

LUMEN WHITE KYARA

The design of the Kyara loudspeakers is is based on both psycho-acoustic research, as well as by the dictates of style elegance. More than any other component, speakers must visually express their own identity—so much so that one might almost believe they begin to speak before they actually emit a sound. Those crafted by Lumen White evoke the world of traditional instrument-building, enhanced with ultra-high-tech transducers. As stated on the manufacturer's website: "Lumen White speakers combine instrumental design, artisan craftsmanship, and cutting-edge technologies." Such promises are often made, but rarely fulfilled.



The result is an elegant three-way floor-standing speaker housing five drivers in wood, standing 119 cm high, 60 cm deep, and up to 30 cm at its widest point. Its gracefully tapered, drop-shaped silhouette is superbly proportioned, and features an open back for optimal airflow. On the high-tech side, the three 17 cm woofers incorporate convex Ceradome cones—a sandwich of aluminum honeycomb covered with a ceramic skin,

giving them a distinctive embossed appearance. With a peak-to-peak excursion of ± 16 mm, these cones benefit from powerful neodymium-cobalt magnets working in tandem with an exceptionally rigid yet lightweight suspension system, achieving a sensitivity close to 90 dB/W/m.

The midrange unit, like all five drivers in the Kyara, is custom-built to specification by German manufacturer Accuton. Its 12.7 cm concave ceramic dome is precisely shaped for excellent impulse response and minimal energy storage, ensuring linear frequency reproduction and reduced distortion across its range. The 2.54 cm ceramic-dome tweeter, similarly protected by a grille designed to improve sound diffusion, complements this precision array.

The minimalist crossover network has been optimized in the time domain, with crossover frequencies set at 350 Hz and 3,000 Hz. Filter design accounts for often-overlooked factors such as energy transfer and resonances within components. A dual WBT NextGen terminal allows for bi-wiring or passive bi-amplification, while a Bass Boost switch offers precise low-frequency adjustment.

One of the most impressive feats lies in the cabinet construction. Crafted from CNC-machined plywood, it is then shaped and steam-bent before being meticulously assembled using techniques reserved for musical instruments. High-quality veneer is applied, followed by six to eight layers of custom high end lacquer, each sanded and polished separately—an operation alone requiring around eight to ten days. Altogether, production of a single pair takes between five to six weeks, transforming these speakers into true luthier-made objects.

Listening Experience

For fine-tuning and low-frequency impulse response, shaping a long rear port can be partially blocked using an adjustable wooden element. Two plugs—one short, one long—are provided, and their audible effect was clearly noticeable in our neutral, approximately 35 m² listening room, which features a reverberation time below one second. Similarly, the Bass Boost switch, though offering only slight gain (+0.5 to +1 dB), proves sonically significant.

The virtues of this speaker lie in its ability to render music with extraordinary credibility, delivering a distinctly live-like experience. The openness of the sound, aided by the cabinet's flow and pressure optimized shape—which promotes unimpeded airflow without braking effects or internal resonance—is nothing short of astonishing.

Both the driver array and crossover design contribute to this remarkable sense of effortless ease. At near-concert levels, there is no perceived dynamic limitation, no compression in the frequency curve, and no phase rotation. The live recording of the second movement of Mason Bates' Piano Concerto performed by Daniil Trifonov with the Philadelphia Orchestra under Yannick Nézet-Séguin (DG) unfolds here in all its orchestral splendor and complexity.



Bi-wiring and Bass Boost control. Cabinet construction channels energy like a true luthier's craft.

Instrumental Truth and Sonic Believability

At times, the dynamics and spatial clarity suggest a horn speaker in terms of lightness, speed, and imaging precision; elsewhere, they resemble a panel speaker due to the three-dimensional scale of the soundstage. The sound remains simultaneously grounded and airy, responsive and detailed—particularly impressive in the midrange. While not deeply extended, the bass is ultra-fast, nuanced, unbloated and precise, with the provided plugs and Bass Boost switch allowing for optimal room adaptation. With a frequency response spanning 26 Hz to 30 kHz (-3 dB), the Kyara reveals itself as remarkably balanced across an extraordinarily wide spectrum—from the deepest bass notes to the most subtle harmonic overtones.

With a sensitivity of approximately 90 dB and an impedance of 5 ohms, the Kyara does not require an ultra-powerful amplifier, but rather one that is fast and transparent. During our listening session, they were driven by a pair of Bryston 28B³ monoblocks capable of delivering 1,000 W into 8 ohms and 1,800 W into 4 ohms, with exceptional transparency (see issue #712). Although this pairing may seem extreme, it effectively revealed the Kyara's full narrative and instrumental potential—loudspeakers that honor how music originates, unfolds, and expands through space and time, presenting instruments and voices with authentic fidelity.

Beyond this rare capability, the Kyara represents a level of manufacturing care and refinement few products can match. These are truly unique creations—worthy of transcending trends and fashions and leaving a lasting impression even on the most jaded audiophiles. For discerning music lovers.

Price: €56,000
Website: peoplelikeyou.biz

