
Subject: Stopped at the Bose store
Posted by [newsjeff](#) on Thu, 25 Mar 2004 03:24:17 GMT
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I had some time to kill at my local hi-end mall Monday. My girlfriend and her sister wanted to buy some clothes. So, I stopped in the Bose store to check out their speakers. I got a chance to listen to the 601s and the 901s for about 30 minutes. The salesman played the Dave Matthews live from Central Park DVD. The 601 had very boomy, loose bass. The 901s had no bass at all. I thought there was very little separation in the instruments. The horns and the strings sounded bright to me. The salesmen told me the 901s weren't hooked up right, something about the active equalizer not being installed. Then he blamed the problems with the sound on the Onkyo receiver. It was interesting talking to these guys, to be honest. The one salesman said the Bose blew away the Polk LSI series. I told him I have heard the LSIs, which use the Viva XT25 ring tweeter. The Bose doesn't even come close to the LSIs. I did find a couple of things interesting. Both salesmen I spoke with talked highly of tubes. When I asked if I could run the 901s with a 7 watt set, they had no idea. The salesmen couldn't tell me the efficiency rating on any of the speakers. To be honest, I had to explain what efficiency meant. After checking the computer, the one salesman came back to say Bose didn't publish the efficiency of their speakers at all. Hmm. Also, the \$299 Bose noise cancelling headphones sounded good. Almost as good as the Grado SR-60s I got on Audiogon for \$45. Well, not quite as good. I love my Grados. It was a fun way to kill 1/2 hour at the mall.

Subject: Re: Stopped at the Bose store
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Thu, 25 Mar 2004 04:32:06 GMT
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Does anyone ever run the 901's with a sub? I'm sure someone does this but I mean is there a factory recommended subwoofer implementation for 901's?

Subject: Re: Stopped at the Bose store
Posted by [Adrian Mack](#) on Thu, 25 Mar 2004 06:42:41 GMT
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haha. Its funny to go to these "Hifi" stores and make an ass out of the salesman!

Subject: Re: Stopped at the Bose store
Posted by [Bill Wassilak](#) on Thu, 25 Mar 2004 14:45:20 GMT
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>>The 901s had no bass at all. I thought there was very little separation in the instruments. The horns and the strings sounded bright to me. The salesman told me the 901s weren't hooked up right, something about the active equalizer not being installed. They do sound like shit especially without the equalizer, they dump so much low+hi frequency boost out of this EQ just to get them to sound half way decent.>>When I asked if I could run the 901s with a 7 watt set, they had no idea. I don't think so, all your amp headroom would be eaten up by the +15db boost below 100hz and the +10db boost above 10khz that the piece of shit equalizer puts out. And Bose says in the 901 owners manual recommend amp power no less than 10w rms, even with this I bet you wouldn't be able to crank it up very loud without running out of headroom in the amp. Bill W.

Subject: Re: Stopped at the Bose store
Posted by [wasteh202](#) on Sat, 27 Mar 2004 21:40:13 GMT
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I have read many times the the 901's do not sound right without the equalizer or even if the equalizer is not adjusted correctly. As far as the Onkyo amp... ?? I don't think that should be a big factor.

Subject: Re: Stopped at the Bose store
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Sun, 28 Mar 2004 11:01:26 GMT
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Yeah, the 901 is an array of fairly small full-rangers, so EQ is pretty much mandatory if there's no subwoofer and supertweeter. I was just wondering if Bose ever sold a subwoofer to take the low-end duty instead of bumping up the bass.

Subject: Re: NYAAH, NYAAH!
Posted by [BillEpstein](#) on Sun, 28 Mar 2004 17:03:43 GMT
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Bose 901's, with the equalizer engaged and properly placed in the room reproduce full orchestral and especially Opera recordings at a level few systems can equal! A Kenwood KD-650 with Ortofon cartridge, Harmon Kardon 8xx something pre-amp and Bedini 25/25 produced the most stunning Turandot with Sutherland and Pavarotti, Mehta conducting. Nowadays this Infidel has other values but in 1978 that was something people came from miles around to here. NYAAAH!

Subject: Guess who?

Posted by [akhilesh](#) on Fri, 02 Apr 2004 17:27:18 GMT

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Buy Other Sound EquipmentBunch of Sh__Y EquipmentBOoooooom SEiiiiizzzleNO HIs No LOs
Must be _____Basically Optimized for Sonic Excruciation:-)-akhilesh

Subject: Re: Stopped at the Bose store

Posted by [GarMan](#) on Mon, 05 Apr 2004 19:53:22 GMT

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You guys make fun of Bose speakers all you want, but you can't ignore the fact that they are the best audio marketing company in the world. Within the general population, Bose is a prestige brand that people actually aspire to purchase. Men, early twenties, getting their first job, reads Maxim, think Bose is "cool". Most of you may see this as a con job, but as someone who's been in marketing for the past 10 years, I think it's brilliant!What's Bose's strapline? Something like "Inspired by Research"? What they didn't do was explain that they really mean "Market Research".Gar.

Subject: Re: Stopped at the Bose store

Posted by [Bill Wassilak](#) on Tue, 06 Apr 2004 17:10:36 GMT

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Exactly, that's why people that know better DON'T buy Bose. Marketing, how else can they sell the bullshit. They don't even provide data on there products to back them up.Bill W.

Subject: Re: Stopped at the Bose store

Posted by [mollecon](#) on Wed, 12 May 2004 01:32:14 GMT

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The only thing I ever heard Bose actually do get some positive respond on (from audiophiles, that is), was the bass from the 901 system, WITH the EQ on, that is... They are supposedly quite capable in that area.Some years ago I was at a party where they used a couple of small Bose speakers - they had a 8" bass unit & two cone tweeters (the 301?). They did have a pretty good bass (especially the size of the box taken into consideration) & was able to play amazingly loud without actually sounding overloaded or break... They were driven by a large Sony amp, well over 100 watts PCH.

Subject: Re: Stopped at the Bose store

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Wed, 12 May 2004 03:43:04 GMT

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The Bose 301 has an 8" midwoofer in a ported cabinet and it used to have a single 3" cone tweeter with a reflector. Now days, I think you're right that it has a couple of 2.5" cone tweeters. To be honest, the 301 isn't a bad speaker for its price range and type.
