

ISLAND OF PEACE

COPULARE AURAL END STANDS SERIES A

Gerhard Brandl is offering his precious Copulare racks since 1990. Along with the latter he created the awareness for the connection between the quality of the HiFi furniture and the sound quality. Today they play a leading role in the movement for sound improvement with optimized racks.

For testing purposes we received an end stand Series A from Copulare's luxurious Aural line. The system consists of a 750 Euro frame of steel tubes available in all colours and a shelf, by request perfectly aligned to the amp and its dimensions. Special requests do not bother Brandl, they are very welcome. And they do not pose a problem either because he is eager to cut the precision steel pipe individually to match it the size of the shelf so that five millimetres space remains at the supporting columns – to avoid resonances. The thinner vertical tubes are filled with sand upon assembly. The thick main trusses with big chrome plugs can be filled at home by the owner himself. Massive spikes ensure firm contact with the floor, including special floor protectors, both in the scope of delivery.

In the course of time there were plenty of opportunities for the Lower Bavarian to gain experience about which shelves harmonise best with certain kinds of power amps. He brought us four different versions for compari-

We received four different shelves for our test, also representing examples for the various designs available. Copulare mills excavations into the birch wood multiplex boards. Later they are filled with sand, lead or a mixture of both.

son, all having three spikes resting on a frame. Normally they are made out of stable birch multiplex. The basic model remains unfilled (around 150 Euros), with sand filling and a veneer the base costs 350 Euros, filled with a sand/

Four shelves – four sound characteristics. Copulare's Aural stand proves how much effect material has on performance.

lead shot mixture it amounts to 400 Euros. Filled with lead only we arrive at 450 Euros, which includes the paintwork. Two coloured versions cost 200 Euros extra. The Aural Base filled with sand/ lead or lead only was the winner of our repeated tests and double checks.

Hard to believe how much the heavy lead filled shelf spurred on the power amp in terms of elastic conciseness and energetic angular flexibility of the sound characteristics. This came with a strikingly distinctive lower relief, which remained flat using ordinary stands. Lead always created radically distinctive, impulsive and detached sound characteristics.



A sand-lead mixture in contrast accentuated the tonal coherence and clarity of the rendition. It made the sound colours shine brighter and ap-

peared to be more dynamic. In terms of differentiation it seemed slightly more restrained compared to the pure lead variant, even if both shelves play on the highest level and left their competitors way behind.

The same applies to the two remaining simpler versions of bases, among which we liked the unfilled one even better. The sound characteristics we created with this shelf were first-class in every respect: detached, counterdrawn and sterically well organised, even if they lacked a little of the refinement and brisance the more expensive models have.

Taillight in our test was the veneered sand base. It slowed down the current of music a little bit, got heavier in the lower levels, which compromised rapidity. The musicians closed ranks.

You can tell the differences no matter what kind of amp is used. However we would suggest to test and experiment in order to find the ideal shelf. A good advice

from Copulare in case of doubt can be worth one's gold. With the correct filling Copulare end stands are ideal for carrying amps.



Dimensions:
by request all sizes available
(also for super-size amps)

Distribution: Copulare – Sound Bases
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STEREO-TEST	
SOUND POTENTIAL	
EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/>
MANUFACTURE	
EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/>
PRICE/PERFORMANCE	
★★★★☆	
VERY GOOD	