

## ATC SCM11

£850

**MOST HI-FI ENTHUSIASTS** strive for one thing: honest reproduction of the musical information on the disc.

Unfortunately, this is a rare talent at any price, let alone the sub-£1000 category. Other speakers that fall into this price bracket will do a better job with flawed recordings – rounding off rough edges to make the sound more palatable – but these ATCs won't: they just

**“What HD does for TV, these ATCs do for music: they're amazingly clear”**

*Clare Newsome, Editor*

give you the music straight. This type of reproduction can put some people off – you get the flaws of the original recording, but they're not exaggerated.

Drawing from years of experience, ATC has given the SCM11s the company's renowned sonic attributes. A neutral tonal balance and class-leading resolution come as standard across the range. Rarely have we heard a pair of

The ATCs reproduce music more faithfully than most speakers anywhere near this price

**VERDICT**

If you're in the market for an upgrade, and you're thinking of spending £1000, you have to listen to these, or rue the day

speakers this modestly priced render Beethoven's *Moonlight Sonata* with such precision and scale. Four Tet's *Everything Ecstatic* is a minefield of intricate beats and layered melodies, which the ATCs unravel with ease. You know what we look for in hi-fi kit by now: timing, dynamics, soundstage, scale...well, the



ATCs have it all. True, some of the other championship contenders in this class fare even better in some areas, but all lag behind the ATCs in overall performance.

The result is the SCM11s play all types of music with equal ease, and they're not too fussy about positioning, either.

**Low power amps need not apply**

So, what about flaws? Simple: the ATCs work best at medium to high volumes. At low levels they lose too much life, and they're insensitive – so in an ideal world, think of an amp with at least 100watts per channel. But otherwise? These are speakers you simply have to hear.



**CD PLAYER**

CYRUS CD8x  
£1000

The sensational detail retrieved by the Cyrus will allow the ATCs to perform to a high standard

**STEREO AMPLIFIER**

CYRUS 8vs2  
£800

Although the 8vs2 isn't a power-house, it'll give the ATCs the clean, crisp signal they thrive on