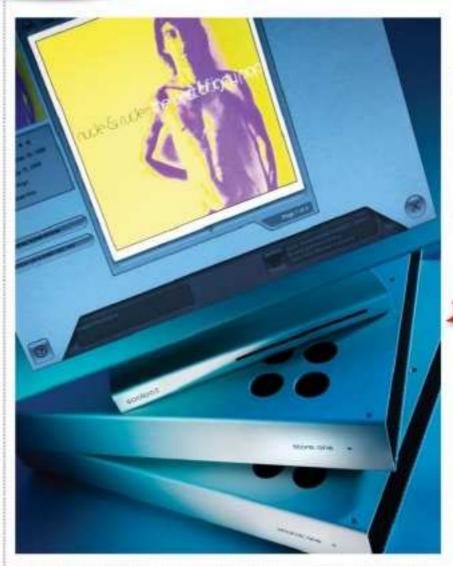
Digital Source Component



Sooloos music server system

(\$7900-\$10,500; reviewed by Jon Iverson & Kalman Rubinson, Vol.31 No.9, September 2008 WVVW)

his winner doesn't represent a hardware solution so much as it does a software solution. In a component category usually occupied by SACD players and D/A processors, and in a time marked by music lovers longing to reconnect with their libraries, the Sooloos hard-drive-based networked music system takes an undeniably fun and fresh approach to sorting, organizing, and experiencing music.

The Source:One currently uses RMEsourced 24-bit/192kHz converters, while the Twinstore hard drive is capable of holding over 2000 losslessly compressed CDs. What makes this product truly special, however, is its 17° Control:One touchscreen, which allows the user to find and play music in several intuitive ways. After only a few taps on the screen, our reviewers were entranced and invigorated by the Sooloos's potential.

Jon Iverson was won over immediately: "Using the Scoloos got me more deeply involved with my music library than at any time since I began collecting many years ago." Kal Rubinson was similarly swayed: "I am now convinced that, if you can afford it, the Sooloos is the way to go for CD listening." High praise, indeed, for a highly ambitious product. Thank you, Sooloos, for bringing us closer to our music.



Sooloos music server system

2008 RUNNERS-UP

(in alphabetical order)

Ayre Acoustics CX-7e CD player (\$3500; reviewed by Robert Deutsch, Vol.31 No.1, January 2008 WWW)

Bel Canto DAC3 D/A processor (\$2495; reviewed by John Afkinson & Wes Phillips, Vol.30 No.11 & Vol.31 No.2, November 2007 & February 2008 WAVW)

Benchmark DAC1 USB D/A headphone amplifier (\$1275; reviewed by John Alkinson, Vol.31 Nos.1 & 4, January & April 2008 WWW)

Esoteric DV-60 universal player (\$6000; reviewed by Kalman Rubinson, Vol.31 No.3, March 2008 WWW)

Grace m902 D/A preamplifier/ headphone amplifier (\$1695; reviewed by Sam Tellig, Vol.31 No.10, October 2008 WWW)

Krell Evolution 505 SACD player (\$10,000; reviewed by Fred Kaplan, Vol.3) No.9, September 2008 W/WW/)

Linn Klimax D5 network D/A processor (\$18,500; reviewed by Wes Phillips, Vol.31 No.3, March 2008 WWW)

Oppo DV-980H universal player (\$169; reviewed by Kalman Rubinson, Vol.31 No.5; May 2008 WWW)

PrimaLuna ProLogue Eight CD player (\$2499-\$2734; reviewed by Fred Kaplan & John Athinson, Vol.31 Nos.7 & 10, July & October 2008 WWW)

Simaudio Moon Andromeda CD player (\$13,500; reviewed by Brian Damkroger, Vol.31 No.1, January 2008 WWW) Wadia Digital 170/Transport iPod Dock (\$3.79; reviewed by Wes Philips, Vol.31 No.10, October 2008 WWW)