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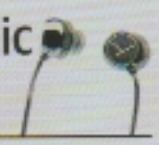
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"For excitement, the Fynes are masters of their trade"

FOR Big, room-filling sound; plenty of bass; look smart

AGAINST Slight edge to treble; need lots of room



There's something hypnotic about watching a master of their trade at work. Whether it's a racing driver perfecting every corner at high speed, an engraver precisely appending a fresh name to a trophy in seconds, or even a particularly efficient grocery-bagger in the local supermarket, seemingly effortless complete control is always impressive.

That's a little how we feel listening to the Fyne Audio F303 speakers: they're masters at work, and they make it sound easy. The F303s are the third pair of Fyne Audio floorstanders we've had in for review - and they're the third to receive a five-star rating. So this relatively new company, with its core of ex-Tannoy staff, is clearly mastering its trade.

Imposing towers

The Fyne Audio F303 speakers are a substantial pair of tower speakers. At almost 1m tall, they cut an imposing, upmarket figure, especially in the walnut finish of our review sample, with black ash and light oak also available.

There's a twin pair of speaker terminals around the back, giving you the option to bi-wire. Whichever colour

you choose, you'll have to fit the plastic feet-cum-stands and spikes. The slightly flimsy plastic here takes some sheen off what is otherwise a smart design.

The F303s feature two 15cm mid/bass drivers either side of a 25mm polyester dome tweeter. Fyne claims this, known as the D'Appolito driver configuration, helps deliver a smooth dispersion and a wide sweet spot, but as with any speaker design, the quality of the components and overall speaker build is ultimately of greater consequence.

The F303s sit above the Award-winning F302s in the Fyne range and that extra mid/bass driver and a larger cabinet are the differences between this model and its smaller five-star sibling's standard two-way design. Perhaps unsurprisingly, the difference in sound is just how you might imagine from looking at the speakers side-by-side.

We're happy to report that the same sonic characteristics we loved so much in previous Fyne speakers are present again here. Ultimately, this means the F303 speakers are exciting, upbeat and just fun, which unsurprisingly makes them hard not to admire.

KEY FEATURES



D'Appolito driver configuration



2x 15cm mid/bass drivers



3x finishes

Listening to Hans Zimmer's *Time*, we're eager to hear how well these big floorstanders fill our room. And we're not disappointed. As the track adds layer upon layer of stirring strings and brass to reach its epic denouement, the F303s effortlessly rise to the challenge. There's serious scale to be had from these hefty boxes, not to mention plenty of bottom end, thanks to that extra driver.

For powerful dynamics, these speakers will be hard to beat for the money. That said, you will need a fair amount of space generally for these speakers, and also some space between them and a wall to avoid a boomy sound.

That's not to say they're one-dimensional or unable to do delicate. Massive Attack's brooding slow-burner, *Angel*, starts slowly, with the Fyne F303s able to showcase impressive attention to detail and comfortable handling of subtle rhythms. They're almost asking to be played at decent volume, but even at lower levels they demonstrate a good touch, with notes stopping and starting precisely. Voices have texture and warmth, not as immediate and open as some rivals, but with plenty of insight.



The twin pair of speaker terminals at the back gives you the option to bi-wire



The 25mm polyester dome tweeter sits between two 15cm mid/bass drivers



Fyne says placing the mid/bass drivers and tweeter in the D'Appolito driver configuration helps deliver a wider sweet spot

"There is serious scale to be had from these hefty cabinets, not to mention plenty of bottom end. For powerful dynamics, these speakers will be hard to beat for the money"

Timing is excellent throughout. Mala's *New Life Baby Paris* has a complex drum pattern that can be hard to grasp, but these Fynes don't slip for a second. The track again highlights the bass depth and weight on offer here, which is hard to beat for the money.

The slight over-excitement in the treble that we heard on the smaller Fynes is still present, though tempered by the extra serving of bass. Only the most sensitive will find it off-putting, but it's worth bearing in mind when matching the rest of your system.

Class apart

Much as we could have second-guessed their sound based on their size relative to the smaller F302s, it's a similar story when comparing the class-leading Dali Oberon 5s. The Dalis look like they're in the year below at school and don't sound as big, bold or bassy, but the Oberons are superb when it comes to delivering a fast and full sound that's perfectly balanced through the spectrum and staggeringly detailed and clear with voices.

If you have room for a big pair of speakers, and you like an upbeat, fun sound, the Fyne Audio 303 speakers could be the ones for you. For ultimate cohesion and insight you might get more from the Award-winning Dalis, but for weight and scale and outright excitement, these Fynes really are masters of their trade.

WHAT HI-FI? says

Rating ★★★★★

SOUND ★★★★★

COMPATIBILITY ★★★★★

BUILD ★★★★★

VERDICT The Fyne F303 speakers are another pair of five-star floorstanders that deliver fun, fun and more fun



At almost a metre tall, the Fynes are an imposing pair of floorstanders