



Hand-made in England for over 35 years, Harbeth loudspeakers are at the forefront of innovation and technology.

Sonic purity

Harbeth's exclusive cone material creates that 'being there' experience not possible with polypropylene cones used in so many mass-produced loudspeakers.

Only with a Harbeth loudspeaker will you experience the unbeatable clarity which comes from an exclusive Harbeth RADIAL™ drive unit that brings music to life.

Home and studio

No wonder that Harbeth is the first-choice loudspeaker for discerning audiophiles and professional sound directors working on hit shows, film soundtracks and CD mastering.



VIRTUAL REALITY CALLS FOR HARBETH



Talented sound director John Hendicott is busy in California using Harbeth M20.1 monitors for 3D mixing. He's just completed a 'first' for network television in the burgeoning virtual reality scene. "Huge sums have been invested in the platform recently", explains the engineer who's busy with 3D ambisonic mixes (for Jaunt VR) which are consumed in binaural format. "It's very exciting to be at the forefront of this new technology and that's in no small part down to the support Harbeth has given me."

HIS MASTER'S REFERENCE

A LOOK AT THE EQUIPMENT USED TO CREATE THE HARBETH LINE-UP

Designing the most musical loudspeakers requires a breadth of source material and wide musical repertoire. We catch up with Alan Shaw during the lengthy design process at the Harbeth Research Centre deep in the Sussex countryside...

The HRC (Harbeth Research Centre), a few miles from the brand's Lindfield factory, is in a building dating back to the sixteenth century. It is in this historic setting (pictured) that Harbeth's owner and designer crafts the multi-award-winning designs which are in demand the world over.

"I need a wealth of different source equipment during the design stages", explains Alan Shaw, "partly because I cannot know what will be used to partner the finished Harbeth model. Some customers may choose relatively modest front-end electronics, while others rely on the more esoteric."

It is for the same reason that Alan uses a wide variety of music and, importantly, speech as his reference material.

"The HRC library encompasses everything from jazz, piano, solo voices, small-scale baroque, rock, orchestral settings and a wide range of recording from voices which I know

intimately", he adds.

Alan is trialling The Bespoke Audio Company's passive pre-amp and Sugden power while evaluating Hegel's new integrated.





CONTACT

Harbeth Audio is proudly an independent British company, wholly owned by the designer. This gives us complete control over our destiny and allows us to create products that are truly sought-after around the world.

Send your stories for inclusion in our regular newsletters to the editor, ideally with high-resolution photographs.

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PICTURE OF THE MONTH - BELGIUM DEALER'S MUSICAL MONASTERY



A weekend in Belgium's St Martinus Pastory provided the ideal opportunity for high-end dealer Gydotron to demonstrate their best brands. Although the Harbeth P3ESRs were among the smallest speakers used at the event, they proved to be the most awe-inspiring and most musically satisfying setup of the entire show for many. The stunning photo of the Harbeth room was taken by Sven Verbruggen – www.verbruci.nl

ROCKING STATE-SIDE

New model wins hearts and minds at major USA audio event as audiophiles clamour to hear the Harbeth M40.2 'ultimate reference' monitor loudspeaker



Americans lapped up the sound of Harbeth's new Monitor 40.2 at the first USA showing as a state of excitement filled room 449 at the Rocky

Mountain Audio Fest (RMAF) in Denver.

Resting on Resonant Woods stands, the new loudspeakers were partnered with the latest

LIO electronics from Vinnie Rossi. And it was quite a combo judging from comments posted on international forums, including:

"You came out swinging haymakers and kickin' ass. Your room was so fun and enjoyable."

"Just flat out awesome, good job!"

"Right up there with my three favourites if not *the* favourite."

The media also loved the sound. Lee Scoggins

writes for *Part-Time Audiophile* how Harbeth "seems to nail the midrange", while *Stereophile's* Herb Reichert wrote, "I have not found anything not to love about Vinnie's amps driving Harbeths."



A HUGE RECEPTION FOR HARBETH AT THE INDONESIAN HIGH-END SHOW

Show stopper

Crowds flocked to the high-end audio show in Jakarta and gave a rapturous local reception to Harbeth's Super HL5*plus*.

The hotel Peninsula was packed for the popular IHEAC show organised by the Indonesia High End Audio Club.

"Everyone liked the Harbeth SHL5*plus* which we used with some McIntosh tube amplification", explains Lukito Tjahyadi from Harbeth Indonesia/Victory Audio. "We had one of the best sounds of the show as visitors kept commenting!"





Dutch enjoy fine music

Seeking out the best sound, audiophiles flock to The Netherlands main audio event

For an entire weekend, the Eindhoven Conference Centre Koningshof was crowded with music lovers. X-Fi is the Big Dutch audio event; big with a capital B.

"Harbeth was very well received", said Garnt van

der Zel from Harbeth Benelux which showcased the Super HL5plus with Resolution Audio electronics from the USA. Down the corridor, new Harbeth dealer AudioTweaks used SPEC amplification (from Japan).

The dealer's proprietor Piet de Vries is pictured (right) with Trevor Butler from Harbeth's marketing department who attended the event to meet customers.



SPEAKER OF THE YEAR?

HARBETH PROVIDES CONTENDER FOR ANNUAL SPEAKER AWARD

The latest review to praise Alan Shaw's design capabilities comes from the Australian online site StereoNet which put a pair of Harbeth Super HL5plus through their paces and discovered a contender for the publication's Loudspeaker of the Year Award.

Acknowledging Harbeth's "enviable reputation" and "large following around the world", StereoNet's Mark Gusew is obviously highly impressed with the brand's Super HL5plus.

"The very first impression ... was very positive. They are a loudspeaker with a wide array of capabilities", the writer discovered.

Living with the Harbeth speakers for a while Mark notes, "I have to admit that I wasn't expecting them to neutralise to the extent that they did and to sound so darn good. They played very well

in my small listening room, but also sounded even better in a large open space."

With some of his favourite tunes, the writer discovered just how musical the SHL5plus is: "They have an innate ability to draw you in to the sound and to be immersed in the experience. For instance, playing *Miss Bea* by the McCoy Tyner Quartet was eye-opening in the way that all the instruments played so cleanly in their own space within the soundstage. Apparent was the pure and liquid midrange that allowed me to rel-

ish the tonality of each of them, especially the tenor saxophone of Joe Henderson. His playing imparted a sense of freedom and calming carefreeness that I really enjoyed."

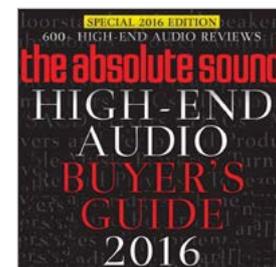
While playing *Tides* by Nitin Sawhney, Mark says how much he "was immediately drawn into the music and the accuracy of the piano,

and the fine detail and phrasing of the cymbal work. It was beautiful and engaging, relaxed and yet dynamic, full of natural harmonics and colourful tones. It sounded right and I didn't wish for anything more."

The full review is available online at www.stereonet.com



BUYER'S GUIDE



In its Buyer's Guide for 2016, *The Absolute Sound* magazine highlights Harbeth's Super HL5plus. The collection of recommended components features the best that's available. The Guide says, "Alan Shaw's new SHL5plus is one of the most beautiful-sounding speakers..."

POSTING RECORD



Harbeth's owner and designer is marking his five-thousandth post on the brand's forum. Alan Shaw's landmark message on the Harbeth User Group equates to an average one-and-a-half posts a day, every day for ten years. That's some commitment!

STANDING PROUD



Online magazine *The-Ear* welcomed the arrival of German Tonträger stands for the Harbeth range. www.the-ear.net

HARBETH MINI-MONITORS AT HEART OF FRENCH APARTMENT SYSTEM

Sweet home sounds

P3ESR mini-monitors are at the centre of a recently-installed system by Harbeth France. The sumptuous Parisian apartment boasts a glorious sound from the 200,000 Euro system which also features a pair of Kondo Gakuon 2 and a Kondo M1000 MK2

pre-amplifier plus a full digital system of Esoteric P1 + D1.

"The customer is very happy", says Marc Chassonnery of Harbeth France. "The P3s perform perfectly, filling the fifty-square-metre room with gorgeous sounds. *Par excellence!*"



SHOW ROUND-UP

NETHERLANDS: A region-wide roadshow visiting every Harbeth dealer in Benelux sees a succession of special launch events for the new Monitor 40.2. A programme which began in Belgium (at Pink Noise in Ixelles), finishes in The Netherlands at Beter Beeld & Geluid Zevenbergen (19-25 November). More details online: www.harbeth.nl

MHES Moscow[™]
Hi-End
Show

MOSCOW: Designer Alan Shaw travels to the Russian capital for the high-end event at the Holiday Inn Simonovsky (20-22 November) which sees the official unveiling of the new Harbeth M40.2 and a chance to meet the designer.

GERMANY: West-deutsche HiFi-Tage in Bonn was a huge success for the Harbeth brand. Fans flocked to the Harbeth Germany room to be wooed by the intoxicating sounds.



SPAIN: Barcelona sees the Spanish launch of the M40.2. There will be invitation auditioning on the afternoon of Friday 13 November (4-8pm) and Saturday morning 14 November from 10am at Style Sound. Tel: 34 93 246 68 40. stylesound.com

HARBETH AT PIANO MECCA

Steinway's historic global headquarters in New York takes delivery of Harbeth's famous mini-monitors and finds instant synergy as quality meets quality....



It has rung with the footsteps of some of the greatest names in piano history, and now Steinway's headquarters in downtown New York (pictured below, right) boasts a pair of Harbeth's fine, hand-crafted British loudspeakers.

The P3ESR mini-monitors now sit proudly on the desk of Eric Feidner. As Steinway's Senior Vice President Music, Technology and Media – and Executive Producer at Steinway Recordings – he's enjoying the natural sound of his new monitors.

"It is fitting, yet humbling, that Harbeth has found its way into

what's celebrated as the centre of the piano universe", says Harbeth's designer Alan Shaw.

The legacy of New York City's Steinway Hall is long and storied. For a century and a half, its floors have welcomed countless artistes, students, composers, teachers, parents, children, critics, researchers, technicians, and tourists.

Less a physical place than a legendary essence, Steinway Hall is a mecca for anyone who loves wonderful music.

Beside his desk (pictured above), Eric Feidner has a wall-mounted print of the legendary

Steinway artiste Arthur Rubinstein, cigar in hand.

"A Steinway is a Steinway and there is nothing like it in the world", proclaimed the great Rubinstein famously. Well, now Steinway have discovered that there is nothing in the world like a Harbeth monitor loudspeaker.



IN HI-FI, ALSO, WHAT GOES AROUND COMES AROUND

Little did he imagine, when buying his first hi-fi system at Dutch dealer Multifoon, that he'd be back two decades later to supply them with Harbeth loudspeakers. But, that's exactly what happened to Garnt van der Zel of Harbeth Benelux. "When I was a student, I regularly visited their shop (then in Delft) to look in awe at all the great stuff in the window", he recalls. "Then I was asked to work in one of their Rotterdam shops on Saturdays, and had a time which I've never forgotten; it motivated me to start my own retail business." Today he's as delighted to be supplying Harbeth to them as they are to be selling the revered British brand. www.multifoon.nl

