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Subject: eminence beta12CX

Posted by [DanTheMan](#) on Sun, 15 Jan 2006 06:54:59 GMT

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has anyone had any experience with the coaxial drivers from eminence? The 12 incher looks like you could apply a resister to the tweeter and make the response very flat. Is this a fact, or is my poor understanding of crossovers shining through? If put in a great encloser, do you think that they would sound remotely like Tannoys? Does anyone here have an opinion they would like to share about Tannoy speakers? I've heard their (i believe) heritage series--it has the canterburry, westminster etc...--and it definitely stood out from the pack of "home" loudspeakers. I really want that sound, but don't want to spend any where near that price. Any advice? Thanks a lot in advance.

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Subject: Re: eminence beta12CX

Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Sun, 15 Jan 2006 13:45:47 GMT

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D-Man; Look at Hurdy Gurdy's post in the Speaker Forum. He has an Open Baffle speaker using that driver modified that he likes a lot. Will it sound like a Tannoy??? It will sound good I don't know about replicating a Tannoy. But I agree the Tannoy is a very good speaker. So; what is it you like so much about them? If you can express that maybe you can find what you need.

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Subject: Re: eminence beta12CX

Posted by [hurdy\\_gurdyman](#) on Sun, 15 Jan 2006 22:29:43 GMT

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Unfortunately, I haven't had a chance to hear the famous Tannoy horns. I'd love to compare them with the Hawthorne Audio drivers custom built by Eminence for open baffle use. Here's a like to Hawthorne Audio. <http://hawthorneaudio.com/> If memory serves, the Tannoy's are a bit more efficient than the Hawthorne's. Because the Tannoy's are made for a rear loaded horn and the Hawthorne's are made for open baffle, the two drivers are not interchangeable, so you wouldn't want to build a Tannoy horn for a Hawthorne driver. (wasn't there some Tannoy bass reflex speakers also?) So far, I can't find anything to complain about with the Hawthorne Audio Silver Iris speakers. They do need some bass augmentation when used on a reasonable sized baffle, but even if you buy the matching bass driver, it's still cheaper than Tannoys, and the open baffle type enclosure is far easier and cheaper than a Tannoy horn enclosure. Also, the horn high frequency drivers on these sound very detailed and no noticable horn "nasties", at least as far up as I can hear (admittedly not all that high anymore). The highs sound much nicer than the highs in a pair of Klipsch Heresy-1's I recently sold which had EV T-35 horns. Crossover is at 3.5 kHz and is well made. Mids sound very natural. Dave

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Subject: Re: eminence beta12CX

Posted by [Norris Wilson](#) on Mon, 16 Jan 2006 15:55:39 GMT

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Say Dave, Did you replicate the baffle of the Hawthorne Solo speaker? Or, have you built the baffle that JohninCR has kindly offered for use with the Silver Iris? I would love to try the Silver Iris with Darell's bass augmeter driver when it is available. But, I have some reservations about the ability of a 15" woofer to reproduce the midrange area with quality and detail as a smaller diameter driver could that is dedicated to this region. Would you please give us a description of how you feel the quality of the midrange of the Silver Iris coaxial driver is? I know this is subjective, since it would be based on opinion and your personal taste. But your opinion could be helpful in my search for an open baffle speaker system, like the up and coming Duet. Thanks Norris Wilson

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Subject: Re: eminence beta12CX

Posted by [hurdy\\_gurdyman](#) on Mon, 16 Jan 2006 23:18:18 GMT

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Norris, I made baffles similar to the Solo baffles. Here's pics: [http://pg.photos.yahoo.com/ph/the\\_hurdy\\_gurdyman/album?.dir=c24c&.src=ph&.store=&.prodid=&.done=http%3a//pg.photos.yahoo.com/ph/the\\_hurdy\\_gurdyman/my\\_photos](http://pg.photos.yahoo.com/ph/the_hurdy_gurdyman/album?.dir=c24c&.src=ph&.store=&.prodid=&.done=http%3a//pg.photos.yahoo.com/ph/the_hurdy_gurdyman/my_photos) The mids sound more natural than either my EV LS-12's or LS-8's. They are similarly detailed to the Klipsch Heresy's I had but are less "etched" sounding. Less listener fatigue over time than the Heresy's. They just sound natural to me. I wish I could compare them to some popular speaker that everyone is familiar, but I have what I have. Dave

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Subject: Re: eminence beta12CX

Posted by [Norris Wilson](#) on Tue, 17 Jan 2006 01:11:43 GMT

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Hi Dave, Thanks for the description of how you feel the Silver Iris sounds in the midrange. Also, your baffles look nice from what I can tell from the pictures. I have a few questions if I may. Is the main baffle board covered with some type of porous material to deal with defraction, like possibly cork? Is the main baffle board made of the same material as the wings, pine? Or, is it made from some type of plywood or MDF? The wings seem to be in a fixed position of around 35°. Is this position fixed where you get the best bass integration? Or, do you have to adjust them for

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different recorded materials, some with too much or too little bass information? I see that you took a picture of both of your speakers from what looks to be your listening position. Did you get a better integration with the speakers toed in to cross in front of you, pointed directly at you, or pointed slightly on each side of you and crossing behind? Does the inclusion of the wings and top shelf help in reducing the interferences from the rear wave and dipole effect? Or, are they mainly to increase the size of the baffle to increase the bass response? Do you get good bass, possibly 40Hz to 50Hz, with the drivers as high from the floor as you have them mounted? Your speakers look to be about three to four feet from the back wall, is this where they have the best bass response, balanced sound? And finally, I see you have your TV set between your speakers. Does this create any problems with imaging, or do you move them further out from the wall when playing music? Thanks Norris

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Subject: Re: eminence beta12CX  
Posted by [hurdy\\_gurdyman](#) on Tue, 17 Jan 2006 04:24:46 GMT  
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Norris, >Is the main baffle board covered with some type of porous material to deal with defraction, like possibly cork? Is the main baffle board made of the same material as the wings, pine? Or, is it made from some type of plywood or MDF?

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Subject: Re: eminence beta12CX  
Posted by [Norris Wilson](#) on Tue, 17 Jan 2006 12:19:57 GMT  
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Thanks Dave for answering my many questions, you have been very helpful. The 31.5Hz at -3db bass response is pretty darned good for a single 15" OB speaker, wonderful. I hope you enjoy listening to and finishing this OB project. I am looking forward to Darrel getting the Bass augmenter available for sale. Thanks again Sincerely Norris Wilson

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Subject: Re: eminence beta12CX  
Posted by [hurdy\\_gurdyman](#) on Tue, 17 Jan 2006 15:29:02 GMT  
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I posted another graph on my photos site. This one is measured from 8 feet back instead of 12 feet. It just goes to show that the warble tones test isn't a good way to judge a speaker. The results vary quite a bit from the first graph. The bass rolls off faster up close. The room has a lot to do with it I'd guess. In my room, I get 30Hz at the 12 foot listening position. At 8 feet, I don't. Maybe has something to do with deep bass waves needing room to expand. Remember, OB's don't pressurize the room like a box does, so the bass waves may need to expand their full length

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to be heard at the proper level. Warble tone testing drove me nuts with all the variations I'd get measuring former speakers I've owned. Move the mike a foot and get a completely different response graph. To my ears, at the 12-foot listening position, the Silver Iris speakers have a very "fast" and clean sounding bass. The weight on the deeper tones is a bit lean and can benefit from some subwoofer augmentation, but they can be enjoyed on most music without help. It's certainly not hard to add a sub below 40 or 50 Hz if you want a little more bass foundation. Probably the bass driver offered by Hawthorne Audio would be as good a match as any reasonably affordable bass augmentation you'll find.Dave

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Subject: Re: eminence beta12CX  
Posted by [Bob Brines](#) on Tue, 17 Jan 2006 18:12:33 GMT  
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Dave, I've found that in-room measurements with an SPL meter are next to useless. Everything is so critically dependent upon room interaction that a minor -- a few inches -- change in positioning of anything makes the results completely different. Above 1k Hz, even moving your head will dramatically change the SPL readings. These are harsh words for a guy that designs by modeling and measurement. All you can do is pour yourself a couple of fingers of single-malt and listen. Your ears will tell you when it's right.Bob

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Subject: Re: eminence beta12CX  
Posted by [hurdy\\_gurdyman](#) on Tue, 17 Jan 2006 21:55:19 GMT  
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>Your ears will tell you when it's right

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Subject: Re: eminence beta12CX  
Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Wed, 18 Jan 2006 00:50:47 GMT  
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Carefull; thats heresy in some parts around here.

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Subject: Re: eminence beta12CX  
Posted by [hurdy\\_gurdyman](#) on Wed, 18 Jan 2006 02:54:19 GMT  
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>Carefull; thats heresy in some parts around here.

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Subject: Re: eminence beta12CX

Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Wed, 18 Jan 2006 13:08:33 GMT

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And so whats wrong with that? I need to vent here. How can a person dismiss the perception of quality sound heard by guys; like yourself, who know music; as a bias because maybe it doesn't correlate with some measured spec?Thats beyond me. Like dismissing all tube amps and people who like them as simpleminded children fascinated by the glowing bulbs but completely incapable of making a reasoned judgement of the sound because they are captivated by the glow.Also; can you re-post your website on the music forum for us? Thanks.

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Subject: Re: eminence beta12CX

Posted by [hurdy\\_gurdyman](#) on Wed, 18 Jan 2006 15:56:32 GMT

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>And so whats wrong with that? I need to vent here. How can a person dismiss the perception of quality sound heard by guys; like yourself, who know music; as a bias because maybe it doesn't correlate with some measured spec? Thats beyond me. Like dismissing all tube amps and people who like them as simpleminded children fascinated by the glowing bulbs but completely incapable of making a reasoned judgement of the sound because they are captivated by the glow. Also; can you re-post your website on the music forum for us? Thanks

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Subject: Re: eminence beta12CX

Posted by [DanTheMan](#) on Wed, 18 Jan 2006 19:07:30 GMT

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the thing i found most impressive about them was the way that every instrument sounds like it does in the real world--meaning that they have the proper weight and balance. The treble doesn't seem artificially inflated and pronounced. They retain their dynamics at high volumes--louder than I'll ever need. They just sound natural and coherent, but they cost too much money for me to afford.

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Subject: Re: eminence beta12CX

Posted by [DanTheMan](#) on Wed, 18 Jan 2006 19:16:49 GMT

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those look great! I want open baffles. I have a set of JBL open baffle speakers I made and they are my second favorite speaker I ever heard--and the drivers only cost me \$10 each! My favorite being Tannoys. Do you really get the crossover and compression driver when you buy those Hawthorne drivers? The price seems impossible for that.

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Subject: those look great! I'm impressed!--nt  
Posted by [DanTheMan](#) on Wed, 18 Jan 2006 19:23:20 GMT  
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Subject: Re: eminence beta12CX  
Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Wed, 18 Jan 2006 19:39:45 GMT  
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How can we say this; even though as a musician you may not care about playback, I would think that your training and constant application would qualify your ears to tell when something sounds good or doesn't were you to be asked seriously.I know; believe me most musicians could care less about expensive or high quality audio. But they can tell if something sounds good or not; otherwise, how could they play?

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Subject: Re: eminence beta12CX  
Posted by [DanTheMan](#) on Wed, 18 Jan 2006 19:40:19 GMT  
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I was an audiophile before i was a musician. What you say is right--I have many musician friend's who like my playback system, but don't care to have anything like it. They are happy with their sony "plastic stereo in a box," and still enjoy picking on the performance of the musicians. I guess I can't hear as well as the average musician because I need a good playback system to really hear the performance. Though I can still appreciate a good performance on a bad stereo, but I always want to take the media home and try again.(big smile)

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Subject: Re: eminence beta12CX  
Posted by [hurdy\\_gurdyman](#) on Wed, 18 Jan 2006 20:12:16 GMT  
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It's an introductory price. Don't know how long it'll last or how much the regular price is. And yes, the crossovers are included. They are well made.Dave

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Subject: Re: eminence beta12CX  
Posted by [hurdy\\_gurdyman](#) on Wed, 18 Jan 2006 20:21:06 GMT  
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>How can we say this; even though as a musician you may not care about playback, I would think that your training and constant application would qualify your ears to tell when something sounds good or doesn't were you to be asked seriously. I know; believe me most musicians could care less about expensive or high quality audio. But they can tell if something sounds good or not; otherwise, how could they play?

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Subject: Re: eminence beta12CX  
Posted by [DanTheMan](#) on Thu, 19 Jan 2006 01:16:09 GMT  
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I gotta thy them! Thanks a lot! I think I'll make my baffle relatively large(or at least the "wings"). Is their anything you would do differently or anything you would like me try when I make mine?

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Subject: Re: eminence beta12CX  
Posted by [hurdy\\_gurdyman](#) on Thu, 19 Jan 2006 16:11:28 GMT  
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You might want to give this guy a holler. He has some interesting ideas. I haven't tried them yet, but may whip up something later in the spring. The baffles I made now are doing just fine, though.Dave <http://www.hawthorneaudio.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=20>  
Another idea

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Subject: Re: eminence beta12CX  
Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Thu, 19 Jan 2006 16:22:09 GMT

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I'll buy that. But in pop music it is all about listening. One learned by emulating one's heroes and then branching out on your own. One of the stipulations was how those individuals obtained the sound they realised. When I watched my fav drummers I always studied their kit and their sound. I can't see any other way. I once hammered Dino Danelli for half an hour about his sound and how he arrived at it. I was about 15 at the time. That's how we learned then. In Jazz you would not even think of playing without first hearing the masters. I don't think it can be done. You sit at the feet and absorb everything about the sound in order to learn. I guess it is different for classical musicians.

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**Subject:** Re: eminence beta12CX  
**Posted by** [hurdy\\_gurdyman](#) on Thu, 19 Jan 2006 21:53:26 GMT  
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In the traditional folk music field that I play in, some of us learn "by ear" and others learn by reading. I threw out the sheet music over twenty years ago. I know some people just can't play anything if they don't have the music right in front of them. I get frustrated with some of them, as folk-type music varies a lot with individual impressions of a song and what version of a traditional song a person performs. Someone who can only read and not play by ear can't pick up on what's going on if the song varies a bit from what's written in front of them. Dave

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**Subject:** Re: eminence beta12CX  
**Posted by** [Manualblock](#) on Thu, 19 Jan 2006 22:09:37 GMT  
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Yeah; Folk Music has such a wide and deep presence I wish there were more posts surrounding the genre on this forum. So; do you have any good links? I try to post about music on the forum only to drum up some interest and maybe get some hints at what's good for myself; alas, doesn't seem to go anywhere. And I cannot listen to the faux jazz tweety birds everyone seems to be enamored of. Krall; Monheit; Jones. Can you get any more boring and flat and toneless and ... well; you get the idea. There's a good article in Atlantic Monthly about that very subject in this month's issue; Nat Hentoff said; "If you tried to tap your toe to their jazz your foot would fall asleep." But thanks for the replies and if you got any good suggestions.

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**Subject:** Re: eminence beta12CX  
**Posted by** [hurdy\\_gurdyman](#) on Fri, 20 Jan 2006 05:04:33 GMT  
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There are lots of sites for individual folk artists, but I haven't found any good discussion sites yet. What particular type of folk would you be interested in? Bluegrass, Old Time, Cajun/Zydeco, Celtic, balladry, modern folk, Folk Rock? All instrumental or more vocal oriented? Dave

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Subject: Good link for lots of artists  
Posted by [akhilesh](#) on Fri, 20 Jan 2006 14:32:35 GMT  
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[www.cdbaby.com](http://www.cdbaby.com)

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Subject: Re: eminence beta12CX  
Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Fri, 20 Jan 2006 16:52:56 GMT  
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Actually I am not that knowledgeable regarding Folk Music. I know of stuff from the sixties; Ian and Sylvia/Theodore Bikel, people like that. Then I am slightly familiar with Blues in terms of regional differences like West Texas and Piedmont Style. Of course The Clancy Brothers and Chieftains. I used to listen to the , Thistle and Shamrock hour. But I like the real folk tunes from all countries. Caribbean Calypso and Celtic Fife And Drum. Sea Chanteys like those Jerry Garcia favors. The basic and simple stuff. Like the music you hear on the Smithsonian Collection. Old mining tunes. I used to study African Tribal music in order to steal some drum techniques when I was younger.

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Subject: Re: Good link for lots of artists  
Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Fri, 20 Jan 2006 16:54:06 GMT  
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So; what have you found that you liked on that site?

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Subject: Re: eminence beta12CX  
Posted by [hurdy\\_gurdyman](#) on Fri, 20 Jan 2006 19:12:54 GMT  
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Here's a few of places to find some real traditional

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stuff.<http://www.greenlinnet.com>/<http://www.rounder.com>/<http://www.fellside.com>/There were some more I was thinking of, but they seem to have gone under. A Thistle and Shamrock is a good place to hear celtic type folk music. Another NPR show is The Folk Sampler, with more Appalachian type and other non-Celtic music. I have also heard Celtic Connections and Our Front Porch, which are available on some NPR stations. I know a lot of sites with lyrics, but not so many with recordings for sale. I usually look up individual artists and order from whatever they have available. Some of these people are pretty obscure and can't be found on most record sales inventory. I suggest going to a few folk/bluegrass/celtic festivals and get an idea of what's happening in this type of music to get some ideas. Besides, the live acoustic jams are great! Dave

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Subject: Re: eminence beta12CX  
Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Fri, 20 Jan 2006 20:59:12 GMT  
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Thanks Dave Thats great stuff. Appreciate it.

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Subject: well, I took the plunge  
Posted by [DanTheMan](#) on Fri, 20 Jan 2006 22:12:25 GMT  
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and bought one. I'm going to try to use it in a different application though. It's going into what I now use as my stereo/guitar amplifier. It's my practise amp and it has a CD/MD input on the front of it. All of the music I listen to comes from this thing since I moved to California and I'm just hoping that this will make it sound considerably better. I live in an apartment and left my tools and various relatives' houses in Ohio. I'll have to have someone build my cabinets. It should be interesting. Does anyone have any suggestions for me? I have only a couple screw drivers and mechanics tools. Oh yes, I'm getting married soon so WAF will now enter my life. Thanks Hurdy-gurdy man, that website is sweet! Those are just the speakers I've been looking for.

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Subject: Re: well, I took the plunge  
Posted by [hurdy\\_gurdyman](#) on Sat, 21 Jan 2006 00:34:15 GMT  
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I bet they'd sound good in a guitar amp. They'll be a very responsive speaker. Dave

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Subject: Re: Good link for lots of artists  
Posted by [Skip](#) on Sat, 21 Jan 2006 23:18:12 GMT  
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Josh Fixx and the Furious Force (varied rock)Jolie Holland (jazzy folkie)Skip

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Subject: Re: Good link for lots of artists  
Posted by [akhilesh](#) on Mon, 23 Jan 2006 14:40:31 GMT  
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Lots. The cool thing is to explore & discover talented new artists. THE "sounds like" search function is great. I just got an album by a dude called Jude (who sings in a high pitched voice, but good lyrics)and another called dead lovers society by Lucien Desar, which is really good. If you like Jazz, but can;t stand the syrupy voices of the current divas, try out lush life (the album) as well some lady (forget her name) and her YES MEn. Also discovered a lot of local talent on there. ALL in all a great site, where the artist gets to keep the majority of the money (at least so far...i hope the owner does not get greedy). -akhilesh

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