

Atacama Audio

SLX 400

loudspeaker stand

DESIGNED TO SUIT larger standmount loudspeakers, Atacama Audio's SLX Series is available in six different heights starting at 235mm for the SLX 200 through to 1,035mm for the SLX 1000. The SLX Series comes with a large top plate support measuring 225 x 225mm and a 305 x 305mm base plate for stability. I opt for the SLX 400 at 435mm high and it arrives in the standard satin black finish – silver and white are also available for an additional £20.

The stand has a 5mm-thick laser-cut carbon steel base plate fitted with 8mm adjustable floor spikes with stainless steel top caps. The top plate has isolation gel pads to curtail vibration transmission. Atacama recommends that the four support tubes are mass-loaded to optimise

performance with three evenly distributed tubs of Atabite filler, adding £90 to the price. Nickel-finished spike shoes can also be supplied at £40 per pair to protect wooden floors.

Filler up

To try out the stands without the filler I position my standmount speakers in place and play Jean-Michel Jarre's glorious *Équinoxe*. My first thoughts are of a dynamic and powerful bass sound that seems to be a lot more powerful than I am used to hearing and a little over exuberant at times. Filling the columns with the Atabite filler as suggested, I listen again and the bass level is far better balanced with a tighter, punchier and more controlled performance.



Next up is a recording of Purcell's *Abdelazer Suite* played by The Virtuosi of England. From the off, the stately *Rondeau* is melodic and joyous as instrument imaging is much better focussed while the performance has a fuller presentation.

This sturdy stand will support a wide range of speaker designs and it's certainly worth factoring in the additional cost of the filler to ensure the best possible sonic results. **NR**

▶ DETAILS

PRICE
£170

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OUR VERDICT

