



Munich High End 2014

The Munich High End 2014 took place from May 15th - 18th 2014 in the M.O.C. and attracted nearly 18.000 visitors during these four days and thus meant a new record attendance. Munich has become the most professional industry show in the world now and 450 brands have been present. Sieveking Sound has been exhibiting ever since the show moved to Munich and this year we were able to get one of the larger Atrium rooms with 73 sqm size. Unfortunately the rooms as such don't sound all that good as they have got a glass front and back, plywood sides and a huge acoustic ceiling with a lot of damping that is actually hanging about 70cm below the floor of the next level. Thus most rooms only manage mediocre sound quality even though they use good quality gear.

We on the other hand managed to get great sound thanks to extensive usage of Harmonix. We brought a complete Reimyo System including the ALS-777 Limited with Schuko Plugs and used the new Million Maestro Powercords for the CAT-777 MK2 and KAP777. Everything was located on Harmonix RSB-1 bases and TU-666 Million feet. Cabling was Golden Performance interconnects and Exquisite loudspeaker cables. This way we had wonderful electronics to start out with.

The new Encore Speakers from Combak Corporation had only become ready days before the Munich show and played in a second system with an Aura Note Version 2 and made wonderful music. Absolutely smooth and grain free. We actually had a small [TV interview with Stereo Magazine](#) regarding the new



speaker design and if you speak any Germany please enjoy the video. We had spoken to Verity Audio in Canada and our English distribution colleague Stephen who also is the Combak distributor in the UK was so kind as to allow us to use one of his Sarastro IIS speakers. We used the Harmonix Max-Jumper and a total of four sets of RFA-7800 on the speaker to good effect.



We used three complete sets of RFA-7800 on the walls and the ceiling of the room to allow the system to offer a much wider and higher soundstage with more natural decay in the massively damped room. While most rooms gave the feeling that the soundstage did not have any height and the system sounded completely closed in our room received the [ReMusic award](#) for the best sound of the entire show. Personally I still felt it would have been nicer to be in a room with less damping that sounds more life

but the result was so good that we have had many customers who returned several times during the show just to listen to some music. Among them were dealers from far away countries like Israel or Spain who simply stated that in this room we were making beautiful music.

As we are talking about music I should mention that we played a wide variety of music and I very much liked to play visitor requests as I always get to know new music this way. Our own musical selection included the new Kevyn Lettau remaster on Master Music and also Blues, Jazz and Tango! You won't believe how wonderful a good Tango recording can sound on a Reimyo system. Interestingly enough during the entire four days there was only a single request to play classical music. It seems Germany is really a country for Rock and Blues and even after all these years the simplest way to fill the room is playing some Blues at high level.



As you can see on the photo we used floating candles in low cut glass bowls with real roses before the system and this had the hoped effect. Nobody stood in front of the speakers or even touched the system during the four days of the show. So we had some intimate candle light and wonderful sound.

I have included some smaller pictures to get you a better idea and hope to see as many visitors at the next Munich High End.



Jan Sieveking