

## MartinLogan Summit X Electrostatic Loudspeaker

**\$14,999**

If you're looking for a nearly perfect union of electrodynamic and electrostatic drivers, the Summit X is the ticket. DO continues to be "Xtatic about the Summit X," which redefines what is possible in the hybrid ESL genre. A Curvilinear Line Source featuring the XStat electrostatic transducer is coupled to an active bass system, which includes a pair of 10-inch aluminum-cone woofers and two 200W Class D amplifiers, using a Vojtko Voiced crossover network. Expect bass extension to 20Hz with plenty of slam and no discontinuity in the crossover region. Exceptional soundstage transparency is on tap together with the traditional ESL virtues of transient speed and detail resolution. Tonal balance is slightly on the lean side. Treble balance may be dialed in by toeing in the speakers so that their axes intersect in front of the listening seat. The speaker's capacitive impedance above 300Hz mandates a solid-state amplifier with a high damping factor for accurate treble reproduction. It is most likely the best-sounding hybrid ESL in the world, and that is bad news for expensive box speakers. (209)

*Dick Olsher*

