Subject: two towers vs. theater 4's
Posted by Troy Moore on Fri, 17 Feb 2006 16:03:03 GMT
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Can someone comment on how the theater four compares to the tower two as far as detail, dynamics etc.

Subject: Re: two towers vs. theater 4's
Posted by Garland on Fri, 17 Feb 2006 17:11:50 GMT
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Keep in mind that I've only directly compared my Theater 4s with a pair of regular cabinet 2's and these were with the old motorola tweeters. That said, the two speakers are very different sounding but both sound very good. The 2's are bright, brash, and quite capable of impressive macrodynamic air movement. They do boogy very well and sound way bigger than their size. The Theater 4's are considerably more refined sounding and balanced. They are capable of impressive macrodynamic swings but really shine in developing a most impressive soundstage with microdynamic information well layed out in 3D. In my listening room I can't really get the 4's really cooking on rock due to the lack of size(11x17) but with my 2A3 amps' 3 Watts and classic jazz recordings I'm always in seventh heaven with the 4's. The 2's actually did better with rock in my room (same amps). Standing waves are really a problem which I can't do much about (WAF).I think the 4's are best if you have the room and budget.G.

Subject: Re: two towers vs. theater 4's
Posted by elektratig on Sat, 18 Feb 2006 00:02:23 GMT
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Troy,I have made both Theater 4s and 2 Towers. They are in utterly different systems (the Fours are driven by 8W, the Twos by 100W) and entirely different venues. My Twos have the old tweeters. I have tin ears. Take what I say with a pound of salt.I love both (witness that my pre-DIY commercially-bought mega-bucks speakers have been relegated to a tertiary system), but with all those caveats, I love my Four Pis more. They are beautifully balanced and the presentation is utterly three-dimensional. I tend to value tone and integration more than dynamics or detail, but even with 8W, complex orchestral like Mahler (who demands dynamics) comes through beautifully. On the other end, I'm listening to Tom Russell's version of "El Paso" (basically vocal, acoustic guitar and harmonica) right now and each pluck of the guitar comes through beautifully. My best friend, not an audiophile, is a James Taylor / Simon & Garfunkel fan (I can take them in short bursts). He almost went into cardiac arrest (and/or had an orgasm, I couldn't figure out which) when he heard them though the Fours. In sum, if you can handle the size of the Fours, go for them. But if you can't, you're still going to have to look far and wide to do

better than the Twos.Tell us more about your system and your musical tastes, and I'm sure the crowd here will do their best to give you further advice.I'm not affiliated!  Just a fan.
 Pi Four Photo (Pre-Finished)

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Subject: And I Forgot Hot Rats!
Posted by elektratig on Sat, 18 Feb 2006 01:06:17 GMT
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I'm listening to FZ's Hot Rats (the wife is away) on my Pi Fours.  Superb.

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Subject: Re: two towers vs. theater 4's
Posted by FredT on Sat, 18 Feb 2006 10:17:03 GMT
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Nice pictures, electratig! How does the 4 Pi compare to the Straight 8's?

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Subject: Re: two towers vs. theater 4's
Posted by Troy Moore on Sat, 18 Feb 2006 12:25:13 GMT
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Elektratig,Thanks for the helpful comments. Nintey nine percent of the time I listen to music on my "home theater" which consists of an inexpensive a/v receiver with two pi towers in front and a one pi center channel. My mega-buck high end speakers are now serving as rear surround speakers and my amp is gathering dust. I've been planning on building a pair of two pi speakers to serve as rear surrounds, but recently began thinking about moving the towers to the rear and building a pair of theater 4s for the front. I really like the towers, and in my present setup they are nearly perfect, much more enjoyable to listen to than my high-end speakers, but on those rare occasions that I am home alone and can listen to music by myself, I sometimes miss that little bit of extra refinement that the high-end speakers have. I thought that the 4s just might give me the best of both worlds. I listen to a wide variety of music, rock, jazz, blues and classical. Does anyone have suggestions on a simple diy amp that I could try my hand at?

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Subject: Re: two towers vs. theater 4's
Posted by j.luis cruz . on Sat, 18 Feb 2006 16:06:24 GMT
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just out of curosity what brand are the megabucks speakers that the theater 4 was compared .thanks

Subject: Re: two towers vs. theater 4's
Posted by elektratig on Tue, 21 Feb 2006 00:17:12 GMT
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Thanks!Again, with all the caveats -- I have tin ears, I'm too lazy to do "critical" listening, etc., etc. -- I prefer the Pis, and it ain't close.

Subject: Re: two towers vs. theater 4's
Posted by Norbert on Wed, 22 Feb 2006 04:24:29 GMT
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Here is my experience with my 2 Pi towers.After finishing my 2 Pis I hooked it up to my Marantz 2252 and did a A/B comparison with my other high priced speakers and the 2 Pi became my Stereo speaker of choiceHowever, after sometime listening to the 2Pis I thought the bass could be better, so after re-arranging internal speaker insulation I settled on an improved midrange sound but still no major improvement in the bass department.Around Christmans time frame, a friend of my gave me two home brew Dynaco Mark III mono blocks that was reglected for sometime... not knowing much about tubes, I paid a tech to get it fixed... afterwards I hooked it up to my 2 Pis and BINGO, the sound was amazing, smooth and relaxed... later on I started to do further research into Mark III design and reliased that the original builder of the Mark III had some fundamental questionable circuits in the unit, long story short I ended up rebuilding my Mark IIIs according to the original spec using new capacitors, etc also became more knowledgeable about tube circuits.My new setup involves Marantz 2252 acting as my pre-amp, 2 updated Danyco Mark IIIs, and 2 Pi towers. The sound coming out of the 2 Pis is now incredibly smooth, the bass is there now (which could be better when it was connected to the Marantz) and I can truely claim there is no listening fatigue whatsoever and I can listen to the 2 Pis all day long.... Perhaps the sound of tube amps is what you are after and if you are electronics savy there are plenty of tube amp kits/projects out there. Or you may consider rebuilding and old Dynaco amp?