

Franco Serblin Accordo Essence

HIGHLY COMMENDED MID PRICE FLOORSTANDING LOUDSPEAKER



ranco Serblin (1939-2013) was one of the great Italian speaker designers who devoted his life to making some of the world's finest speakers, first with Sonus faber and - after he sold that company in 2006 - with the brand that carries his name and his legacy.

The Accordo Essence is one of the first models from the brand not springing from the master's drawing board, but from his protégé Massimiliano Favella. Like other Franco Serblin loudspeakers, this is beautifully constructed in solid walnut, and finished with chrome. The Essences are a three-way ported design; a 29mm silk dome tweeter, designed by Ragnar Lian (founder of Scan-Speak), a 150mm midrange microsphere-coned drive unit, and 180mm woofer The 'handed' rhomboid speaker sits on chrome spikes, which are adjustable and have small cups which rest on the floor.

"The Accordo Essences provide a very alluring sound." Said Rafael Todes in his review, "Nothing ugly, nothing shrill or out of place, just a sheer aesthetic beauty to the sound. The drive units show how well chosen they are, as there are no 'sonic leaps' between them, just one long mellow continuum of sound. The bass is articulate, clear and powerful and goes down surprisingly deep for a speaker with a narrowish baffle."

He felt that, "The Accordo Essence are a truly unique proposition. They look stunning, curvaceous and fabulously constructed in real wood that is guaranteed to assuage the most anti-audio partners!", and "They seem to extract the best from a piece of music without being overly analytical, and they appeal to the true music lover who just wants to enjoy their music."

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