

PREMIERE Design

PAINTING WITH SOUND



Vienna Acoustics has unified its line by naming its products after composers who had connections with Vienna. These include Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Mahler, and Schönberg. But now a painter has entered this collection—Klimt. You might think Klimt is the outsider in this group of composers, but the almost symbiotic relationship between music and visual art makes this speaker series a worthy addition to Vienna's line.

The Klimt Series floorstanding speaker, dubbed the Music, uses a flat, concentric 7-inch patented driver that grew out of the development of reinforced cones. To combat the inherent lack of stiffness in flat planes, Vienna uses a patented lightweight diaphragm made of a single layer of polymer TPX. Embedded ribs and glass fibers further increase the stiffness without substantially increasing the diaphragm's mass. A silk-dome tweeter is concentrically paired with the flat driver.

The speaker's lower chamber houses three proprietary 10-inch bass drivers that Vienna says cover a range from 22 to 100 hertz. The two lower drivers work in parallel and handle just the lower frequencies, while the upper driver—in its own subenclosure—is optimized for mid-to-upper bass performance. A 0.5-inch Supertweeter manufactured by Murata also sits at the top of the lower chamber and extends the frequency response to a claimed 100 kilohertz.

The upper enclosure—which houses the flat driver and tweeter—is mechanically decoupled from the lower enclosure by a machined aluminum swivel joint. The joint allows for angular height and lateral angular movement. By adjusting this upper enclosure, you can create a sweet spot that's independent of the bass cabinets.

The Klimt Series Music speaker measures just under 51 inches tall and weighs in at 180 pounds. It is available in either a Piano Black or a Sapele veneer finish and retails for \$27,000 per pair.

The Music is shown here with the Klimt Series Poetry center-channel speaker. It uses the same driver technology as its big brother. It has a flat midrange driver with a silk-dome tweeter mounted in the center position. This combination alone can handle frequencies from 120 Hz to 20 kHz. On both sides of this coincident, two-way driver are 10-inch woofers that are vented to the rear. These bring the Poetry's frequency range down to a specified 32 Hz. The Poetry is available for \$10,000.

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• The driver technology that the Music uses can also be found in its center-channel partner, the Poetry.

• The flat-driver design is strengthened by a layer of TPX amended by polypropylene and reinforced with radial ribs.



• The lower three woofers cover the 22-to-100-hertz range, with the lower two operating in parallel. The upper woofer is tuned for mid-to-upper bass performance.

