

Linn Loudspeaker Reviews



ARTIKULAT Loudspeaker System
AUDIOVISION, October 2006

"...When it comes to serious sound pressure levels, this Linn set literally pulverizes its competition... It has no problem filling even real cinemas with A1 quality sound and if it's live concerts and dynamics that you love, you won't listen to anything else ever after this.... A mega system..."

ARTIKULAT Loudspeaker System
FONOFORUM, October 2006

"...We are enchanted by this system's truly exceptional performance - a genuine feat!..."

ARTIKULAT Loudspeaker System
Hi-Fi Choice, The Collection (UK) July 2006. , June 2006

"The Artikulat is perhaps the most analytical loudspeaker we have had the pleasure of using; we've never encountered a greater degree of insight into the make up and character of recordings. Old favourites revealed precisely how each instrument and voice had been recorded and produced, the speakers reaching right down into the mix and pulling out the acoustic, or the reverb applied to each element, in uncanny fashion. You get a sense that the Artikulat is totally unflappable. Throw any kind of music at it and ask it to play it back at almost any volume and you get a calm, consistent and totally revealing performance...there simply seems to be no sense of distress whatever you play. The sound doesn't change whether it's loud or quiet; it's just as revealing at low levels as it is at higher ones. This is a rare quality...Another useful quality is the way the speaker makes lesser known and heavy going music more accessible. In many respects, we found ourselves enjoying the less well-played tracks as much if not more than the favourites. Which, from the point of view of musical exploration is a major bonus..with this degree of control and reduction of distortion, it's possible to enjoy stuff that was hitherto impossible. Returning to passive speakers after a pair of of Linn Artikulat 350As brings home just how remarkable and immensely capable they are. Suddenly, one needs to keep tweaking the volume in search of a sense of dynamic power, and the Linn's tremendous sense of order remains only in the memory. This is a very expensive speaker but it does things that virtually all other speakers can only dream about. How much you value this degree of quality is a personal thing, but it'll bring you a lot closer to nirvana than a twenty two grand motor car ever could!."

AKURATE Loudspeaker System
Image HiFi Award 2006, Germany, February 2006

AKURATE 242 has won the "Image HiFi Award 2006" in the loudspeaker category. A member of the judging panel commented: "If downsizing means to transfer the key sound and design elements from a top-model to more affordable price regions, Linn has succeeded with the AKURATE 242 - its KOMRI genes are unmistakable!"

AKURATE Loudspeaker System
Stereophile, USA, April 2005

"A system built around a pair of Linn Akurate 242s could be among the best, most musical you can buy...Brilliant stuff."

AKURATE Loudspeaker System
Home Theater, USA, January 2005

"The Akurates manage to combine qualities like tunefulness and pitch accuracy that have been Linn's stock in trade for decades, with some of the most transparent and seamless sound I've ever heard from a dynamic speaker."



AKURATE Loudspeaker System

Positive-Feedback.com, USA, Brutus Awards 2004 Akurate Loudspeaker System , December 2004

Linn deserves recognition for its exceptional Akurate line, which puts monitor-grade coherence into our surround sound/home theater rooms. A striking combination of beautiful form and excellent sound; Linn continues to excel as a premier producer of fine audio equipment at a global level.

AKURATE Loudspeaker System

Hi Fi World UK, November 2004

"These loudspeakers know what their remit is, which is to extract as much music as possible out of the partnering system. Here we have a strong, open, even and powerful sounding floorstander, one which succeeds through its across the board ability. Brilliant power and punch allied to excellent imaging and insight. Overall, an excellent multi-purpose loudspeaker - it works superbly across a wide range of music." *****

AKURATE Loudspeaker System

Home Cinema Choice (UK) , September 2004

"If you want to get every scrap of detail from your home cinema and listen to music in the same room too, the Linn Akurate option is a good path to take. Home Cinema Choice Best Buy."

AKURATE Loudspeaker System

Home Entertainment 2004 Show Report, Stereophile Magazine , August 2004

"I was surprised by how many systems at the New York Show were competent or better at putting across a sense of real music. For example, selections from the Tom Petty CD I'd bought with me were convincing through an all-Linn system in the Ears Nova room, which included Linn's new Klimax Chakra 500 Twin amplifier and Unidisk 1.1 digital player. The sound was open in the manner of real musical events. This wasn't the wispy, ultimately unreal sound of high-end audio, but the clear and lively sound of a performance space - and there was an unmistakable and, dare I say, analog-like sense of movement in all the musical lines."

AKURATE Loudspeaker System STEREOPLAY 6/04, May 2004

"...Pure eroticism of sound. Nowhere near its price range will you get comparable resolution. This AKURATE set (including 221 bass extension loudspeaker) delivers sonic perfection which even tops the most demanding professional studio applications. You just can't experience classic stereo playback any finer, deeper, and more emotional. Superlative. Value for money: very good..."

AKURATE Loudspeaker System

Akurate Multi-Channel Loudspeaker System Essential Home Cinema, UK , May 2004

"Sounds blend in together perfectly with good imagery without any coloration or veiling. This is why the speakers are so strong in music and movie modes. Whatever you play through the speakers, they give their best. Ultimately, the character of the speakers is tight and controlled, with deep, taut bass and well extended treble. This may prove a bit arid in the midband for those who favour more lush sounding high-end speakers, but many more would happily trade that richness for some rhythmic integrity. It has a fantastic balance in passive mode and who knows how good it could become when it goes Aktiv. One of the best speaker systems on the planet for movies and music...In short, it simply presents more detail than almost any other speaker...That is why the Linn Akurate is one of the best home cinema meets hi-fi systems available today...It has the sort of power to knock down walls and so it should for £14,300!.. Beautifully made, honest sounding speakers aren't always affordable, but why settle for second best?" **Best Buy**.



AKURATE Loudspeaker System

Digital Home (UK), May 2004, May 2004

In listening, SACD made a very strong case for itself. The Akurates have a remarkable ability to sonically disappear, the sound produced being wholly three dimensional. Using Akurates for home cinema purposes is equally enthralling, their speed and precision adding realism and weight..high bandwidth, low colouration, totally seamless integration; clear upgrade path...A highly capable 5.1 system that offers new insights into Multichannel audio and home cinema.

AKURATE Loudspeaker System

Hi-Fi Choice (May 2004) - UK, March 2004, March 2004

"For once, the rather hackneyed phrase 'close your eyes and you're there' is spot on the money...close your eyes with a good disc and you can't tell where the speakers are..the Akurates generate studio-type levels with ease and are as explicit in their transparency to detail..this system is seriously diverting..the Akurates provide an enveloping sound that seems to expand the room and recreate the full scale..Norah Jones for example, stands behind and above the centre channel in almost holographic fashion..the 242s on their own deliver a solid, tight, and clear picture of events. The upper mid and treble are highly revealing while the bass is gratifyingly solid and seemingly deeper than the spec would suggest...there's no denying the level of information that comes through...and you get a grip and intensity that is addictive. If you want to go the whole hog, this system will let you."

AKURATE Loudspeaker System

Lyd & Bilde (Norway) Linn Akurate 242 Loudspeakers , March 2004

"The ultra neutral tonal balance and coherency in the sound reproduction provides you with more information than people are used too in their listening room. Linn Akurate speaker is exactly what we wanted and is true contender for this years High-end speaker award...."

AKURATE Loudspeaker System

Stereophile, November 2003,

In a review of the AKURATE 242: "The audible result was an image both huge and precise, and an exceptional ability to reveal layers of detail. Among the several demonstration pieces we heard was " Down to the River to Pray" sung by Alison Krauss and a large chorus..I had never heard the individual voices of the chorus so clearly revealed."

KOMPONENT Loudspeaker System

HiFi&Musik, April 2006, Sweden, April 2006

"ROCKING BEAUTY" "Nice shape and pinpoint technology borrowed from Linn's most expensive loudspeakers at a decent price.Good sound, compact and gorgeous design. Many surprises. A really new thought process. Possible to drive active. No cabinet resonance. Smart-shaped loudspeaker with precision sound and high level of detail revealing everything in the recording with excellent timing. Good separation of both instruments and voices give a live feeling. Good sounding in all dimensions with informative and well-shaped bass and airy and articulated midrange and treble. Easy to follow all the tunes in the music and holds the sound together across the whole register. A Hi-octane precision sound unlike other loudspeakers of this type. Sophisticated sound with unusual qualities for the price and very hard to say no to this musical metal post!"

KOMPONENT Loudspeaker System

Home Theater Magazine, USA, March 2006, February 2006

System Spotlight: Flexibility and Value from a Scottish Benchmark "Linn realised a long time ago that their continued success depended on creating products that would appeal to non-enthusiasts of discriminating taste, in addition to die-hard audiophiles. With the Komponent series, they have delivered just that - a system that can bring together high quality music, movies and multi-channel sound without taking over the room. While there are plenty of inconspicuous systems that can perform the same basic functions, I can't think of any that can also provide such a convincing musical performance. Getting away from the bulk and complexity of most home theater electronics, Linn has chosen their feature set carefully to appeal to real people rather than just audio nerds. The resulting package provides exceptional performance without taking over your living space. Exceptional musical performance and the video is no slouch either. "



LINN

KOMPONENT Loudspeaker System

Gramophone magazine, UK, March 2006, February 2006

"There's no shortage of detail available from the Komponent system..with the sound never less than open and airy..it still adheres to the old Linn maxim of a good system being one that allows you to hum an unfamiliar tune after just one listen,,this is a set-up that always puts the music first..while a good DTS or Dolby Digital 5.1 track really springs to life...the one thing the Linn loudspeakers do particularly well is make soundtrack music obvious and effective while underpinning the action.. Playing music discs through the Linn system is just as rewarding, and the little 104s and the subwoofer, or indeed a pair of 110s, would make a fine stereo set up - perhaps with the Linn Classik Movie system. In fact, the whole Komponent range is highly capable..What Linn has proved with these speakers is that style and performance can go hand in hand, and the Komponenten deserve serious consideration by anyone attracted by their looks, whether or not they're going to be connected to Linn sources and amplification."

KOMPONENT Loudspeaker System

Home Entertainment Magazine, USA, January/February 2006, January 2006

" The Komponent system proves that the audio industry is wrong - good looks and good performance can coincide in a sound system. Partner this system with a good plasma TV and you will enjoy many years of exceptionally stylish home entertainment."

KOMPONENT Loudspeaker System

What HiFi?Sound & Vision, UK, November 2005 ,

Linn 5.1 offers style and substance. Unobtrusive looks, flexible about positioning; clean, crisp, punchy, precise sound; seamless integration...seamless soundfield and a uniformly crisp tonal presentation...this set-up is definitely well worth an audition.

Ninka

Hi-Fi News, UK, December 2002

"There's no question that the Linn Ninka is a superb loudspeaker for the price. It offers a sound that is easy on the ear, yet conveys the emotional impact and rhythmic essence of music."

Ninka

Image HiFi Magazine, Germany, February 2001

"Linn Ninka" "The Linn Ninka is not just simply replacing the Keilidhs - they are serious competitors to the big ones Kaber and Keltik" "The Ninkas can do everything the Keilidhs were good at - and a lot more. They are a musical quantum leap and it can be said that this kind of fun will never be more affordable!"

Ninka

Stereo, Germany, January 2001

"Three times Three", test of Kolektor, LK85, Linn Ninka in Tri-Wiring and Aktiv modes "The Linn Ninka presents a new and unique speaker concept. The perfectly balanced speaker creates a sound picture full of warmth and colours with high resolution and air. An extra point for the smart activation system. Very clever!"

Trikan

AUDIO magazine, (Germany), November 2002

"...The Trikan in passive mode is such an extremely coherent, grown up, full-bodied and powerfull loudspeaker that nobody would think of an upgrade in the first place. And yet, go active and you have a completely different speaker at hand. Is it worthwhile? Definitely. This way the Trikans really outshine themselves. Finish quality is outstanding, value for money very good..."

Katan

Linn Katan Loudspeaker and Sizmik Bass Reinforcement Loudspeaker, Hi-Fi World, UK, January 2002., January 2002

".. you get a sound that is very impressive and the best all-rounder in the test. There's plenty of power and rhythmic drive but also a good sense of detail and cohesion to all aspects of sound. Integration is very good. It is the choice for those who wish to play anything and everything."

Espek

ESPEK, Image HiFi, 2/2002, February 2002

„....You cannot see that the Espeks were engineered for non-compromise sound quality. But you can hear it. Even in passive mode the Espeks are in full command of space and time. They can handle any kind of music from Bach to the Rolling Stones. They are so clean, so lively and dynamic that I have rarely heard their equal, and that's before taking their super-precise deep bass, arguably their strongest feature into account. But if you want to find out what these loudspeakers are really capable of, go active. The price of admission into an even higher league is almost imorally low...."

Komri

Audio Magazine, Germany, November 2001

"The first listening experience with the Komris was overwhelming. Compared with other state-of-the art speakers they look rather compact. The bass though is in a class of its own: incredibly low, the power handling capability seemingly limitless, What impressed me most was the precision, the singing quality of even the deepest notes, the iron control. The same is true for the entire frequency range. The Komris focus like an expensive projector lens. The soundstage seems compact rather than excessively extensive, but at the same time the Komris are more immediately involving than most of their rivals, offering superior punch and pitch accuracy. Pitch accuracy? I kept asking myself what the hell is pitch accuracy – traditionally Linn's most sacred design goal – has to do with loudspeakers? Now I understand. The Komris are not your typical high-end loudspeakers. They are domesticated studio monitors, extremely wide-band, dynamic, coherent, and highly musical. Good recordings sound better, poor ones poorer and you will always know why. As for the rest: differences sound more different ... one of the most exiting speakers I have ever heard. Reference class."

Komri

IMAGE HIFI (Germany) - Sept/Oct 2003 Edition, September 2003

"Nothing seems impossible with this most talented of acoustical magnifying glasses, never was it easier to experience the creation of a recording. Not only will you hear the microphone type, you can also tell its vintage, humidity and the colour of the third trombonist's socks. Shatteringly good...!"

Komri

Linn Komri Professional Monitor Loudspeaker Positive Feedback Magazine USA June 2002, June 2002

"The Linn Komri gave me the feeling of being in the studio, listening though a live microphone feed. This is seduction of the highest order for a person like me - my entire listening room life has been dedicated to re-creating "mic feeds and master tapes" in my home. In my opinion, Linn has crafted a very rare loudspeaker: one that gives coherence, neutrality, clarity; a speaker that combines physical beauty with real authority, and helps you to approach that grand goal of fine audio - real fidelity in audio reproduction. In combination with reference level equipment, and using either SACD or vinyl, the Linn Komri is a stratospheric reference loudspeaker. I therefore give it my "very highest recommendation" - enthusiastically!"

Komri

Linn Komri Professional Monitor Loudspeaker. Hi-Fi World, UK, March 2002

In an instant the Komris communicate the particular goings on in the recording studio on the date the music you're listening to was committed to tape (or hard drive, as it is these days). You can hear the quality of the vocal mikes, the producer's thoughts on instrument placement, squeaks, rattles, noisy desks, injudicious use of EQ and so on and so forth. They don't add, detract, multiply or divide - you simply hear what was there in the first place, to a very great extent. The Komris simply let the festivities happen. These new Linn boxes project better than your average stadium floodlight. Image location is pin-sharp. Given the right size room, a brace of barrel-chested amplifiers and the will to use the volume control in anger, these speakers are practically hallucinogenic. The Komri can go boldly into the centre of the room, and fall back behind the rear wall too. The Komris are probably the best combination of soundstaging and frequency extension I've heard - and believe me, it's rare to hear both from the same speaker. The result is a loudspeaker that's alarmingly devoid of flaws at almost every level. No doubt about it, Linn's new Komri's give an incredibly powerful, staggeringly incisive, massively engaging and satisfying performance - with virtually none of the pitfalls associated with other, rival big hitters. They are awesomely fluid and natural sounding - they just cut to the chase and get on with getting you closer to the music - which is just how it should be. We should applaud Linn for finally giving us conclusive proof that the less a loudspeaker does, the better it surely is. As the Komri's show us, less is most definitely more. Incredible in so many respects, the Komris let any music sound quite sublime.



Komri

Linn Komri Professional Monitor Loudspeaker, Stereophile Magazine USA, April 2002

"If accuracy is your bag - if you don't like euphony at all and want the unvarnished truth no matter what ... well a pair of Komris might be just what you're looking for.. ...mortgage the kids and buy 'em anyway."

Komri

Audio Magazine, Germany, November 2001

"The first listening experience with the Komris was overwhelming. Compared with other state-of-the art speakers they look rather compact. The bass though is in a class of its own: incredibly low, the power handling capability seemingly limitless, What impressed me most was the precision, the singing quality of even the deepest notes, the iron control. The same is true for the entire frequency range. The Komris focus like an expensive projector lens. The soundstage seems compact rather than excessively extensive, but at the same time the Komris are more immediately involving than most of their rivals, offering superior punch and pitch accuracy. Pitch accuracy? I kept asking myself what the hell is pitch accuracy – traditionally Linn's most sacred design goal – has to do with loudspeakers? Now I understand. The Komris are not your typical high-end loudspeakers. They are domesticated studio monitors, extremely wide-band, dynamic, coherent, and highly musical. Good recordings sound better, poor ones poorer and you will always know why. As for the rest: differences sound more different ... one of the most exiting speakers I have ever heard. Reference class."

Komri

Linn Komri Loudspeaker Home Entertainment 2001 Show Report, Stereophile Magazine USA October 2001, October 2001

" If you want to hear about a sonic experience off the Richter scale, then let me introduce you to the \$40,000 Linn Komri. This innovative five-way design offered incredible resolution and clarity, effortless frequency extension, and a wealth of detail. Its internal Active Servo Bass technology provided dedicated power for its two bass drivers, while a acoustic array comprising a soft-dome midrange, soft-dome tweeter, and soft-dome super tweeter was mounted on its own baffle above a dedicated upper bass driver, which optimized the Komri's dispersion characteristics while providing a truly coherent, centered acoustic point source. Then just to gild the lily - and to supercharge resolution - each driver was powered by its own separate Klimax amp. 'Oh you can drive the Komris splendidly with one pair of Klimax,' Brian Morris allowed. 'We just do this because...we can.'...The Komri gave new meaning to the term neutrality - what more can you ask for?...If I were setting up a top-of-the-line mastering studio and had the budget, I'd buy this system in a heartbeat."

Komri

Home Entertainment 2001 Show Report, USA, Stereophile Guide to Home Theater Magazine, October 2001

Linn has expanded their lineup in both directions. At the highend, they demonstrated the new \$40,000/pair Komri studio monitors. Even under poor show conditions, these uniquely designed speakers had an enjoyable balance, from the highest to the lowest frequencies. But their true magic was apparent to anyone lucky enough to sit near the stereo sweet spot, where the sound became totally 3-dimensional. While I thought the volume was too loud - a common complaint at trade shows - the Komris produced coherent transients and had the sparkle of live music: all of the music with none of the commentary, stridency, or sibilance, and with right-on dynamic contrasts, rhythm, and pitch