

## BEST £600-£1000

### ATC SCM11

£870

**WINNING AN AWARD** is impressive enough, but to win it for four consecutive years is a stunning achievement. It's a measure of how highly we rate ATC's SCM11 that these fine speakers hold on to their crown for yet another year.

**"The result is a speaker that will play all types of music with equal ease"**

It hasn't been easy. This year, Roksan's excellent Kandy K2s pushed them hard, but in the end the ATCs edged it due to their transparency.

The SCM 11s are faithful to the recording, warts and all. You'll hear the flaws all right, but they won't be exaggerated, either. A neutral tonal balance is just one part of the equation. Class-leading resolution is another. No rival can render the instruments in Mahler's *Symphony No.6* with such precision, or unravel the intricacies of Radiohead's *Electioneering* with such ease.

#### → VERDICT

You'll never tire of listening to a pair of speakers that sound as natural as the SCM11s. A truly remarkable speaker

The result of such all-round musical talent is a speaker that will play all types of music with equal ease. It's not particularly fussy about positioning either. A sealed cabinet helps the low-end stay controlled close to a wall, and gives the SCM 11s the kind of tuneful, articulate bass most ported speakers can only dream of. Yes, some rivals have more bass. But better? No.



Build quality is as rugged as you'd expect from a manufacturer so closely linked to pro-audio. In that environment, things are used, abused and still expected to work year after year.

Flaws? At very low volumes, they lose a little too much life for our liking. The ATCs are also insensitive, so need a decently powerful amplifier to motor, especially if you want to make the most of their clean delivery at high levels.

That's all. These are excellent speakers. Don't buy anything else at the price without trying the SCM11s out first.



#### CD PLAYER CYRUS CD 6 SE £900

Dynamics and detail to burn, so will allow the ATCs to perform at their considerable best. See p112

#### STEREO AMPLIFIER CYRUS 8XP £1250

Just like the CD players this has the resolution, dynamics and timing the ATCs need. Read full reviews at [whathifi.com/reviews](http://whathifi.com/reviews)