

Little bitty boxes with a forward and assertive nature

System Audio 905

Loudspeaker £249

For Forward and assertive nature; good stereo imaging

Against Nothing

Verdict ★★★★★

Even though the 905s don't have the deepest bass around, they are detailed, quick and can handle all kinds of music with flair

Chord Company 0722 331674

It's a myth that baby speakers don't give weighty bass – and the Danish made System Audio 905s are here to prove it; no matter how heavy the bass, these little speakers can keep a grip on even the most demanding rock music.

Tracks with rumbling basslines, such as *Helpline Operator* from The The's *Dusk* album, never sound strained, while the 905s' exact timing keeps you abreast of every note from a bass guitar. Layers of music are projected forward into the room, with all the different strands being revealed and accu-

rately portrayed. Vocals and instruments are separated in an expansive soundstage, and an accurate stereo image creates a sense of atmosphere.

Swap beat-driven rock for jazz or classical, and the 905s still keep a smile on your face. Only their slightly diluted performance with monstrous orchestral crescendos proves disappointing, otherwise they score well at drawing you into the performance – a lone flute or clarinet, for instance, is laced with emotion.

Working well with their grilles removed, 4ins clear of a wall, the performance is improved using tall, rigid stands. Two sets of gold plated terminals are supplied for biwiring. The 905s have a high sensitivity of 89dB/W/m, which means they will work well with low powered amps – even a 20W valve amp, for example. If you're looking for a big sound from a small box, then the 905s will almost certainly appeal.



In control System's babies keep a grip on a driving beat