Dmitriy Shevchenko

PhD candidate in Physics, Vilnius University. Music lover and radio amateur e-mail: <u>dimasevc@gmail.com</u>



I've been interested in acoustics as a branch of physics for about 10 years. During this period, I've had an opportunity to listen to some relatively high level domestic acoustic systems: *Focal Diablo Utopia*, *Tannoy Canterbury SE*, *Audio Note AN-E SEC Signature*...

NIDA system design is actually based on a classical professional active audio system scheme, except for external crossover and power amplifiers. TAD professional drivers are used for low frequencies reproduction. They are combined with ultra-high sensitivity compression drivers, loaded on the original construction horns with two-way active analog filtering. This combination resulted in a wide dynamic range and low harmonic distortion at the same time. Such a level of musical clarity is unachievable for the vast majority of home audio systems.

We've been listening to the system during almost a whole day together with my colleague, engineer D.S. We found out that even at high levels of sound pressure *NIDA* loudspeakers reproduce the musical records without distorting or compressing the sound. On the other hand, the high sensitivity of the speakers allows you to hear the finest nuances of the quiet musical passages. This really makes *NIDA* stand out from the row of other manufacturers.

NIDA has left an impression of a universal audio monitor system with a smooth tonal balance, superb time characteristics and massive sound stage. It will easily handle even the most sophisticated records in any musical genre, and play it without distortion.

Here are some examples from a large collection of CDs we've listened that I'd like to mention:

- Helen Merrill "What's new" female vocal. To my surprise it was a monophonic recording made in 1954!
- Erik Satie "Messe des Pauvres" (ECM Records, 1993) performed by Christopher Bowers-Broadbent. Clearly audible late reflections of the organ sound from the walls convey the sense of a large hall space. This indicates a good transient response of the loudspeakers.
- Yello "Oh Yeah" and other tracks of this group from the "One Second" album (1987). The album has a very broad spectral composition. All Yello records are quite complicated in terms of their playback without undesired compression and distortion. However, all the details were clear through the NIDA system, without confusing the sound of individual instruments. On domestic audio systems I've encountered the same recordings sounded like a "promiscuous monolith".
- Kraftwerk "The Robots" and other tracks from "The Man Machine" album. *NIDA* has demonstrated tremendous impulse reproduction of the unique Kraftwerk "sound quants"!
- Hugh Masekela "Stimela" an Afro-American male vocal performer with instrumental accompaniment. This is a high-quality recording of a live performance at the restaurant with a very wide dynamic range. It was reproduced by NIDA without a hint of acoustic compression. You could count the number of people in the restaurant by the applause and cries of the audience at the end of the performance!

I can summarize and confidently say that *NIDA* is one of the most advanced and the best sounding speaker systems that I ever had a chance to listen.