



Dynamique Audio Maya, Halo and Summit

By Alan Sircom

Dynamique Audio is that rare thing in today's audio world; a UK-based start-up company. Started just this year, the company designs and builds a broad range of sold-direct cables in all guises. We looked at three of them, in the middle-to-upper region of the portfolio; the Maya interconnect, the Halo speaker cable and Summit power cord.

There's a real belt and braces approach by this new cable fabber. The conductors are PTFE insulated pure silver (silver-plated copper for the earth cable in Summit), with an air dielectric, no shielding (save for a non-metallic braid) and quality WBT Nextgen or – in the power cord – Furutech connectors. Instead of consistent cable geometry throughout the range, Dynamique has gone for 'best case' geometries for each application; a triple-balanced helical array in the signal cables (twisted in the Halo speaker

cable) and helical inner core array in the power cords. The cables also have anti-resonance dampers; one per cable for interconnects and power cords, one per end on the speaker cables. Fit and finish on all the designs is slick and professional, although typographically speaking, the array of different fonts across all those dampers is a design no-no.

The way Dynamique sells these cables is equally 'belt and braces' in approach. They are sold direct and through a select range of online and bricks and mortar dealers, and even distributors. To be up and running this slick, this fast shows Dynamique lives up to the name!

Dynamique gives each cable a 24 to 48 hour burn-in before supply, but suggests the process finishes at home. It also states directionality occurs at this final stage, as the cable effectively 'imprints' itself to your system. Despite risking opening a rift in the space-time continuum, I recklessly swapped the cable direction mid-way through the review and everything sounded just as good as it did the other way up.

Forget the claims and the design; a product should be judged by its performance alone. There is a common sound to the Dynamique Audio range. Every cable brought out deep and powerful bass, with a broadly neutral midrange, a silken sheen to the upper mids and fine soundstaging. In general, this soundstaging is well placed, although the sense of scale does receive some magnification through the speaker cables; just the thing to increase soundstage size with small speakers, perhaps? It's also very well extended, although not to the point of exaggeration and, as you might expect, a dynamic sound too. Despite the commonality of the sound, this isn't the sort of cable that demands a complete front-to-back solution; so old-school cable upgrades are possible without having to sack one complete cable system for another. It is at its best with a full-Dynamique rig, but perfectly comfortable in the process of changeover.

Of the three cables, the loudspeaker cable made the greatest change to the sound, then interconnect and finally the power lead, but this was a close call. And some care should be taken in combining these cables in a system; too bright a system and that silken sheen will make the upper mids overlit, but not bright enough will leave the system sounding almost rolled off.

As a newcomer, this is a brilliant rollout of quality products from the get-go. There are brands that have been making cables for years that don't have this kind of consistency and neutral midrange. Dynamique roques! +

AS TESTED:

Halo speaker cables
(2.5m terminated pair) £1,690
Maya analogue interconnects
(1m RCA pair) £865
Summit power cord
(1m, 13A-10A IEC) £895

Manufactured by: Dynamique Audio
URL: www.dynamiqueaudio.com