

THE RESULT OF OVER A DECADE OF REFINEMENT

Built with a true love for music and exquisitely finished, the **vsm** is an elegant, compact design that is timeless in appearance. The magical **merlin** realizes extraordinary performance from a compact enclosure with a small footprint.

It combines the imaging and soundstage of a mini-monitor with the larger

presentation, fuller tonality and presence of a floor-stander.

The sound is dynamic, highly resolved, uniform and complete without even the slightest hint of distortion or grain. When conventional components did not give us the performance we were trying to

achieve, we developed and produced our own. Eighty percent of the **vsm** engineering is proprietary and cannot be found in any other product on the market today. Designed and built by craftsmen with an attention to detail, refine-

ment and unrivaled customer support, **merlin** speaker systems will provide their owners a

lifetime of sheer musical enjoyment.

*Audition them today and discover why so many audiophiles, reviewers and sound engineers have chosen **merlin** as their reference speaker system.*

ENCHANTING
ENGAGING
LIFELIKE

merlin
music systems

vsm
mm/mx



The VSM-MX pictured in Ruby Heart Red premium clearcoat finish.

ENCLOSURE:

- Vented (front) and tuned to 37Hz
- Super strong glued Pan Fiber construction
- 1 1/2" thick front baffle
- Mass loaded
- Internal and external resonance damping
- Floor standing with dynamic coupling feet
- Low diffraction
- High durability three step textured black finish standard on **VSM-MM**
- Premium high-gloss color finishes standard on **VSM-MX**
- Brass tuning rods on front and top of cabinet
- Hand-crafted speaker grills included

WOOFER:

- 6.5 inch paper carbon-fiber cone specifically manufactured for **Merlin Music Systems** by **ScanSpeak™**
- Cast aluminum basket
 - Low diffraction rubber surround
 - Large motor, rear vented
 - fs 28hz. Ex-max +/- 12mm

TWEETER:

1 inch soft dome. **Dynaudio™ Esotar® D330/A**

CROSSOVER:

- Highly optimized 12 dB per octave
- Crossover point at 2200 Hz
- Both drivers wired in electrical phase
- Fixed output (no level controls)
- Impedance corrected
- Electronic circuit damping
- Proprietary ultra-low loss inductors by **Hovland™**
- **Hovland™** aluminum foil and polypropylene capacitors
- **Caddock™ Micronox®** film resistors
- Wired with **Cardas™** wire
- Bi-wireable via **Cardas™** "low stress" binding posts
- Removable outboard RC networks
- EMI/RFI filtering networks
- Point-to-point hand wired
- Easily removable for upgrades/repairs

BASS AUGMENTATION MODULE (BAM):

- 5.2dB of boost at 35 Hz
- Subsonic bass roll-off below 27Hz
- Ultrasonic filter at 200kHz
- Outboard power supply
- Rechargeable battery power supply
- Single ended (RCA) or fully balanced (XLR) models available
- **Cardas™ Cross®** internal wiring
- **Caddock™ Micronox®** film resistors
- **Hovland™** aluminum foil and polypropylene capacitors
- Input impedance: 40k ohms
- Output impedance: 100 ohms
- THD: < 0.005%
- Maximum output voltage: 9.5Vrms
- Power requirements: 50/60Hz 110-117VAC

FREQUENCY RESPONSE:

33-22 kHz +/- 2dB, 1 meter on axis
4dB down at 30Hz with BAM in circuit
36-20kHz +/- 1.75 dB, 1 meter on axis
36-20kHz +/- 1.5 dB at 10° off axis (optimum listening axis)

ACOUSTIC PHASE SHIFT:

Less than 10°

IMPEDANCE:

8 ohms nominal
6.5 ohms minimum
15.6 ohms at crossover point

SENSITIVITY:

89 dB, 1W/1M (2.83V)
Excellent tube amplifier compatibility

POWER HANDLING:

200 watts (program)
Maximum output 111 dB (program)

POWER REQUIREMENTS

SUGGESTED:
Tubes: 17 watts minimum
Solid state: 25 watts minimum (solid state)
200 watts maximum

DIMENSIONS:

Speakers
Height: 42-7/8 in (108.9 cm)
Width: 8-5/8 in (21.9 cm)
Depth: 10-1/2 in (26.7 cm)
BAM
Height: 2-1/4 in (5.7 cm)
Width: 6-3/4 in (17.2 cm)
Depth: 8-3/4 in (22.2 cm)

WEIGHT:

Speakers: 84.5 lb (38.2 kg) each
BAM: 4.4 lb (2 kg)
195 lb in packaging (one pair in carton with BAM)

WARRANTY:

10 years parts and labor

OPTIONS:

Fully balanced (XLR input/output) battery BAM.
Includes a self contained, rechargeable battery power supply.
Single ended/Balanced BAM unit with self contained rechargeable power supply available.

FINISHES:

Premium high-gloss finishes include:
Piano Black, Ruby Heart Red, Black Ice Blue, Moss Green, and Eggplant.



Custom color high-gloss premium finishes are also available

VSM-MM/MX
2005 **Bound for Sound** award as a
Component of Exceptional Merit

VSM-MILLENNIUM
2001-4 **Stereophile Magazine "Class A"**
Recommended Component

MERLIN VSM
2004 **EnjoyTheMusic.com Best of**
2004 Blue Note Equipment
Award. Loudspeakers

2003 **AudioReview.com Choice**
Award Winner

1999 **SoundStage! Reviewers' Choice**
Hall-of-Fame Award

1998 **SoundStage! Reviewers' Choice**

VSM SE
7/1998 **Speaker of Exceptional Merit**
Bound for Sound

VSM BASIC
6/1998 **Speaker of Exceptional Merit**
Bound for Sound.

1995 **Winner of the CEA "Design and**
Engineering Award Innovations"

*This is one music-lover's speaker you
need to hear, however much you're
prepared to spend.*

MICHAEL FREMER
STEREOPHILE

*Its most significant aspect cannot be
counted. It is... Musical soul.*

TODD WARNKE
ENJOY THE MUSIC.COM