



Spendor S8e **£1895**

↑ **FOR**

Refined sound; natural midrange; unfussy nature; solid build

↓ **AGAINST**

The low frequencies aren't the last word in punch or authority

❖ **VERDICT**

The S8es make for a hugely enjoyable listening experience, but bass fails to convince



THE S8E DIFFERS significantly from the original S8. Both drive units have been replaced – there's now a 27mm soft dome tweeter together with a 21cm mid/bass driver, which is fitted with Spendor's ep38 high-rigidity, polymer cone. The speaker has also been tuned with a new version of the old S8's 3D linear flow port which, Spendor believes, allows the S8es to maintain bass depth and authority even when positioned close to a wall.

Biwired, these speakers deliver music in a fluid and controlled manner. Instruments and vocals sound clear, natural and realistic, with the sound offering plenty of detail in the mid and upper frequencies. Outkast's *Flip Flop Rock* flows effortlessly as the combination of exciting dynamics and excellent timing becomes foot-tap-pingly addictive. But on the down side, the bass produced hasn't the slam or extension of some rival floorstanders.

Even so, these speakers remain a pleasure to listen to. They are easy to drive and unfussy about partnering equipment. As long as the rest of the system is up to scratch, these Spendors will shine.