

Sonus faber Chameleon T speakers



BRINGING IT BACK HOME

Like many Italian luxury brands, Vicenza's Sonus faber began life with unique products that symbolised a passion for its art. Its defining 1980 Snail Project was truly left-field thinking, based on a 'Leonardo-esque' design with tweeter and midrange enclosures extending via wooden arms from a central woofer 'box', all of which looks just as striking today as it did 35 years ago. More hand-crafted models soon followed with flowing lines and curved sides – an aesthetic that's now become commonplace, helping Sonus faber cement its reputation in the high-end loudspeaker market. This approach led to the company's acquisition by the Fine Sounds Group in 2007, where it now rubs shoulders with fellow brands Audio Research, Wadia, Sumiko and McIntosh. This expansion also marked a move to manufacturing in China for its more affordable Venere range; however, for the Chameleon line-up, production has moved back to Italian soil.

HI-FI NEWS VERDICT

Without doubt, the Chameleon T package offers a lot of loudspeaker for the price, thanks to its healthy size and soft leather finish. And while its flamboyantly flavoured side panels are a nice touch for those that prioritise aesthetic appeal, it's clear Sonus faber's engineers haven't entirely favoured style over sonic merit. Indeed, these speakers offer music that's not only refined but delivered on a grand scale.

Sound Quality: 84%

