

THE CULTURE OF SOUND



KARLOS



LYRAVOX
HAMBURG



A FEAST FOR THE SENSES

Sensory perception is an important aspect of our joy in life. The relevance of acoustic impressions on our sensual experience is often overlooked and only appreciated by connoisseurs. At the same time, we are barely conscious of how powerful our acoustic perception is. Audio technology was never truly capable to match this power. It's almost ironic that this technology just now - in the current age of acoustic 'fast food' with MP3, streaming, throwaway headphones, and shoe box sized plastic speakers - has advanced to live up to our human hearing. State-of-the-art recordings and perfected contemporary playback acoustics in combination with the music that truly moves us are the ingredients for an outright feast for the senses.

THE SPEAKER AS THE HEART OF MUSIC REPRODUCTION

The speaker - turning electric signals into audible sound waves - has always been the key component for any audio system. Whatever it is physically unable to reproduce, will remain unheard. Being the final link in the component chain of traditional audio systems, the speaker generally played a thankless part since the preceding components didn't account for its technical or sonic requirements. Furthermore, typical audio chains suffer from signal deterioration (jacks, cables, conversions, crossovers), incompatibilities between individual components and a decoupling of speakers from the amplifier through the passive crossover. Modern active speakers eliminate these shortcomings by integrating the signal processing, employing loudspeaker direct drive through multiple power amplifiers, and last but not least a lossless, super precise, and time aligned driver control via high-res DSP. In this configuration, the speaker finally arrives at the heart of the audio system.

HOLISTIC SYMBIOSIS VS. AUDIO CHAIN

The optimal musical enjoyment is only possible if the whole audio system takes up a subordinate role to the loudspeaker. We at Lyravox believe that the cabinet (shape, materials, geometry, insulation, acoustic details), the amplification (= the speaker motor), the signal processing and even the cabling need to be custom-tailored for each speaker. The result is an audiophile symbiosis that creates maximum musical reproduction performance. Employing the speaker's internal DSP, this symbiotic system can even include the listening room the second most important part of the audio system. With the adaptation of the perfected speaker to the acoustics of the listening room, the audio system becomes fully functional.

K STANDS FOR KERAMIK, ACTIFIED

Drivers featured in the KARL series by Lyravox use super rigid membranes made out of ceramic, diamond, and aluminum. Ceramic drivers are the only drivers with a piston-like movement (without flexing), conforming to a speaker's acoustic ideal. This leads to an increased transmission capacity and a sound that is much clearer and filled with fine nuances. Micro-dynamics, timing, articulation and transparency are taken to the next level. Due to the material's natural resonances, hard membrane drivers can only be utilised without compromise in active systems, where they leverage the advantages of the direct drive technology. This makes them the first choice for the new incarnations of high end audio systems. The world's only manufacturer of real (pure) ceramic drivers is the Pulheim-based German manufacturer Accuton®. We at Lyravox are extremely proud to partner with Accuton® for the KARL series, creating the world's first fully active speaker series featuring ceramic drivers.

THE LYRAVOX PRINCIPLE

Lyravox goes further than others in the creation of the ideal active speaker: every system starts with the choice of the very best available driver for a given purpose. It needs to have ideal mechanical-physical properties, to harmonize with the other components and to have strong inherent musical qualities. Many manufacturers don't cultivate this amount of insight into the inner workings of a speaker, although this is where the secret to perfect sound is found. There are more than 100 technical criteria that define the acoustic performance of a speaker, and only very few of them are computable "on paper". Lyravox often discard spectacular new technologies that might sound ground-breaking in some respects, but only shine in single disciplines and don't really add to the overall speaker concept. In contrast, elaborate, matured and highly sophisticated speaker drivers are the hallmark of Lyravox products.



LYRAVOX KARLOS
GRADED AUDIO SYSTEM
SERIAL NUMBER: 017
ASSEMBLED BY: S. Kuhl

KARLOS, KING OF THE 2-WAY SPECIES

KARLOS is probably the most special speaker of the KARL series. It stands out visually, and also virtually by residing above the ground, standing on its tripod wooden skids. This makes it a welcome addition to many interiors. Combining a ceramic tweeter with an exceptionally large aluminium bass-midrange driver it impresses with a 'charismatic' sound – something its larger siblings cannot afford. KARLOS follows the tradition of legendary two-way loudspeakers and their special sound

signature: lively, homogeneous, involving, spatial, and in the case of studio monitors tonally superior, thus ideal for normal-sized rooms. At the same time KARLOS' 10" main driver in combination with the extra wide baffle and the slightly horn-loaded tweeter, produced exclusively for Lyravox by Accuton®, spoils the ears with a musical suspense that puts a live character into almost every recording. Part of that musical intensity is created by the auxiliary tweeter of KARLOS, which fills the room with indirect treble frequency the same way it happens in a real life music performance. The upward radiating Air Motion Transformer also enlarges the loudspeaker's sonic height and gives it an outstanding omnidirectional sound distribution. Finally, KARLOS is possibly the world champion in the discipline of microdynamics and articulation of low volume audio playback: it 'whispers' crisply at the same level as the best high efficiency drivers (often full range drivers), but paired with a much better overall resolution and tonality. In short, KARLOS combines the capabilities of potent high-end equipment with extensive musicality that gets under your skin. In that, it establishes a class of its own.



'KOMPLETT' OR 'PURE'

The KARLOS 'Pure' version is a fully active speaker with three digital (AES, SPDIF, Toslink) and two analogue (XLR, Cinch) high-quality inputs. This model is the perfect companion for high-grade source devices from high tech digital streamers to sophisticated record players. The Auto Detect feature ensures that the correct input is selected automatically. KARLOS Pure also detects inactivity and automatically ends or re-enters Standby mode. The model KARLOS 'Komplett' (Complete) features an integrated high-end streamer with state-of-the-art capabilities and connection possibilities for USB, Bluetooth AptX or external digital and analogue sources. KARLOS Komplett is controlled intuitively via the Lyravox App or the supplied remote control with colour display. The latter allows the most intuitive operation of a modern, feature-loaded audio system possible. Both KARLOS models feature room adaptation EQ possibilities to perfectly match the room acoustics. The room adaptation EQ will be determined strictly manually, in a process of professional measurement and knowledgeable listening by skilled personnel.



User Interfaces of the 'Komplett' Version



„With this speaker, one wants to listen to music endlessly“

Thomas Schmidt, Hifi EinsNull

SPECIFICATIONS

	DIMENSION/WEIGHT	COMPONENTS	INPUTS	
KARLOS Pure	40 x 70 x 18,5 cm (with Stand 40 x 87,5 x 37 cm) ca. 22 kg	Tweeter Accuton® Ceramic 30 mm Midwoofer ScanSpeak® 26W Aluminium 10" Tophiring Ambience Tweeter AMT50 4 Power Amps CLASS D 4 th Gen., 1000 W Total Power Hi-Res DSP-Module Infrared-Remote Control	Analog Balanced (XLR) Analog RCA (Cinch) Digital AES/EBU Digital SPDIF (Coax) Digital Optical Automatic Source Selection by Auto-Detect Automatic Wake up/Sleep	
	DIMENSION/WEIGHT	COMPONENTS	SOURCES	AUDIO FORMATS
KARLOS Komplett	40 x 70 x 18,5 cm (with Stand 40 x 87,5 x 37 cm) ca. 22 kg	Tweeter Accuton® Ceramic 30 mm Midwoofer ScanSpeak® 26W Aluminium 10" Tophiring Ambience Tweeter AMT50 AUDIVO HD-Streamer (Made in Germany) Lyravox® 3-Core-/8-Channel DSP-Module 4-Channel Pascal® T-PRO2 Class D Power Amps (per pair) CSR Bluetooth Apt-X® RF Remote Control	integrated: - USB-Stick via LAN/WLAN (802.11b, g, n): - Music Server - NAS - PC - DLNA-Sources via Internet: - Internet-Radio - Premium Services: TIDAL®, Qobuz® via Bluetooth (A2DP, AptX®): - Smartphone, Tablet, PC etc. external via cable: - analog in - digital in (SPDIF coax)	MP3 up to 320 kBit/s, VBR/CBR WAV, AIFF, PCM up to 192kHz/24Bit Int/32BitFloat FLA C up to 192 kHz/24 Bit Ogg Vorbis WMA (standard only, no Pro or Lossless) AAC/M4A, ALAC Gapless Playback at WAV, AIFF, PCM, FLAC, MP3



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Lyravox Gerätemanufaktur GmbH & Co. KG | Jaffestraße 6 | 21109 Hamburg, Germany

Phone +49 - 40 - 32089798 - 0 | Fax +49 - 40 - 32089798 - 9

info@lyravox.de | www.lyravox.com