Subject: Life beyond 1" ?
Posted by bmar on Thu, 06 Feb 2003 23:41:21 GMT
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Hi AllSince this is more or less a self review you'll have to take it for what it's worth! After a few years of listening to various 1" drivers in horns I have now had a change to check out the 2" format in my own cave. I have always thought some of the larger speaker systems sounded very nice at shows and events. Thats never the way things sound at home so the shows are pretty judgmental. I have tested the large 21" horn and it will hold its own to 380hz with a Selenium D405TI The driver is rated for 400-18k. The selenium chart shows good response from 400 to 12K. Thats the range I get a good reading in. -3db @ 400 and -10db @ 12K. Maybe a driver with an extended response in the upper octave would measure better. I will be trying some JBL 2445's in a week and I also have some phenolic 1" drivers to test for low freq 1" results. I have been listening to 3 cd's primarily. Jimmy McGriff Diana Krall Roger Waters I choose these because my Kids play Sax and Piano. Along with the organ there is a lot of sax on that cd. I find those two instruments hard to reproduce sounding original. I get a chance to listen to them both frequently. Roger Waters just does some very dynamic music and the low end is always there. I have listened to a 2way with both a JBL 2226 or a JBL 2245. A different sound from each arrangement. Obviously the 2245 has some balls in the basement. It is not as efficient as the 2226 and the 2226 can be crossed over higher and I think has the edge for smooth. for gut wrenching low octave. the choice is of course the 18" 2245.Cross over any where from 400-1600. 400 is a touch too low for my liking but it does have a different sound to itself and is quite enjoyable. 1.6k is standard for a 1" and silly for 2" 500 - 800 is nice. I like 600 best with the 2226 and 500 best with the 2245. The two way is lacking though, or at least the horn and driver combo I have is. I like a small horn with a 1" driver crossed at 10K. I have been doing all this with an active Xo and I have a little passive unit for the tweeter that I use. It's just a pair of L-pads with a 10K xo that goes to the tweeter side. I generally leave the tweeter un-attenuated, and turn down the main horn 8-10db. the rest of the attenuation for the horns is done in the active xo. Maybe with a better 2" driver that has better top end performance a 2way would be great. I'm liking the 3way best of all. In General the 2" format driver I find to be more dynamic than the 1" in the smaller horns. I'm considering taking a new approach to my personal system later this year. I'm really impressed with the way the larger drivers sound. This is more a review of some new 2" format arrangements and what I have done to hook them up and how they sound together. I'll have some response charts in few days once they get scanned and uploaded.More things to try in the future will be 1" drivers on the large 400hz horn. 2" drivers on the smaller horns. Thanks for reading all this,Bill

Subject: Re: Life beyond 1" ?
Posted by mikebake on Thu, 06 Feb 2003 23:51:53 GMT
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What three way are you refering to?

Subject: Re: Life beyond 1" ?
Posted by bmar on Fri, 07 Feb 2003 00:03:40 GMT
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The 3way system is the same as the 2way system with an added JBL 2425 1" driver on a small horn. This was also just "added" to the two way active crossover with a simple 1st order passive. no rocket science tonight, just playing around.

Subject: Re: Life beyond 1" ?
Posted by mikebake on Fri, 07 Feb 2003 00:17:10 GMT
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I see. Well, that makes the 3115's a pile of crap. I'll give you what you paid for them.....:)
Gettin ready for the big party, dude?? We'll have to start crankin the PR up soon.....MBB

Subject: Re: Life beyond 1" ?
Posted by bmar on Fri, 07 Feb 2003 00:42:46 GMT
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I really like that 8" driver and horn in the 3115's. This horn is about the same size. It has a different sound to it. I dont consider a lot things better or worse... its just diffent and equally pleasing to listen to. I'm ready for MAF, for sure. I'll have some regular horns and some big ones to bring. As well I'll have a 12" two way speaker with a horn on top. Maybe another model but time is tight with other work.I will also be bring an outstanding pair of 7 Pi's with a horn on top that I can post a picture of very soon. Bill

Subject: Re: Life beyond 1" ?
Posted by replay on Fri, 07 Feb 2003 02:32:03 GMT
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hi bill, did you ask the wife about the extra inch? i'm sure she's ecstatic! see you saturday,george

Subject: Re: Life beyond 1" ?
Posted by Wayne Parham on Fri, 07 Feb 2003 05:07:04 GMT
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Super good stuff.Thanks for posting. Love your horns, and this post is really good.

Subject: Re: Life beyond 1" ?
Posted by Wayne Parham on Fri, 07 Feb 2003 05:33:01 GMT
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I like the medium-format, cone-driven midrange horns too. Those are my favorite for 200Hz to 2kHz. For that range, I think it's the best way to go.By the way, what are you gonna do about amplification for MAF?

Subject: Re: Life beyond 1" ?
Posted by Wayne Parham on Fri, 07 Feb 2003 05:35:06 GMT
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Bwaaahaaahhhaaaa!

Subject: Maybe 'The Angry Inch'?
Posted by mollecon on Fri, 07 Feb 2003 09:08:44 GMT
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...Considering WAF! :)

Subject: Re: Life beyond 1" ?
Posted by bmar on Fri, 07 Feb 2003 11:32:10 GMT
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She was elated until i told her the extra inch needed to be hard wired to an amp, and would have to stay firmly planted on top of the rest of the drivers.yeah, I thought the subject header would grap somebody's attention.

Subject: Re: Life beyond 1" ?
Posted by bmar on Fri, 07 Feb 2003 11:41:49 GMT
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I'm planning on bringing tube mono blocks and a HT receiver. by the way, each mono block weighs as much as the big receiver! I'm not sure if I have the need for a biamp or not. If so, I have Mackie and Bryston amps to drag along.Bill

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Subject: Re: Life beyond 1" ?
Posted by alfredo on Fri, 07 Feb 2003 12:29:24 GMT
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Nice job Bill! Can't wait to see and hear the horns/drivers at Lima.Alfredo

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Subject: Re: Life beyond 1" ?
Posted by Peter K on Fri, 07 Feb 2003 16:40:07 GMT
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Hi Bill,Thanks for your report! I must admit that your wood horns look truly great!I would really like to hear a bit more about your impression of the differences between using a cone driver and a 2" compression driver (and horn) in the range between, say 500Hz and 1.6kHz. What is the pros and cons of either solution? Could you please elaborate on this? I thank you a lot in anticipation!RegardsPeter K.

Subject: Alfredo...
Posted by gonefishin on Fri, 07 Feb 2003 18:16:07 GMT

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Alfredo...are you bringing anything to Lima this year? see you there ;) enjoy the music!

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Subject: Re: Life beyond 1" ?
Posted by bmar on Sat, 08 Feb 2003 13:00:11 GMT
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Hi Peter,The 8" JBL cone is what I run from 400-1.8 most of the time. There are some advantages and disadvantages between cones in a horn and compression drivers in a horn. I'm sorry, I'm not an acoustical engineer so I cant help you as far as distortion or probabilities are concerned. .I have been finding through listening that the cone is a warmer and smoother sound. While the compression driver harder or sharper sound. I like them both to be honest. They are just different. The 8" cone and horn I have found to play out down to 300hz. JBL has rated that driver horn combo to 200hz in some applications but that doesn't work for me. 300 is the limit and i cross is at 400. I have a virtually flat response out of the 2" compression in the horn from 380-4k. Again, dropping like a rock below 380 I find crossing a 400 too low and I like 500 or a little higher. The compression driver seems to have a little more dynamic or punch to it's sound over the cone. I like it for jazz and voices. The cone is warmer and I like that for orchestral and rock. Rock is just too harsh and I find most of the recording are just bad with respect that they have been EQ'd and mastered to play on low budget systems.As a final note. I can tell you that this comparison is between a JBL M209-8A, which is one of the best you can find. And a Selenium D405TI compression driver, which is not among the best you can find.Bill

Subject: Thanks!
Posted by Peter K on Sat, 08 Feb 2003 19:19:58 GMT
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Thank you very much for your reply - and please keep us updated regarding your experiences with these horns!RegardsPeter K.

Subject: I think so.....
Posted by alfredo on Sun, 09 Feb 2003 15:04:10 GMT
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As you may know Tom Brennan is selling a lot of his audio gear including the A5 that he was supposed to bring to Lima. I have been talking to Paul Eizik about figuring out what we could bring to have a Chicago Horn room again. He said maybe bean counter would bring his system again but not sure yet. He even talked about bringing his own system. I finished the Bottlehead phono kit (Seduction) earlier this week. I will probably bring that. Next up is a Tripath amp. Then there is the Steve Bench tube crossover that I bought the parts for exactly 1 year ago but never put together. Are you bringing anything?Alfredo

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Subject: Re: I think so.....
Posted by gonefishin on Mon, 10 Feb 2003 10:53:51 GMT
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I probably won't be bringing my speakers...tho, I hope they will be done before April *keep fingers crossed*. Do you guys need an extra CD player? I got an extra I could bring. take care>>>> enjoy the music!

Subject: Re: I think so.....
Posted by alfredo on Mon, 10 Feb 2003 15:58:15 GMT
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Make sure you invite me over right away when you get those finished! :) I can't wait to hear them!We may need a cd player. I think i'm going to have a meeting soon with the Chicago guys so we can talk it over. I lost track of your work schedule. When do you have a Saturday off? I can schedule one for a day that you are off that way if your not busy you can come.2 more months for Lima!Alfredo

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Subject: Re: I think so.....
Posted by gonefishin on Tue, 11 Feb 2003 18:01:23 GMT
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I'm working the Feb. 12th...15th...18th and so on. thanks :) enjoy the music!

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