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Subject: Looking for some speaker magic in the UK.  
Posted by [PaulW](#) on Sat, 06 Jan 2007 00:15:33 GMT

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Hello and a happy New Year from the UK. I'm doing a bit of forward planning and looking for a pair of high efficiency speaker kits to match the Bottlehead 2A3 amps I intend to build this year. Also to be built this year is a separate building to house the stereo and home cinema in our garden. The dimensions on the initial plans are (internal) 12.5 x 17.8 x 8 feet (WxLxH) of double skin brick with a filled cavity. I play all types of music from classical to rock to folk and jazz. I have a total dislike of prominent treble and find all the modern commercial designs I've heard far too bright for my taste. As for the bass region, I'm happy for it to go deep but this also needs to be absolutely integrated and offer detail & speed. Again I find most of the modern commercial designs I've heard to provide exaggerated and overblown bass to provide the impression of bass detail without really delivering. This has led me time and time again to return to small (and probably old fashioned) stand-mount speakers for the speed and detail I like and do without the bass. So given all the above, would you recommend any of the Pi speakers for me to try? I'd really like to give corner horns a try and the ones I quite fancy are either the Theatre 7 or Thermionic 8. My assumption here is that given the size of the base driver I'll be able to get real and not pseudo bass, or would either of these be too big for the size of room. Placement would be in the corners at on (narrow) end. Obviously I've got plenty of time to think about this over the next few months, but I do like to have a planned direction of travel. The use of corner horns appeal as they will allow maximum use of the room space. Any advice will be most appreciated. I assume shipping to the UK is no problem, just expensive?

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Subject: Re: Looking for some speaker magic in the UK.  
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Sat, 06 Jan 2007 16:53:30 GMT

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Subject: Re: Looking for some speaker magic in the UK.  
Posted by [PaulW](#) on Sat, 06 Jan 2007 18:02:15 GMT

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Thanks for the response. So if I source the drive units locally all I'd need to get shipped over would be the crossovers, logo's & wiring/construction instructions? I did find a UK supplier of Eminence drivers, but they do seem very costly here. Could you please email me a copy of the plans for the theater 7's so I can see what I'm letting myself in for, both size and construction wise? One of my concerns is with how 'hot' the titanium compression drivers are - my hearing

seems very intolerant of any undue emphasis in this region.RegardsPaul

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Subject: You've got mail!

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Sat, 06 Jan 2007 18:27:58 GMT

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Subject: Re: You've got mail!

Posted by [PaulW](#) on Sat, 06 Jan 2007 18:41:54 GMT

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Many thanksOh, and a quick price check shows average UK price for the three drive units (inc. flair for the PSD20020 to be £167 (\$317approx) per side.regardsPaul

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Subject: they look huge on the room plan.....

Posted by [PaulW](#) on Sat, 06 Jan 2007 23:19:23 GMT

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Not so sure about these now, having cut out paper templates and put them on the room plan. Even in the room corners there will only be just over 6 foot between their inner front corners and I think they may dominate the room too much. Is that enough space for them to work well? Anyway, Ive got some large cardboard boxes so I'll make a mock-up and put them in our largest room and see how I feel about the size. But may have to consider some of your smaller offerings.RegardsPaul

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Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Sat, 06 Jan 2007 23:59:10 GMT

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They're smaller and better, using more expensive drivers. The difference in size makes the cabinets cheaper to build though and depending on the wood and finish you choose, may actually cost less to build overall.

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Subject: Re: You've got mail!

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Sun, 07 Jan 2007 00:04:15 GMT

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That price isn't too bad. When you come closer to deciding what model you want, we'll check surface parcel post prices and see which is cheaper, shipping kits from here or buying parts locally in the UK.

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loudspeakers

Posted by [PaulW](#) on Sun, 07 Jan 2007 00:08:52 GMT

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I'll have a look at those, although I'm trying to keep the budget low as I've never even heard this type of speaker design before. As to the finish - I thought I'd have a go at a spray paint finish, but with cloth covers over the bass unit sides.RegardsPaul

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Subject: Re: You've got mail!

Posted by [PaulW](#) on Sun, 07 Jan 2007 00:14:13 GMT

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Thanks - as I said I'm really getting ahead of myself here as the the room isn't even built yet, so I can take my time or perhap build some parts! But I'm going to order the Paramours next week. Also I will have to make these cabinets in the 'new' room (or out of doors) as there will be no where big enough to work in the main house.regardsPaul

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Subject: Ouch - just seen the RRP price for JBL drivers in the UK

Posted by [PaulW](#) on Sun, 07 Jan 2007 01:31:44 GMT

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Don't think I really want to commit to the outlay for the professional series. So it looks like it will have to be Theatre 6 or Stage 7 for this design type based on size and price. Can i take it that none of these will have a fundamental problem with either the Paramour amps or my room size?Thanks for your help so farPaul.

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Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Sun, 07 Jan 2007 02:54:21 GMT

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cornerhorn.

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Subject: likely 'in room' sound?

Posted by [PaulW](#) on Sun, 07 Jan 2007 12:58:19 GMT

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Would you have any opinion of which of the proposed speakers would interact best with the room [(internal) 12.5 x 17.8 x 8 feet (WxLxH) of double skin brick with a filled cavity, plasterboard ceiling] Or given all the above, do you feel there would be a better option, up to the cost of the stage 7?As the room is a dedicated Hi-Fi/home cinema area I won't have any of the usual 'domestic' constraints.RegardsPaul

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Subject: Re: likely 'in room' sound?

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Sun, 07 Jan 2007 16:49:52 GMT

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I've always found that the cornerhorn sounds best, mostly because the directivity is uniform throughout the audio band. The model cornerhorn you choose is more a cost and size consideration. As for room interaction, I suggest modeling with Cara. The only thing that concerns me is a possible lack of damping. If the walls are brick, you may need additional damping to reduce room modes. If there is a dead air space filled with insulation between two layers of brick, I can see that really helping with thermal loss but it won't to much to damp room modes. You need sound absorbent materials spaced away from walls to damp room modes, or you need lossy (non-rigid) walls, or best of all, have both lossy walls and absorbent materials.

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Subject: Re:Cara - look likes fun, thanks. (NT)

Posted by [PaulW](#) on Sun, 07 Jan 2007 17:42:35 GMT

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Subject: Re: likely 'in room' sound?  
Posted by [dB](#) on Sun, 07 Jan 2007 21:44:48 GMT  
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Hi,I was thinking of the possibility, just in the case of box speakers and not with corner horns, of Paul building it in brick and mortar (just like two fireplaces/bass boxes he would add to the Room, frnt panel in wood - also space for the highs units on top at project distance.) Just an idea, because after that you can't move them, but you can always make the box smaller (or larger if you demolish) and you can not go on "tour" way of saying. I don't know if the garden allows such an option. Best Regards.

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Posted by [PaulW](#) on Sun, 07 Jan 2007 23:02:17 GMT  
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Wayne - many thanks for all your help. Going to order the Paramours next week, chase some builders and start the room project rolling, then will most likely be back for some stage 7's, when these are done. Unless it all goes way over budget, then I suppose there is always the Studio tower 2.RegardsPaul

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Subject: Stage 7 - 18  
Posted by [PaulW](#) on Mon, 08 Jan 2007 14:42:28 GMT  
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Just going over the price list and dimensions and notice the the Stage 7 with the 18 driver has the listed dimensions of 66x24x18 which seems a little at odds compared to the others using 18 drivers. But this seems idea for my requirements, if these dimensions are correct then this would suit better than the 7 with the 15 inch driver.RegardsPaul

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Subject: Re: Stage 7 - 18  
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Mon, 08 Jan 2007 17:54:06 GMT  
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Subject: Re: likely 'in room' sound?

Posted by [PaulW](#) on Mon, 08 Jan 2007 18:00:52 GMT

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If I was one of those dedicated Japanese audiophiles then I might have got an architect to design them into the structure of the room. But as I may have to sell the house one day I'm not too sure it would be a positive aspect for many buyers :->)Paul

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