

„Magnat Quantum Edelstein test result - an audiophile gem...“

Magnat Quantum Edelstein



- + particularly elegant design
- + top-class finish
- + high-quality materials
- + very dynamic, richly detailed reproduction, sometimes even analytical performance
- + full bass range despite its compact dimensions



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Magnat emphasizes in express terms that loudspeaker systems from the Magnat Quantum range have to meet the highest standards, and this also applies, of course, to the particularly compact Magnat Quantum Edelstein system, whose additional name suffix, meaning "gem", already sounds very promising, giving rise to expectations that are not disappointed.

We think...

With the Magnat Quantum Edelstein, the renowned German manufacturer has some veritable diamonds in its product range. It would be all too easy to be misled by the compact dimensions, but this is indeed a first-class high-end system that displays definite audiophile virtues as well as a top-class design, immaculate finishing and, not least of all, an exquisite selection of materials, making it one of the best in its class in the compact segment.

... A first sign that we are dealing with a top-class loudspeaker system here is already indicated by the name of this solution in two respects. First, it is a speaker system from the Magnat Quantum series, i.e. a range that has been paid the greatest attention per se by the renowned company by virtue of it comprising Magnat's high-end solutions. Magnat has placed on record, for example, that the name Magnat Quantum is only awarded to the highest-quality models, i.e. that it is reserved for the top models only. This is, of course, also true for the most compact model in the range, the Magnat Quantum Edelstein. Yes, and then there's the addition of the suffix "Edelstein", meaning 'jewel' or 'gem'. Such a description promises something special, something out of the ordinary and refers above all, of course, to the outstanding design as well as the selection of special materials and the particularly precise workmanship.

Admittedly, the name extension just referred to very much demonstrates high ambitions and is deliberately intended to play with all the associations commonly linked with this term. As so often, however, true luxury is not displayed here in the form of opulence and over-the-top glamour but, rather, by way of understatement through the speaker system being consciously designed to retain a timeless elegance.

The Magnat Quantum Edelstein speaker system is presented in a choice of black or white, with the surface of the MDF enclosure polished to an impeccably high-gloss finish. However, this only applies to the sides and the top, as the baffle of the Magnat Quantum Edelstein is made of aluminium displaying an exquisitely brushed, anodized surface. The aluminium plate is screwed to the enclosure at four points. A very special visual highlight is

created in this aluminium front by the routings into which the speaker chassis are inserted. These display a 45° bevelled edge, also with a polished high-gloss finish. This detail does, of course, stand out even more in the black model. This chamfer does not only have visual advantages; it is also very useful for ensuring optimum radiation characteristics.

This is by no means the only detail that sets the Magnat Quantum Edelstein apart from other solutions in this class in terms of design. For example, the base plate of the speaker system is also made of aluminium. In addition, an acrylic sheet with precisely polished edges is inserted between this aluminium plate and the actual enclosure. The two bases plates are decoupled from each other.

As we are constantly talking about compact loudspeaker systems that take up hardly any space, let us be more specific in this regard: in this case, compact means 135 x 232 x 246 mm though, despite this pretty small size in comparative terms, the speaker system still weighs in at around 5 kg.

This means the speaker systems can, of course, be set up on just about any sideboard or lowboard, or even be placed in a bookcase with such compact dimensions. However, this is just about the worst of all the possibilities and this is true for virtually all compact speaker systems, even though the term 'shelf speaker system' may suggest otherwise. This is made clear by the elegant design alone, especially with such attractive products as the Magnat Quantum Edelstein, which deserves to be shown off rather than 'hiding' the speaker system among a stack of shelves. In acoustic terms too, however, it is not advisable to rob the system of potential by hemming it in between piles of books, CDs, DVDs, Blu-rays or whatever else is in the bookcase. The system should be allowed some 'free play'.

The Magnat Quantum Edelstein is a two-way bass-reflex system in which the developers have placed their faith in particularly high-quality drivers. Responsible for the lowest frequency range and the mid-ranges is a 110 mm woofer fitted with an aluminium-ceramic sandwich cone with an inverse dust protection dome to ensure optimum rigidity at particularly high internal attenuation. The driver is based on a flow-optimized, non-magnetic, die-cast aluminium basket in order to avoid compression effects and air turbulence even in the case of major deflections of the cone. The drive is provided by a particularly powerful magnet system equipped with an inductance control ring which, according to the manufacturer, is stray-field-optimized, thus enabling the most minimal distortions with simultaneously high performance efficiency, as well as a so-called

Kapton voice coil mount to minimize eddy current losses. This also helps to minimize distortions with simultaneously high performance efficiency.

The design of the treble driver in the Magnat Quantum Edelstein is equally elaborate. Here, the developers have opted for a silk fabric dome tweeter with a diameter of 25 mm. A particularly wide bead ensures improved radiation, especially in the range of frequencies beyond 20 kHz, while a powerful neodymium-based magnet system guarantees particularly high dynamics and precise reproduction of detail. To minimize inherent vibrations, the driver is connected mechanically to the aluminium front plate.

... The drivers are supported by a rear-firing bass-reflex system in which the developers have opted for a specially coated, so-called Airflex port with a particularly large opening area. This is designed to ensure clear bass reproduction without any background or ambient noise.

The bottom line can therefore only be a clear recommendation by the editorial department, because what Magnat is presenting here does not allow any conclusions whatever to be drawn with regard to the actual price. The finish quality, selection of materials and, above all, the acoustic virtues of this loudspeaker system from Magnat go distinctly beyond the price announced for the product.

Evaluation

With the Magnat Quantum Edelstein, the renowned German manufacturer now has some veritable diamonds in its product range. It would be all too easy to be misled by the compact dimensions, but this is indeed a first-class high-end system that displays definite audiophile virtues as well as a top-class design, immaculate finishing and, not least of all, an exquisite selection of materials, making it one of the best in its class in the compact segment.

Plus

Particularly elegant design, top-class finish, high-quality materials, very dynamic, richly detailed reproduction, sometimes even analytical performance and full bass range despite its compact dimensions.