

Sigitas Mockus

Architect, good sound seeker

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I have been interested in quality sound reproduction since adolescence. I've tested quite a few different audio systems – from low budget to expensive ones. I am not a sound engineer or DIY'er, I rely on hearing more than the technical parameters. But I try to understand how things work in audio equipment, because it allows to identify sound reproducing problems that engineers and users have to face. First time I've heard *NIDA* in an audio showroom, but later I had an opportunity to hear *NIDA* at its creators Česlovas house and was able to understand how it is different from the other systems.

NIDA's neutral sound lets you hear the recording exactly as the sound engineering intended. This sound system adds no character to a sound so the difference between different records is audible.

It is worth to mention *NIDA*'s appearance. Unique looking *NIDA* will not confuse anyone. It easily stands out from many other systems by its huge cutted pyramid shape with big round horn on the top, that is unlike any other. High quality, eye-pleasing wood finish was used for the decoration. Horns made of different shades of wood elements creates unique esthetical character, that could undoubtedly be a main focus of listening room interior. Attention to a detail is astonishing. Everything from the logo to the rear plate design is thoughtful and complete.

NIDA lets you understand what really matters. Česlova's system is placed in a living environment with a few acoustics elements. This proves that you don't need a specialized room or expensive wiring to experience a high quality sound.

System doesn't have a highlighted highs as many commercial systems does. *NIDA*'s sound doesn't bother at all. When your hearing accommodates and you forget your pre-formed requirements you can feel that everything sounds how it's meant to be. You can listen to *NIDA* for a long time without being tired, although it has a very detailed sound reproduction. It also has a very natural, dynamic and accurate punched bass even at very low volume. The sound of the wind instruments is very impressive, also you can feel a resonance of separate string instruments. Vocals and instruments are very well represented in deep and wide sound stage.

One thing I noticed about trying to identify strengths and weaknesses of the system - You can only do it for first minutes of a song, later you just sit and enjoy the music. This is probably what the engineer of *NIDA* was aiming for – to give a pleasure to hear the music exactly the same as it was originally recorded by sound engineers and performers intention.