

DYNAUDIO HOME



Contour Reviews
2018

Contour 20



Powerful

"It kicks with a powerful deep bass way beyond its size that almost breaks the laws of physics."

"The Dynaudio's are definitely the most tonally neutral compact loudspeaker that I have heard"

"Refined and balanced sound with extended bass and silky smooth high frequencies. So perfect that it is hard to find words"

"If you're looking for a good pair of speakers that won't dominate the room, but fit in well with your interior, Dynaudio Contour 20 is the ideal choice. They open the door to true High End without the size or price that might induce a heart attack."

They appeal equally to heart and mind, delivering music on a silver platter. Therefore, it is no exaggeration to state that this is the reference for compact loudspeakers. Try them for yourself."

Lasse Svendsen, Chief Editor Lyd & Bilde



Lyd & Bilde, Nordic
"Best of the year, Compact Speakers"

Contour 20



Masterstroke

"Rarely have we been more eagerly awaiting a listening session than with the Contour 20 ... When the bass set in, we spontaneously reacted with a "Woah".

Massive and bone-dry the Contour rolled out the bass towards the sofa, yet with 100 percent control. The low frequencies literally shattered our worries whether the new one would sound any better than the old one. This was striking; Danish Dynamite in the very sense."

"Wide and deep sound stage, and a localization where one could almost imagine to touch and feel the musical performance."

"The Contour 20 is a real masterstroke from the Danes. The Esotar² is one of the best soft domes we know and perfectly matches the new mid-woofer."

Andreas Eichelsdörfer, Chief Editor Audio



Audio Germany
"Golden Ear Award",
Compact Speaker over 1.000,- €

Contour 20



2017

Hifi News, UK

"Awarded Outstanding Product"



2017

Download full review:



cNet, USA

"Superb Loudspeaker"

Sophisticated

"Image location is extremely good, leaving the listener in no doubt about precisely where instruments in the mix are supposed to be. Overall its performance in this respect far exceeds most of its price rivals."

Nick Tate, Editor hi-fi news

More fun

"... but with my first impressions of the new Contour 20 it was clear something's changed. With previous generations of Dynaudios the sound was big, rich and hearty; the new sound is more agile, livelier and more fun to listen to."

"The Contour 20 may be a stand mount (bookshelf) speaker, but it has the full-range power of a small tower."

Steve Guttenberg, Editor cNet

Contour 20



Best of all time

"In every way a classy and complete loudspeaker, offering a fascinatingly natural, wide-imaging performance; a performance only compact by the speaker's dimensions."

"Despite all its neutrality there was a personal, intimate note to it. Once a Contour 20 is fully run-in there is a total lack of artificial gloss or artifacts."

"The Performance is homogeneous and seamless and provides a very high level of authenticity."

"No doubt about it: With extensive effort and the know-how from decades, Dynaudio created the best compact Contour of all time. And that really means a lot!"

Result: Sound quality level 100%"

Matthias Boede, Editor Stereo



2017

Stereo Germany

"Top Reference"

Contour 20



Excellent

"We're reviewing innovatory Dynaudio standmount monitors – completely different to everything what they designed so far."

"The first Contour model was made in 1989 in Skanderborg and throughout all those years those Danish products were given dozens (if not hundreds) awards and recommendations. Despite that the Danes never gave up, improving their designs and ideas in implementing new technologies."

"The craftsmanship of build and finish is visible at first glance. Each box takes two weeks to finish completely, including natural veneers lacquered and polished many times in many layers."

"Frontpanels are different too. For the first time they used pure aluminium to mount all the drivers in it. It's massive 15 mm thick board, round-shaped at the edges. It looks very lightweight because 10 mm is built into the wood already. So it's not only decoration but at first making enclosure very solid frame for drivers."

"No doubt these results demanded excellent high-efficiency companion in treble range. Dynaudio picked top range 28 mm model – Esotar², well known of Confidence series but manufactured of different components here."

Aleksandra Chilinska, Editor Hi-Fi Choice



Hi-Fi Choice, Poland
"Recommended"

Contour 20

Explosive

"Massive, Deep bass and explosive sound, extreme resolution of fine detail and clarity..."

"One of Dynaudio's finest loudspeakers ever and one of the world's best compact loudspeakers – regardless of price"

Mats Meyer-Lie, Editor Hifi & Music



Hifi Choice, UK
"Recommended"

Deep, taut bass

"If you notice anything first it's the beautifully natural portrayal of tone and texture, a sense of balance and body that gives performers and instruments a real feeling of solidity in three dimensions"

David Vivian, Editor Hi-Fi Choice

Contour 20



Honest

“On the Contour 20 you become one with the crowd and I almost join them on the round of applause.”

“This is an excellent loudspeaker built to the standards established by previous generations of Dynaudio Contour models.

It’s firmly recommended, in fact once you discover how neutral and honest it is with your favourite music the Contour 20 might be the last loudspeaker you will ever buy.”

René van Es, Editor the ear



the ear, UK
“Five Stars”



Top class

“Please, do yourself a favor and treat yourself to these speakers. You’ll become addicted, you no longer want to be without them.”

Bert Oling, Editor music emotion



HVT Magazine, Netherlands
“Review”

Contour 20



Future classic

“I still remember it exactly. Completely tired I sprinted over to this year’s Contour press conference at the HIGH END and found a seat in the crowded room. Still half asleep I awaited the music demo. When it finally started I had a wide grin on my face. These guys at Dynaudio really had the courage to play Trentemoller’s “Vamp”. This Minimal-House track written around Karl Billes’ E-Bass shot precisely, neutrally, three-dimensional and stunningly balanced from the speakers. In complete disbelief I stared at the demo system. Surely there must be a hidden trick? A Notebook, an NAD M12 pre-amp, two NAD M22 power-amps and two new Contour 20 compact speakers – that was all. Despite the big room and the large energy-absorbing crowd I was stunned by the size and the low frequency extension of the bassline. I heard enough. This is exactly the system I have to review at home.”

“At home the deja-vu experience was immediately there: In front of me a dynamic and balanced sound image on a realistic stage. The Contour 20 reacted completely effortless to ‘Vamp’.”

“The high frequencies are not only clean, they are ultra clean and seamlessly integrated with the bass.”

“I really couldn’t find any weakness. Its lively character, its love for details, its sovereignty under all conditions and last not least its likeable styling and excellent finish will surely find a way into many, many living-rooms.”

“The price in relation to the serious development effort and the resulting great sound performance can only be described as mind-blowing.”

“They did a splendid job in Denmark: The Dynaudio Contour 20 has absolutely everything a future classic needs.”

Amre Ibrahim, Editor Image Hifi



Image Hifi, Germany
“Great sound performance”

Contour 20



Fabulous

“With the Contour 20 Dynaudio has created a fabulous compact loudspeaker, which sounds much bigger than it looks like.”

EISA Award, 2017
A jury consisting of many European hifi experts



EISA Award
“Europe’s Best Bookshelf Speaker”



Easy to love

“Don’t let the conservative looks deceive you for the Contour 20 is an exceptionally sophisticated loudspeaker that breathes quality.”

“There’s something inherently ‘right’ or at least compelling about the sound of this loudspeaker. Overall, its performance in this respect far exceeds most of its price rivals.”

AV Tech Media



AV Tech Media, UK
“Best Standmount Loudspeaker”

Contour 20



Well defined

“The imaging and staging is as holographic as only known from Electrostatic speakers, but Dynaudio managed to add the right body to this transparency. This is the right keyword because also the bass and lower mids are so well defined as normally expected from a floorstand loudspeaker.”

“On some pseudo-bass loudspeakers Yello – Kiss In Blue often rumbles around, but Dynaudio sets a clear benchmark how this song really has to sound like.”

“It’s remarkable how the Contour brings air and space to the presentation. It sets sounds free from the recording and relives music back to life – there can hardly be a greater compliment.”

“It’s not only the sound quality alone which is impressive; it’s first and foremost the ability to drag the listener deep into the music.”

“I rarely heard a loudspeaker that has such a cultivated balance in tonality and imaging.”

“The extreme effort in development down to the smallest details has created by far the best Contour ever made.”



hifi & records, Germany
“Review”

Wilfried Kress, Chief Editor hifi & records

Contour 20



Music emotion, Netherlands
“Review”

Homerun

“Rarely have I had monitor loudspeakers at home that are as versatile as these newcomers. Yes, they are quite large and require a good, powerful and open-sounding amplifier. But if you meet those requirements, you’ve actually bought a musical chameleon. Not only are these speakers capable of playing virtually any kind of music at an above average quality level, the Contour 20’s also love playing movies at serious volume levels and don’t eschew a party.

So, Dynaudio have hit a homerun with the new Contour series, a series that is absolutely worthy of the legendary Contour name.”

Werner Ero, Editor music emotion



2017




Hi-Files


Superior

“After testing, it is clear that the new speakers from the Contour series have gained curves in all the right places, and that the comprehensive redesign of the cabinet, sound drives, and all other components has yielded results. While this has been reflected in the price, which in the case of the tested speaker is 50 percent more than the previous generation, we believe that that is the price of progress – because the Dynaudio Contour 20 is superior to its predecessors in every way.”

Bojan Jovic, Editor Hi-Files



2017



Contour 20



Elegant

“I very much enjoyed my time with Dynaudio’s Contour 20 — it is indeed a high-performance loudspeaker with a transparent sound”

John Atkinson, Editor Stereophile



2017



Stereophile, USA
“High-performance loudspeaker”



Contour 30

FIDELITY

Revolution

"This new Contour is surely more revolution than evolution. Technologically but also aesthetically."

"First I served the Contour 30 some classical recordings. With piano music the notes swing and sing, it's a real pleasure. Yet it's also about the tune and the shine around the notes. „That's how a piano sounds like!“ as my mother, a piano teacher, would say."

"The Contour perfectly balances out the complexity of a violin, just with a seductive hint of sweetness. The wonderful Esotar2 tweeter is perfectly integrated in the performance."

"The Contour 30 is a real performer in the lower frequencies. One would already expect that these slim columns are capable in the lower registers. But their true subsonic performance still surprises with a punch into the guts."

"Despite their rather average sensitivity of 87 dB the Contour 30 is quite lively. It forms a highly musical system with my Naim amps and also matches well with the beguiling class-A integrated amp Sudden IA-4."

"The sound effortlessly builds up a vivid and three-dimensional stereo image. The sound is free from harshness, colorful, defined. These speakers invite to relaxed listening with pleasure. And never ever they're getting on your nerves. That sounds like friends for life."

Michael Vrzal, Editor Fidelity



Fidelity, Germany
"Review"

Contour 30

MUSIC
emotion

Beautiful

"The opening track of Dhafer Youssef's album Fly Show Fly starts with a beautiful melody played on an Oud, supported by a gently played piano. The imaging is astounding and the soundstage is spacious, wide and deep. The Esotar2 tweeter, with its silky smooth detail also plays an important role in this, but it's the new 18W55 midrange/woofer that defines the tonality...and it's beautiful."

Max Delissen, Editor music emotion



Music emotion, Netherlands
"Review"

—man of many—

Powerhouse

"The woofers are complemented by the ultra-pure, ultra-clear, ultra-sweet-sounding Esotar2 fabric soft-dome tweeter which is commonly regarded as one of the best drivers in the world."

Michael Vane, Editor man of many



man of many, Australia
"Review"

Contour 30

AUDIO TEST

STEREO | STREAMING | HIGH END

A new level

"We fell in love. With two pieces of pure audio gold which have enchanted us in our listening room for weeks."

"Since the early years Dynaudio intends to reproduce the music as natural as possible, just as the musician intended, and quite often they set milestones. The new Contour performs this art on a new level: Natural, vivid, dynamic, precise in imaging - and all of that below 8.000 Euro. This is the grand theatre, this is the big screen."

"With Boris Blank's „Electrified“ the Contour reproduces all shades of the sound spectrum, it reproduces the wide stereo effects beautifully yet concise, and it always remains natural and sovereign without ever coming even near its performance limits."

"We listen to Rebecca Pidgeon's debut album „The Raven“. We are pampered with a finely picked guitar, sentimental strings and Pidgeon's voice sounding like notes made from the smoothest chocolate. The Contour reproduces the intimate character of this song masterfully."

"We finish with Kurt Masur's interpretation of Mahler's 9th Symphony. The Contour seems to be made for this, a tender and smooth fade-out marks our farewell in this review - a magnificent final from a magnificent pair of speakers."

"It will be hard to separate from the Contour; the listening sessions over the last few weeks were pretty extended and enjoyable and even brought back long forgotten songs from our listening repertoire. The Contour seduces with music; it has the potential to make one addicted - and then there's even another level of this with the larger Contour 60."

"Everyone who listens to the Contour forgets about time. And this is clearly the ultimate compliment you can give to a loudspeaker."



2017

Audio Test, Germany

"Readers' Choice,
Best Floorstand Speaker over 5.000 €"

Audio Test

Contour 30



No weaknesses

"...wonderfully precise... as if during development an active speaker with controlled bass has served as the benchmark. Not a hint of sluggishness in the fully composed sound projection. Piano notes drop like pearls, while the drum kit was given space to breathe in a very wide, yet realistically deep presentation."

"The 30 was showing a hint of audiophile beauty with Eva Cassidy: The voice stood deep in the room, clear like a bell, without any fading."

"Most impressive: The Dynaudio kept its unbelievable transparency and holographic projection at all volume levels."

"And anyway the speaker turns out to be a versatile audiophile speaker with no weaknesses in sight: It performs any musical style, and while being overall transparent it can also play hearty and deep."

Malte Ruhnke, Chief Editor Stereoplay



2016/2017

Stereoplay, Germany

"Golden Ear Award",
Floorstand Speakers up to 10.000,- €

Contour 30

i-fidelity.net

Highlight

Excellent

"... in width and depth a precise yet generous staging, which stretches remarkably beyond the height of the speakers, outside the stereo width, and even the behind the rear wall."

"The ability to portray a ,big screen' is part of the effortless presentation of the Contour 30, with a very rich tonal spectrum."

"What fascinates most with every kind of music is how precisely the Contour 30 hits the heart and the emotion of a composition. Emilie-Claire Barlow sings These Boots Are Made For Walkin' in her own charming way, and the Contour again makes me experience all the emotions of the song: A nimble, light atmosphere as well has her urging undertone in the voice."

"The Contour 30 merges homogeneity with playfulness, substance and presence. The richness of details become a very dense and homogeneous performance, yet always playing spot-on. With this balance of qualities the Contour 30 enriches the speaker market in this price segment."

"Congratulations to Dynaudio, for their 40th anniversary and for this loudspeaker!"

Test Result: "Excellent", Awarded with the magazine's "i-fidelity highlight"

Philip Cornelius, Editor iFidelity



2017

Download full review:



iFidelity, Germany

"Outstanding", iFidelity Highlight

Contour 60

soundstage.

Terrific value

"Dynaudio has delivered a terrific value in the Contour 60."

"The Contour 60 is a big speaker that sounds like a big speaker that costs a lot more. It can produce deep, powerful bass; it has a clear, essentially neutral midrange; and it has a revealing tweeter that never sounds harsh. Know that your great recordings will sound great, your lesser recordings not so bad, and your level of enjoyment will be high, no matter what music you play through these speakers."

"In addition to the great sound, in the Contour 60 you'll also get a speaker that's built extremely well and has some upscale features, like that aluminum baffle, that many speakers costing much more wear proudly. The finish options are diverse and, from what I've seen finely executed."

"...there's really no going wrong with the Dynaudio Contour 60. It's one of the best ways to spend ten grand in the high end that I've seen in my many years of reviewing."

Jeff Fritz, Editor Sound Stage!



2017

Download full review:



Sound Stage, USA

"Equipment Reviews"

Contour 60



Vivid, colourful

“Dynaudio speakers offer a vivid, colourful and sophisticated sound and I think that they will be most liked by sound gourmands preferring listening pleasure over all technical complexities. The new model 60 reflects the large possibilities of the Contour series speakers, especially in terms of co-operation with various amplifications - regardless of whether we use a transistor or tube, the sound will always be reliably reproduced and, above all, pleasant to receive. I leave the design assessment of the new series to our readers, but I think that due to the compact, slender and harmonious shape, many users will be delighted with the new speakers.”

Arkadiusz Ogrodnik, Editor Hi-Fi Choice



Hi-Fi Choice, Poland
“Review”



Perfect balance

“A truly great speaker – divine Esotar² treble and perfect balance across the full frequency range.”

Judges' comment, Sound+Image



Sound + Image, Australia
“Loudspeaker of the year 2018”

Contour 60



A new level

“The Contour 60 remains a true Dynaudio: straightforward, transparent and truthful.”

“The Contour 60 gave a perfect example of its virtues with the often played Saturday Night by Red Norvo Quintet. The speaker projected this fantastic live recording absolutely transparent and both three-dimensional and vivid; like arranged around the band leader's micro-explosion-like Vibraphone notes placed in the middle. One seems to hear new details in this well-known title. This wasn't the only time when I was surprised by the definition of this Scandinavian speaker; and it's also blessed with excellently realistic mids.”

“These Danes also let the bulging electro bass in Jennifer Warnes' Rock You Gently drive along with pace, and they also gave the bass substance yet without any added fat.”

“...the imaging in height and size was absolutely realistic; soundscapes were always well organized and precisely projected in perfect order.”

“...an excellent, potent all-round speaker with captivating high-end flair.”

Matthias Boede, Editor Stereo



Stereo, Germany
“Review”

Contour 60

Contour



High musicality

“These new stand loudspeakers are entirely consistent with Dynaudio expertise in the field of passive speakers.

The manufacturer has studied every detail when designing the Contour 60s, this optimisation of all issues contributes to excellent listening results.

Response presents a very significant balance between high definition and musicality.”

Phillipe David, Editor Haute Fidelity



Haute Fidelite, France
“Reference”



Overwhelming

“Fantastically engaging sound with endless depth in perfect harmonic balance.”

“If you are looking for a loudspeaker that sounds potent, dynamic and neutral all at the same time, this is one of the best choices. It is not among the easiest to position or to drive, but the reward is enormous in the form of a full and balanced sonic image and unlimited tonal colors.”

Lasse Svendsen, Chief Editor Lyd & Bilde



Lyd & Bilde, Nordic
“6 of 6 stars”



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