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Subject: How does Alter Model 19's compare to today's offerings?

Posted by [drguayo](#) on Thu, 07 Apr 2005 20:46:26 GMT

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I've never heard the Altec Model 19's although I'm quite familiar with horns( Pi Premiums, all sorts of Klipsch, pro cabinets - JBL/Yorkville/EV ). I will be auditioning a pair this weekend. These are supposedly mint condition cabinets with mint condition drivers and even include original boxes. This is from an estate sale, so I believe a professional appraiser came in and priced everything the old guy had. The family has set a firm price at \$1150 USD. All opinions welcomed. Is this a fair price? a steal of a price? what to look for in the audition? thanks everyone craig.

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Subject: Re: How does Alter Model 19's compare to today's offerings?

Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Fri, 08 Apr 2005 00:28:19 GMT

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I have a pair; that's a good price if they are as good condition as you say. If the horns and drivers work and are original there is nothing to look for, I would just buy them. Different years and serial numbers have some more desirable drivers but none of them are weak. It is very hard to recommend something like the 19's; if you know what they are then you already have an opinion. They are the best of the vintage speakers in terms of sound quality and if you like music.. well that's what they sound like. live music. They have beautiful tone. I have found them to be very amplifier sensitive, so be aware of that when you commit. They don't excel at a lot of the audiophile approved behaviours; imaging, soundstage, all that. But damn; they do play music. There is a ton of personal opinion on these speakers, for some reason everyone is an expert; but when you hear them you'll know right away if you want them. Just try and use a reasonable amp; preferably low power tube of good quality for the audition. Russell C is very knowledgeable concerning Altec speakers, maybe he will chime in.

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Subject: Re: How does Alter Model 19's compare to today's offerings?

Posted by [GarMan](#) on Sun, 10 Apr 2005 03:08:07 GMT

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Craig, if you end up with these, I'm inviting myself over for a listen. Seller still has original box?! Now, that for a completist! gar.

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Subject: How did the audition go?

Posted by [colinhester](#) on Thu, 21 Apr 2005 22:41:55 GMT

Just curious if you picked them up or not.....Colin

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