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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wilson Audio Launches Sabrina

March 12, 2015

Sabrina's design heritage perhaps can be best understood by looking to two distinct and seemingly disparate sources: the original WATT/Puppy, and the Alexandria XLF. The WATT/Puppy was the result of Dave Wilson's belief that a well-designed compact loudspeaker could outperform many of the much larger state-of-the-art systems of its day. Sabrina is nearly the same size as its 1980s progenitor. The XLF, on the other hand, represents the current pinnacle of Wilson's three-decades-long quest to bridge the gulf between live, unamplified music and its reproduction. Along with live music itself, the XLF serves as Wilson's ultimate real-world reference. But where XLF's complex platform is built around precise time-alignment capability, custom-designed drivers, and adjustable cabinet modules constructed from Wilson's proprietary materials, Sabrina's design brief was focused on pure simplicity and a compact, accessible form factor.

The objective for Sabrina was to take Wilson's vast accumulated wealth of knowledge and experience, its current zenith embodied in the Alexandria XLF, and distill it down to its essence. To create a loudspeaker that, like the first WATT/Puppy, could stand alongside much larger systems and offer the kind of dynamic contrast and harmonic expression that is the defining character of Wilson Audio loudspeakers.



All-new Architecture Using Proven Materials

When it comes to a loudspeaker's architectural design, Wilson's philosophy is driven by the notion that a loudspeaker's form is inextricably tied to its function. The unique physical features which are required in order to reduce propagation errors and lower enclosure panel resonances have for decades now given Wilson loudspeakers their look. Arguably, there is a form of beauty singular to the congruent interplay of technical and aesthetic ideals. Sabrina's cabinet is hand-assembled, glued with proprietary adhesives, hand-sanded, gel coated, painted with multiple layers of automotive-grade paint, inspected, then polished and buffed to the same exacting standard as every other Wilson loudspeaker. The front baffle and bottom panels are built from Wilson proprietary composite, X-Material.

When the drivers in a loudspeaker array are aligned so that the leading edge of transients from each driver arrives at the listener's ear at the same time, the result is a profound improvement in dynamics, harmonic detail, transparency—and in other important areas of sonic performance. Put simply, all the things that characterize what the brain interprets as "real" in music reproduction. The adjustable driver modules in Wilson's larger loudspeakers exist to provide unprecedented control over time-alignment in a large variety of listening environments. But in a single cabinet speaker such as Sabrina, the

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The Sabrina in Desert Silver

concept is still valid. Sabrina's driver array has been time optimized for the typical listening room (hence the sloping front baffle of the loudspeaker).

Crossover

Every Sabrina crossover is a solitary work of art, built individually to match the reference crossover. Wilson mandates tolerances as stringent as plus-or-minus point-two percent ($\pm 0.2\%$)—much more exacting than even the best individual crossover components typically achieve. Other high-end manufacturers accept this lack of precision as *fait accompli*. At Wilson, every crossover component is meticulously measured and cataloged with its actual value (which is always different from its rated value). Each Sabrina crossover is a unique admixture of mathematically complimentary components such that its final value precisely matches the reference loudspeaker's crossover. Wilson believes that the owner of any of its products should hear precisely what Dave and the engineers heard when they signed off on the final prototype.

When designing the Sabrina crossover, proprietary measures were taken to reduce distortion along with its deleterious audible effects. Bass performance and dynamic contrast that met or exceeded Wilson's standards was a primary design goal—made challenging by Sabrina's a relatively compact enclosure volume. Continuous refinements in crossover topologies and specific component choices were made in large part with this in mind. The engineers at Wilson Audio employ proprietary modeling software, developed largely in-house, which considers and helps identify time-domain variables within the crossover other designers simply ignore. Subsequent listening verifies empirically the veracity of any given design choice. The metric used to gauge success is not solely technical analysis, but the methodical comparison to live, unamplified music.

Lowering noise and distortion in the Sabrina allowed the design team to hear "deeper" into the loudspeaker. Problems and unwanted sonic artifacts that



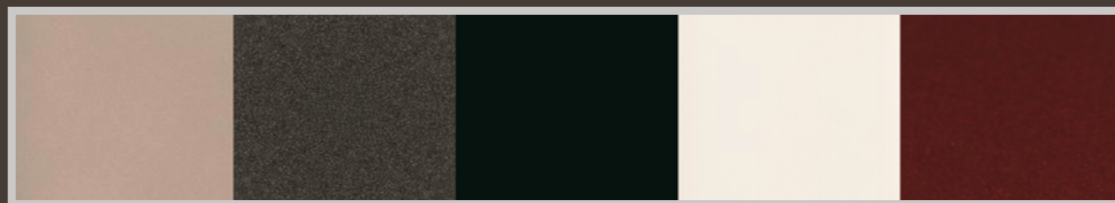
would otherwise be obscured are clearly audible and, in turn, more easily addressed and removed. Reducing time-domain distortion with it decreases deleterious grain structure and improves settling time—a salient strength of Sabrina. Sabrina’s remarkable bass performance, a canny combination of speed and authority, was one of the dividends paid by the engineer’s innovative work on the low-pass portion of Sabrina’s crossover. Midrange transient speed, tonal beauty, transparency, spatial resolution, dynamic expression—and, most importantly, a consummate verisimilitude to the live musical event, all traditional strengths of Wilson loudspeakers, are present in full measure in Sabrina.

Drivers

Much has been written and said about Wilson’s proprietary Convergent Synergy Tweeter. Its original design goal was to provide an ideal balance between the upper frequency smoothness of some of the so-called “exotic material” designs, and the lower frequency reach and power handling capability to mate seamlessly with Wilson’s large midrange drivers. In many circles of the industry, it remains the ne plus ultra of high frequency reproduction. The Convergent Synergy Tweeter is a product of Wilson’s ongoing innovation, and provides the basis, in simplified form, for Sabrina’s tweeter. In Sabrina, an agile and dynamic 5.75” midrange driver is used. Its midrange beauty and dynamic alacrity extends into the lower treble (it is linear to beyond 3.5kHz). To capitalize on this driver’s seamless musicality in this area of the bandwidth, the tweeter is crossed over at a higher frequency than in other Wilson designs. The higher crossover results in an even higher power handling capability for this rugged yet musically expressive tweeter. Sabrina’s eight-inch woofer was first used in the Alexia, and was modified for its use in this smaller, single-driver enclosure. These drivers represent “trickle-down” technology at its best, and epitomize the commitment to making Sabrina a speaker entirely worthy of the Wilson Audio name.

Five Wilsongloss™ Colors:

Sabrina is available in three standard Wilsongloss™ colors—Desert Silver, Galaxy Gray, and Obsidian Black. Two upgrade colors, Biarritz White and Titan Red, are also available for an additional charge.



The Sabrina in Biarritz White

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Price:

U.S. Retail—\$15,900 (pair)

Availability:

First shipments for existing orders are scheduled for late March 2015. Please place orders for demo and sell-through needs as soon as possible to reserve your shipment position. The orders will be filled and shipped on a first-come, first-served basis. Demo orders will be the first priority so all of Wilson’s dealers and distributors can begin showing the Sabrina. Customer sell-through orders will be scheduled after demo orders have been filled. Check with Jerron Marchant for specific ship dates for your order.

High-Resolution Images:

Print-ready and web-appropriate high-resolution images are available [here](#).

New Video:

In conjunction with Sabrina’s press release, we have released a new video that explores Sabrina’s design details. You can watch it [here](#).



*Partial Specifications**

Measurements:

Nominal Impedance: 4 ohms / 2.53 ohms minimum @ 139 Hz
Sensitivity: 87 dB @ 1W @ 1m @ 1 kHz
Frequency Response: 31 Hz – 21 kHz: +/- 3 dB: Room Average Response [RAR]
Minimum Amplification Power Recommended: 50 watts/channel

Drivers:

Woofer: 8 inch drivers (20.32 cm) Cone Material: Paper Composite
Midrange: 5 3/4 inches (14.61 cm) Cone Material: Paper Composite
Tweeter: 1 inch, Dome (2.54 cm) Dome Material: Doped Silk Fabric

Dimensions:

Height—38 inches (96.52 cm) W/spikes: 39 5/16 inches (99.80 cm)
Width—12 inches (30.48cm)
Depth— 14 3/16 inches (38.55cm)
Enclosure Type (Rear Ported) X-Material Front Baffle and Bottom Panel

Weight

Weight Per Channel Uncrated: 94 lbs (42.64 kg)
Total Approximate System Shipping Weight: 222 lbs (100.70 kg)

**All specifications are subject to change.*



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