uses solid Perfect-Surface Copper+ (PSC+) conductors, Triple-Balanced Geometry and a Metal-Layer Noise-Dissipation system for a low-noise, transparent connection between source components, preamps and amplifiers.

Key Specifications:

Type: Analog RCA interconnect

Conductors: Solid Perfect-Surface Copper+ (PSC+)

Geometry: Triple-Balanced

Insulation: Hard-Cell Foamed-Polyethylene

Noise Control: Metal-Layer Noise Dissipation

Directionality: Direction-Controlled conductors

Terminations: Cold-welded, gold-plated RCA connectors

Lengths: 0.5m – 8m

Configuration: Sold as a pair or single cable



Speaker Comparison – Round One

John Akers got us seating promptly at 6pm in his Reference Home Theater. He explained how the [HiFi Rose RS520](#) was being used as a DAC and music streamer. The [Accuphase E-3000](#) was being used as a stereo power amp to drive the speakers. The speaker cables were [AudioQuest Rocket 44](#) while the interconnect cables were [AudioQuest Red River](#).



Up for comparison in **Round One** were the Fyne Audio F702S against the YG Acoustics Talus floorstanding speakers.

Here you see the YG Acoustics Talus on the extreme left and right flanking the Fyne Audio F702S pair on the inside.



John explained that he would be playing short excerpts from the same song twice on Speaker A and then the same song on Speaker B.

John began by playing “**Birds**” by Dominique Fils-Aimé on the Fyne Audio speakers.



Nameless
Dominique Fils-Aimé

Released by **Ensoul Records** on February 1, 2018
R&B • 8 Tracks • 25m 54s

Available in
Hi-Res 24 bits
AUDIO 88.2 kHz - Stereo

Next, the same song was played back on the YG Acoustics speakers. I preferred the YG sound. It had more sparkle and clarity. The Fyne Audio had more bass but it was not as defined as what I heard on the YG. Some may prefer the warmer and thicker tone of the Fyne Audio speakers. The 2nd test track was **Jealous** by Labrinth.

The album cover for 'Jealous - EP' by Labrinth features a man wearing a black hat and a white shirt, sitting in a dark, industrial-looking setting. The word 'LABRINTH' is written in large, stylized letters at the top, and 'JEALOUS' is at the bottom.

Jealous - EP
Labrinth

Released by **Syco Music** on November 22, 2014
Pop • 4 Tracks • 20m 36s

Available in
16-Bit CD Quality
44.1 kHz - Stereo

The 3rd test track was **Trouble's What You're In** by Fink

The album cover for 'THE LOWSWING SESSIONS' by Fink has a bright yellow background. The word 'FINK' is written in large, bold, black letters. On the left, there is a small black and white photo of a person's face.

THE LOWSWING SESSIONS
Fink

Released by **R'COUP'D** on August 27, 2025
Folk/Americana • 7 Tracks • 33m 31s

Available in
Hi-Res AUDIO 24 bits
96.0 kHz - Stereo

The 4th test track was **Passacaglia** by Adam Baldych & Leszek Możdżer

The album cover for 'Passacaglia' by Adam Baldych & Leszek Możdżer shows two men in suits, one in pink and one in light blue, standing in a white space and gesturing with their hands. The title 'Passacaglia' is in red.

Adam Baldych & Leszek Możdżer
Passacaglia

Adam Baldych

Released by **ACT Music** on January 11, 2024
Jazz • 15 Tracks • 01h 00m 33s

Available in
Hi-Res AUDIO 24 bits
48.0 kHz - Stereo

The 5th test track was **People Get Ready** by Eva Cassidy.



The 6th test track was **Gimme That Old Time Religion** by Dr. John.



After listening to these 6 test tracks on both the Fyne Audio and YG Acoustics, I chose the YG as my personal favorite. I liked the extra clarity and tighter textured bass on the YG. It sounded, sweeter, richer, refined and more detailed to me.

However, many club members preferred the more full-bodied sound of the Fyne Audio speakers. It had a more relaxed and smoother sound with a bass lift. By majority vote, the Fyne Audio was declared the winner in Round One. John mentioned that in high-end audio more expensive speakers do not always translate to better performance. It comes down to personal preference. John said that the Fyne Audio Speakers offer the best value in their price category.

Speaker Comparison – Round Two

For **Round Two**, John had the Fyne Audio F702S against the Estelon AURA speakers.

In this picture you see the taller Estelon speakers on the extreme left and right flanking the Fyne Audio pair on the inside.



The 1st test track was **Birds** by Dominique Fils-Aimé.



Nameless

Dominique Fils-Aimé

Released by **Ensoul Records** on February 1, 2018
R&B • 8 Tracks • 25m 54s

Available in

 **24 bits**
88.2 kHz - Stereo

The 2nd test track was **Man in the Long Black Coat** by Bob Dylan.



BOB DYLAN

Oh Mercy

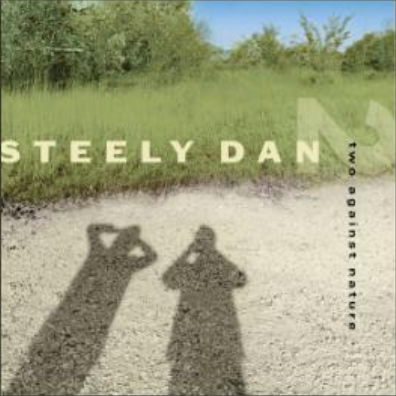
Bob Dylan

Released by **Columbia** on September 21, 1989
Pop/Rock • 10 Tracks • 38m 54s

Available in

Hi-Res 24 bits
AUDIO 96.0 kHz - Stereo

The 3rd test track was **Jack of Speed** by Steely Dan.



STEELY DAN

Two Against Nature

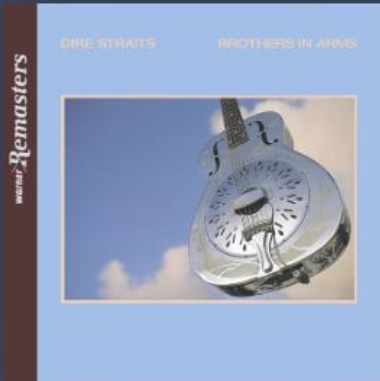
Steely Dan

Released by **Giant/Reprise** on February 28, 2000
Pop • 9 Tracks • 51m 45s

Available in

Hi-Res 24 bits
AUDIO 96.0 kHz - Stereo

The 4th test track was **Brothers in Arms** by Dire Straits.



DIRE STRAITS

BROTHERS IN ARMS

Brothers in Arms

Dire Straits

Released by **Warner Records** on April 30, 1985
Pop • 9 Tracks • 55m 10s

Available in

 16-Bit CD Quality
44.1 kHz - Stereo

Wow! What a difference. The Estelon AURA speakers surpassed the Fyne Audio F702S speakers in every metric. The Estelon AURA speakers had much better clarity, resolution, sweetness, top-end air and a tighter articulated bass. It performed in a different class altogether.

While many club members were torn between the Fyne Audio and YG Acoustics speakers in Round One, there was no need for a debate in Round Two. The Estelon AURA speakers were the clear winner in this entry-level floorstanding speaker shootout.

Here is the **Qobuz Playlist** for the 9 demo songs that were played.

<https://open.qobuz.com/playlist/71418475>

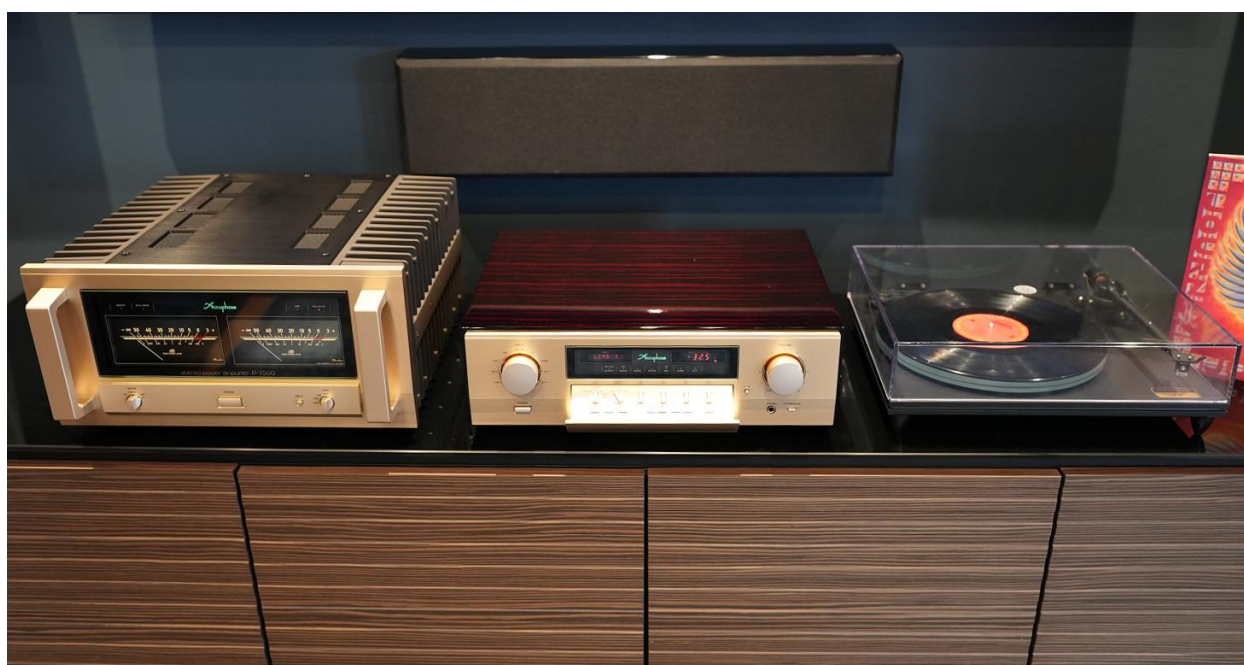
Refreshments

John and his brother-in-law **Joel** were gracious hosts for the evening. Joel brought in all the refreshments along with plenty of drinks in the bar section.



Tour of Cinematic Home A/V

Here are some pictures of the audio/video gear carried by Cinematic Home A/V.



















Closing thoughts

The Fyne Audio F702S speakers were the winner in Round One by popular vote although my personal preference was the YG Acoustics Talus speakers. It came down to a personal choice. Those who favor a more full bodied sound with extra bass would pick the Fyne Audio. Those who prefer the extra richness, clarity and tighter bass articulation would pick the YG Acoustics.

When the Fyne Audio speakers were pitted against the Estelon AURA speakers in Round Two, the differences were significant. The Estelon AURA speakers exhibited greater transparency, detail, smoothness, richness, brilliance and a faster, tighter bass. It was in a different class.

This was an enlightening demo that showed us that a higher priced speaker does not always guarantee better performance. Sometimes it depends on the test track being played, or the room placement or just personal preference for a tonal balance that sounds euphonic to ones ear.

We all had a great time. It was the perfect way to spend an evening listening to our favorite demo songs in John's acoustically treated Reference Home Theater.

On behalf of our Arizona Audio Video Club I would like to thank John and Joel for hosting yet another enjoyable and educational Club Event.

Best regards,

David Das