

Magico S5

\$28,600/pair www.magico.net

Perhaps the yin to Sonus faber's yang, the Magico S5 is also brilliantly conceived and constructed, yet it's sensuous curves are carved from billet aluminum instead of wood, and covered in bright colors. The S5's design brief has more in common with a Formula 1 race car than a pair of speakers from the golden age of hifi, and the high tech approach pays off in spades.

The design works on every level: the S5s 89 dB sensitivity and ease by which it can be driven (with everything from a 20 watt per channel tube amplifier, to massive solid state monoblocks) makes for a speaker that can handle anything thrown at it musically. Your toughest choice will be what cool color to have Magico put on your pair. Review and interview with Magico's creator, Alon Wolf in process.