



Audience

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ClairAudient 1+1 V5



The ClairAudient 1+1 V5 is a small stand-mount that behaves less like a conventional two-way and more like a point-source monitor scaled up into an array. Its greatest strength is midband continuity: vocals and strings emerge with an unbroken, tactile presence, and images lock in with impressive solidity and height for such a compact cabinet. Treble extension is clean and finely detailed, but it doesn't draw attention to itself; the 'air' arrives as part of the whole rather than as a spotlight.

Bass is the main trade-off: you get speed, tunefulness, and excellent low-level articulation, but not the room-pressurising depth larger boxes deliver. In return, timing is superb, and integration with a fast subwoofer can be seamless. However, in the right room, installed to bring the best out of them, they can beguile. As our review said, "the Audience ClairAudient 1+1 V5 brings Big Audio Sensibilities into the smallest spaces."

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Alongside its cables and power conditioning products, Audience is an American high-end audio company best known for compact loudspeakers built around wideband driver arrays and minimalist crossover philosophies. These rely on coherence through simplicity: rather than handing the midrange to one driver and the treble to another via a complex crossover. This approach can reduce phase shift and crossover artefacts in the critical vocal region, while increasing sensitivity and lowering excursion demands—often translating into speed, clarity, and surprising dynamic ease in small enclosures.

Audience's ClairAudient series, in particular, uses the proprietary A3 full-range driver, often augmented with subtle bass assistance. Because of their ease of drive, these speakers are frequently paired with low- to moderate-power amplifiers, including high-quality tube gear, though they still benefit from current capability and careful placement. Sonically, Audience tends to emphasise immediacy, microdynamic nuance, and a 'direct connection' to the recording, while avoiding the etched top end that can accompany some high-resolution tweeter-and-woofer two-ways. However, good set-up is part of the magic.

