

WIN! Meze 109 PRO open-backed headphones worth £769!

hi-fi+



December 2022

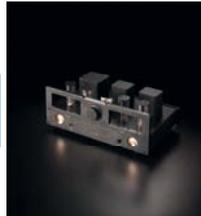
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Plus! Tests of Allnic Audio, MBL, REL, and Synergistic Research



ELAC Solano BS 283

HIGHLY COMMENDED STAND-MOUNT LOUDSPEAKER

ELAC's diminutive Solano BS 283 sell for what is a relatively modest amount, and yet they feature the company's high-performance JET5 concertinaed foil membrane tweeter, which sits above an equally high-performance 150mm mid/bass driver of the company's preferred 'aluminium sandwich' type, in a cabinet that's a combination of MDF and lustrous, beautifully applied lacquer. The bottom of the cabinet is raised a few millimetres above a metal plinth, to give the downward-facing bass reflex port space.

In our test, Simon Lucas was very taken by the ELACs, saying "High-end response is, unsurprisingly, deeply impressive. Treble sounds are crisply rendered, detail-heavy and informative on every level. We may not be able to hear to the top of the tweeter's claimed extension, but that peculiar 'absence of silence' sensation whenever

a sound is played at a frequency above the range of hearing is evident from time to time. And at the opposite end of the frequency range, there's control, straight-edged precision and, again, a level of information served up regarding texture that borders on the torrential."

He was also impressed by the fidelity of the speakers, saying, "the BS 283 is so 'honest', how you react to such neutrality is a bit like thinking about Switzerland; do you summon up visions of watches, banks and chocolates, or start recalling the 'Cuckoo Clock' speech from *The Third Man*?"

He concluded that, "If you share this 'detail and accuracy are paramount' approach, the cerebral ELAC Solano BS 283 is the logical loudspeaker choice."

Reviewed in Issue **203**

Manufacturer • elac.com

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