

# Dayens Menuetto.

## A killer at only 980 Euros.

Once is not enough, I'm going to tell you about an amplifier, very, very, very accessible.

Of course, it is not a question of comparing the Menuetto to a Pass INT60 or other very expensive amplifiers in my previous reviews. But at a price of 980 Euros, I just can't see anything to criticise. There you go, I've said it. In this price range, **the Dayens is a KILLER.**

The Menuetto has a charming look, black finish and compact size, with a light green light on the front panel. The weight of the Menuetto surprised me; I did not anticipate a hefty 7.5kgs for such a compact chassis (much of this due to the power supply)

Dayens (built in SERBIA) is a new brand for France. The least we can say is that maybe the cost base is lower in Serbia, but no short cuts have been made in the design with the choice of components used or the type of circuitry used. The results of this quality of construction can be heard.

The Menuetto needs a little time to warm up to give of its best. Initially, the sound is a little bright, but this soon disappears and all falls into place quickly. There is a surprising bass performance from this little amplifier.

With its 50w, the Menuetto was a good match with my Altec loudspeakers. The Menuetto is an easy match and gives us a full, very dynamic and articulate sound. The level of detail is rather good for this class of amplifier.

Frankly, I was taken aback by the sound of the Menuetto both on voices and instrumentals. Some of the discs I listen to a lot at the moment like the latest Brad Meldhau and Mariza (a fabulous Fado singer) had a very pleasing natural presence.

The SACD of Vanessa Fernandez 'USE ME' (an excellent recording) reveals the ability of this amplifier to retrieve details.

In conclusion, the Menuetto is real success and can be considered as the heart of a system which is relatively low cost without sacrificing musical performance. Also, ideal for a second system. Dayens is a brand that has to be considered from now on. The musical performance compared to its price is remarkable. The customer is assured 'a lot for his money'. No comparison to Chinese type imports where we are afraid to look inside. Here, we have a solid product, obviously in good health.

Dayens was a really great surprise for me, but I should have expected it. When it was Neil Clowes, (importer of tube electronics and other brands all known for their musical performance) offered me the Menuetto for test.

Well done to Neil for having found this brand and thank you for providing the Menuetto for this review. The Menuetto will soon be available in the auditorium of Voir et Emouvoir.

REVIEW BY **LAURENT MANO**

OF **VOIR ET EMOUVOIR** - FRANCE