

BEST COMPACT SPEAKER PACKAGE OVER £1000

**ProAc Response
Hexa 5.1 £2496**

...VERDICT

Visually enticing and built to last, the Response Hexa 5.1 is the ideal solution for a multichannel or stereo music-first cinema system, and it's not too shabby for movies, either

HERE'S A SPEAKER package that resolutely puts the sonic requirements of its customers ahead of any fancy finishes or contrived cabinet shapes that might be fleetingly fashionable. It's intended to appeal to those with an ear for established hi-fi practice and, for that reason, the design is conventional – none of your Fancy Dan dispersion characteristics or quixotic drive unit arrays here.

Each Hexa satellite is superbly turned out, with a lovely real-wood veneer and an immensely stiff cabinet. Cone materials, meanwhile, are those used in some of the company's highest-quality speakers – you even get biwirable input terminals. Each Hexa satellite is a conventional

Small but perfectly formed, the most unwieldy aspect of the Response Hexa 5.1 is the name

speaker – albeit a small one, with a restricted bass response.

This approach has merits: for stereo ability, the Hexa system is number one in its field, eclipsing the best efforts of any rival. The sub might be small, too, but it's a very



effective, articulate design that fills in neatly, producing an enviable blend of depth and speed. The ideal of any sub/sat set-up is that the sub disappears from the balance, and the Hexa manages that to a tee.

Speaker-to-speaker panning is

fast, consistent and convincing, with no obvious change in tonality as sounds move around you, so movies are a pleasure to listen to – and the subwoofer surprises afresh in large action scenes with its forthright depth and weight.

If we were to criticise, it's would be that the rear speakers can be a little too directional, as is often the case with hi-fi speakers when used on the rear channels. Otherwise, this Response system delivers superbly on every front. It might look expensive for a compact package; in practice, it's a price worth paying.

TECH SPECS

DIMENSIONS (HWD)

SATELLITE 22 x 14 x 15cm

CENTRE 14 x 33 x 15cm

SUBWOOFER 48 x 42 x 11cm

SENSITIVITY 86dB/w/m

IMPEDANCE 8 ohms

FREQUENCY RANGE 80Hz-30kHz

POWER-HANDLING 100w

SUBWOOFER POWER 200w

SUBWOOFER RANGE 20Hz-120Hz