



Wilson Audio Sabrina

MARTIN COLLOMS TRIES OUT THE WILSON AUDIO SABRINA, A WELL PRICED FLOOR STANDING, THREE-WAY MOVING COIL LOUDSPEAKER WITH AMPLE POWER HANDLING

Some 20 years ago I bought a pair of Wilson Audio *WITT*s, to replace an earlier pair of *Watt-Puppy* combos. The least expensive Wilson Audio model at the time, the *WITT* was a large three-way floorstander with a good size 12in Focal bass unit and fine dynamic performance. I much liked its lively punchy sound, and reviewed it for *Stereophile* at that time. I was also very taken by the one-piece art deco styling, in my case set off with silver piano enamel finish.

Back then the *WITT* cost £12,000, so the *Sabrina* – its rough equivalent today – would seem very competitively priced at £16,000. It's about a third smaller than the old *WITT*, is designed for a free space in-room location, fits neatly into room settings, and has a choice of finishes: standard colours are Desert Silver, Galaxy Gray and Obsidian; Biarritz White and Titan Red, and specific colours matched on supply of a sample are available at extra charge. Our review samples

were finished to the highest standards in Obsidian WilsonGloss (that's black in English – *Ed*).

I first heard *Sabrina* at a hi-fi show during autumn 2015. A pair was playing impressively to large audiences in a particularly difficult, bass absorbing 50ft room, requiring close-to-wall positioning and very high power drive in order to get sufficient penetration. Yet the compact – even one could call diminutive – *Sabrina* showed hardly any signs of distress, readily illustrating the exceptional power handling and dynamic range that are characteristic of many Wilson Audio designs. Here was proof that this speaker will happily drive large rooms when required, despite being the smallest floorstander in the series. (Just ensure that a large power amplifier is available for such a situation; the larger the better, to make sure that it is not driven into potentially destructive clipping.)

Sabrina is classic Wilson Audio in appearance, the physical geometry and driver formation looking very