Munich High End 2019: Loudspeakers

Mr. Jonathan Valin, Executive Editor of The Absolute Sound Magazine,

„My current references, the giant omnidirectional $260k MBL X-Tremes, driven and sourced (of course) by MBL’s own electronics, had a spectacularly successful show. As good as some of them were, no other speakers sounded like this—sensational dimensionality, detail, color, dynamics, and ambient retrieval and immersion in same. Listening to a portion of a Bach Cello Suite in played live, then hearing a recording played back through the X-Tremes was living proof of their accuracy and verisimilitude. The X-Tremes' sheer solidity of imaging is different than that of other speakers because of their uncannily lifelike three-dimensionality. Playback of a CD of the Bavarian Radio Choir and various soloists on Bach's St John's Passion through the X-Treme came as near to being in the large reverberant space in which the disc was recorded as loudspeakers can get. In spite of the stiff competition, this was the overall best of show. Period.“

From: https://www.theabsolutesound.com/articles/munich-high-end-2019-loudspeakers/
High End Munich 2019: A Tradition In Listening with MBL

Mr. Michael lavorgna, Editor in chief, twittering machines

The MBL room at Axpona 2019 ranked among my favorites—"All enveloping, all consuming, nearly overwhelming, this MBL system grabbed every bit of me and didn't let go." I repeat these words because they easily apply to Munich, which is one reason I always spend some MBL listening time at shows.

“There is nothing that sounds like an MBL system other than an MBL system.” Something I also said from Axpona but we all knew all of this already, right?

Well, here's curve ball for 'ya—If you first sit in the typical 'sweet spot' centered between the speakers, then move to this position, i.e. stage left, an MBL system sounds like you're still getting all of the music. It's just that you're getting it from this position. In other words, while the stereo image remains in tact, it sounds like you are sitting well to the side, stage left. Just like in real life (don’t try this at home).

Pictured up top is MBL's Jürgen Reis, the guy behind all of their designs, giving a presentation on the Radialstrahler mbl 101 X-treme Speakers. I've seen this and similar presentations before but I always attend Jürgen's presentations because I always learn something new each time. There's also an ease and inviting manner to his presentations which I attribute, in part, to the fact that Jürgen knows what he's talking about and we are being treated to the tippy top of a very deep iceberg. Another piece of this inviting presentation puzzle is I believe Jürgen loves what he does and he enjoys sharing his knowledge and experience.

Mr. Michael lavorgna, Editor in chief, twittering machines (Instagram)

If you first sit in the typical ‘sweet spot’ then move to this position, an MBL system sounds like you're still getting all of the music - from this position. Just like in real life. I think that's more than neat. #twitteringmachines

From: https://www.instagram.com/twitteringmachines/p/BxSTXORg7Hb/
austinpop, Editor, audiophile style

The MBL room, in my estimation, was by far the best of the show. This room had 2 setups - one featuring the flagship Radialstrahler mbl 101 X-treme speakers, and the other their Noble line.

I listened on two different days, and both times it was standing room only. One of the most compelling demos was on Sunday, when they had a cellist come in and play a Bach Suite for Cello live on his baroque cello, followed by a recording of the same piece on the 101 X-treme. Now that’s confidence, but this setup sounded that good!

While these systems were stratospherically expensive, I also got a chance to hear the “affordable” mbl 126 stand mount speakers at the Rohm Electronics room over at the spill-over HifiDeluxe show at the Marriott. These $11,800/pair MSRP speakers, while still not cheap, were sounding exceptional, and clearly had the same DNA as the X-treme 101 flagship. And so it goes.

SoundStage! Australia’s High End Munich 2019
10 Favourite Exhibits

Mr. Edgar Kramer, Editor, soundstage australia

In a room that has been its consistent ‘home’ for quite a few years, MBL showed once again, two setups featuring an all-white 101 E Mk.II-based system and the flagship exhibit showcasing 101 X-treme mated to the company’s 9008 A and 9011 amplification and matching electronics. In line with last year’s remarkable result, here the sound was once again a show highlight. My visit timed with Chief Designer Jürgen Reis demonstrating the resolving powers of the X-treme system and illustrating each aspect of performance with a pertinent music selection. Spacious, fulsome, grand and musical with excellent dynamics and verisimilitude, the MBL X-treme powerhouse once again served to indisputably prove the now mature concept behind the company’s unique driver technology.

Munich Hifi Show 2019

Bert Bird, Editor, Naim hifi corner

Mbl always working with the owner of Fone Records to present his music. The guy is really interesting to experience and his recordings are also well recorded. The MBL system is always easily in the top three on the show, but this time the sound was less good. I th8nk it was a setup or warm up issue, normally I don’t see them on Friday already. The sound was a bit thinner and less three dimensional as usual, while the system will still blow away a lot of the other systems..., at a price of course...

From: https://community.naimaudio.com/t/munich-hifi-show-2019/2082/193
Jorge Mendes, da Ajasom, foi pela primeira vez ao Highend, de Munique, e confes- sou-me que se tinha sentido no ToysRus dos audiófilos. De facto, este é o certame mundial mais abrangente de áudio, hifi e highend, além de outros produtos que são difíceis de catalogar. À falta de melhor termo, vou chamar-lhes 'esquisitos'.

mbl

Mas continuam a ser as marcas mais prestigiadas e icónicas que atraem os visitantes. Como, por exemplo, a alemã mbl, que, além de expor todas as jóias da coroa, este ano me surpreendeu ao passar música ‘a abrir’ no sistema de topo com as incríveis mbl 101 X-treme radialstrahler, que são compostas por duas 101E, num jogo de forças combinadas, mais os subwoofers.
De facto, era um desperdício ter tanto poder de fogo disponível para tocar apenas a Cecília Bartolli. Assim, este ano passei por lá várias vezes, e ouvi de tudo. Desde o CD Tricycle, da DMP, com música electrónica bem puxada, a Michael Jackson a cantar Billy Jean, com um baixo pulsante e bem ritmado, que até dava vontade de dançar. Que eu gravei também, mas não vou publicar, porque o You Tube vai imediatamente mostrar-me o cartão amarelo, se não for o vermelho...

Mas os leitores não perdem nada, porque tenho um exclusivo: os ananazes da mbl a tocar a Abertura 1820, de Tchaikovsky, com coros monumentais, canhões e tudo. E saíram-se muito bem, com se mostra pela prova em baixo. Claro que se ouvir isto no telemóvel, os canhões soam como estalinhos de carnaval. Utilize um bom par de auscultadores com DAC ou ligue o PC ao sistema de som. O penúltimo tiro distorce ligeiramente, mas a culpa é do microfone não da mbl...Porque este foi um tiro que não saiu pela culatra à mbl. Arriscou e ganhou: som espectacular!

Notas: As imagens e o som foram captados em dias diferentes e depois editadas. Mas o som que se ouve foi captado directamente na sala (master digital a 96/24) sem qualquer processamento. Contudo, não é representativo do sistema, apenas ilustrativo.

MUNICH HIGH END SHOW 2019

Mr. Leo Yeh, Editor, MY-HIEND
From: http://www.my-hiend.com/vbb/showthread.php?12471-2019%E5%B9%B4%E5%BE%B7%E5%9C%8B%E6%85%95%E5%B0%BC%E9%BB%91High-End%E9%9F%B3%E9%9F%BF%E5%B1%95%E5%AF%A6%E6%B3%81%E5%A0%B1%E5%B0%8E-Munich-High-End-Show&p=238740#post238740
Mr. Jack Liu, Editor, Audio Art Magazine Taiwan

MBL改Logo圖案了，也加入ROON。
一踏進MBL房間，還是跟以前一樣黑壓壓的，但是我抬頭看到那個Logo，覺得怪怪的。再仔細看，原來這個Logo是新的，以前的Logo圖案是二圓，裡面的字線條飽滿，讓整個Logo看起來很穩重，很充實，很穩定，而現在這個Logo，沒有冒犯之意，老實說我個人覺得沒有原本的Logo好看，不過，換Logo是大事，他們一定討論再討論，才會決定改用這個，所以一定有他們的用意吧？

MBL並沒有推出新產品，不過已經把ROON納入數位訊源，所以以後您買MBL的數位訊源，都可以跟ROON相容。
Mr. Jerry Kuo, Editor, u-audio Magazine Taiwan

走到2019年慕尼黑音響展mbl展間，遇到首席工程師Jurgen Reis，馬上問他今年的新產品，他說重要的Reference與Corona系列都沒有新產品推出，不過Roon擴充卡則是正式出貨，已經可以加裝在mbl數位器材上面。還有，Jurgen告訴我mbl自家Roon擴充卡的便利功能，就是能輕鬆在數位串流與CD播放之間，自動切換，而且所有功能都可以透過面板觸控連動，相當方便。mbl這幾年都在同一處超大展間，而且Reference與Corona系列兩套系統分立，每隔一小時輪班播放，讓參觀者可以體驗兩套mbl系統的聲音表現，360度發聲的喇叭在大空間確實效果不錯，更容易展現喇叭消失在空間當中的音場魔力。

Munich High-End 2019 AS IT HAPPENED!
Mr. JOHN DARKO, Editor, darko online magazine

From: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pZQR0u5PKBQ

mbl - Munich High End Show 2019
Thivanlabs

From: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9ttZDYdiAHA&feature=youtu.be