

*Sonus faber*

# OLYMPICA



PRESS RELEASE

*Sonus faber*  
— FINE SOUNDS —  
GROUP

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# OLYMPICA

*“...a theatre in the ancient model,  
but in small proportions and indescribably beautiful...”.*

*1786 – Italian Journey – Goethe*

## Teatro Olimpico Vicenza

One of the greatest works of Master architect Andrea Palladio, and created before his death as a perennial gift to Vicenza, Teatro Olimpico further enriches the city with another precious gem and a universal example of beauty and ingenuity.

The theater represents the pinnacles of harmonious design, proportions, and sensitivity; a search for beauty, wonder, exquisite materials and emotions. It is a temple of geometric perfection in the voice of music, a vessel in which sound seamlessly expands as an exemplary reference model of acoustic enhancement.

Sonus faber is also borne of this same fertile ground. From its very beginnings, the teachings and history of the region have been infused with the fundamental principles applied to the musical instruments created by Sonus faber; products which resonate with the harmony of the city and art that inspired them.

In recognition of the monumental legacy of Andrea Palladio, Sonus faber has created the Sonus faber Olympica, a sincere homage to Andrea Palladio and the Teatro Olimpico.

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# OLYMPICA

## The Project

Sonus faber wanted to create a family of speakers rich in design, evocative of those visual and tactile emotions characterized by its production. Wood and leather blend with timeless craftsmanship, the final result communicating a love and passion for music.

The Sonus faber Olympica project is made up of a new family of passive acoustic speakers that will add to the existing catalogue from the Vicenza factory, characterized by the use of two iconic Sonus faber materials: walnut wood and leather.

The launch of the new family will occur in two phases. The first three models, Olympica I (2-way bookshelf), Olympica II (3-way floor-standing) and Olympica III (3-way floor-standing), will be presented to the world at the prestigious trade show Munich High End 2013 from 9 – 12 May. The remaining models will make their premier at the end of the summer.

With this new project, Sonus faber has been able to balance quintessential style and significant elements of technological innovation, combining modernity with the classic stylistic canons of Sonus faber. This has been possible thanks to the enormous teamwork by the R&D department, headed by Paolo Tezzon and Livio Cucuzza, as well as a significant growth in terms of manpower and resources. The new Sonus faber Olympica line also represents the desire to offer a range of models that everyone can find the right solution in terms of use (two channel or home theatre) and space (bookshelf or floor-standing in various dimensions).

The Sonus faber Olympica range continues the tradition of exquisite materials and design in combination with excellent performance and craftsmanship. The entire Sonus faber Olympica line is produced in Italy.

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## The Product

The models of the Sonus faber Olympica line are entirely new. For their creation, the Sonus faber design studios began from a clean slate. No component, element or design has been borrowed from previous models. Rather, cumulative experience and technology have been used to build innovative new cabinet structures and driver components.

### **CABINET DESIGN:**

Characterized by the use of natural walnut wood, the top and bottom plates are solid walnut. All joints are clear maple wood in the walnut finish, and the more traditional black maple in the graphite finish.

The form is a synthesis of the experience gained from the flagship Aida and the classic lyre form. The important difference lies in the asymmetry of the cabinet, introduced here for the first time by Sonus faber. This asymmetry has true purpose: first, it further reduces

internal resonances by removing all parallel surfaces. Second, it accommodates the new bass reflex system.

The top is covered in natural leather (with feature stitching and a hot-branded Sonus faber logo) and a beveled aluminum ring. The front baffle is covered in natural leather with no visible screws, and the back is also covered in leather with sunken serial number tags and connection terminals below. Lastly, the new side reflex port lies vertically at the back of the speaker. It is covered with a perforated metal grille.

For the bookshelf model, a special anodized aluminum stand (derived from the Guarneri model) allows the speaker to be positioned at the correct inclination and, just like the floor models, is equipped with adjustable stainless steel feet to ensure stability and durability.

# OLYMPICA

## Driver, Crossover and Bass Reflex

All Sonus faber Olympia models employ new drivers that have been designed entirely by Sonus faber engineering, including new die-cast baskets that combine rigidity with an ability to remain acoustically transparent.

For the diaphragms, as is usual, the use of natural materials such as silk dome for the tweeter and cellulose mixtures for the midrange and woofer prevail. In detail: 29mm dome Tweeter containing DAD technology and neodymium magnet, derived from the development of Aida; 150 mm Midrange with a cone made of a proprietary mixture of cellulose, kapok and kenaf; 180mm Woofer with a cone constructed from a sandwich of cellulose pulp membrane and rigid syntactic foam.

The Crossover is the result of detailed computer research and careful tuning by ear. It is comprised of components selected from the finest international producers.

The Bass Reflex system is the innovative soul of this project, and is designed in particular to ensure speed in the articulation and extension

of low frequencies. It is a sophisticated approach to Bass Reflex design starting from concepts in aerodynamic management of laminar flow as expressed by Onken and Jensen during the golden age of High Fidelity. These concepts, further evolved by Sonus faber, introduce elements that are profoundly innovative, such as the Stealth Reflex system.

Invented by Sonus faber and currently implemented in the models The Sonus faber and Aida, the hyperbolic shape of the duct has led to the 'duck tail geometry' of the speaker. Lateral flow ports and the aerodynamic anti-turbulence control of airflow in the exit duct through a stainless steel foil are managed by precise holes defined from research in the aeronautic field. Overall, this reflex system with its vertical and lateral laminar output, provides the advantage of allowing you to decide whether to place the speakers with the reflex output pointing in or out, depending on room acoustics or personal taste.

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# OLYMPICA

## The Group

### SONUS FABER AND FINE SOUNDS GROUP

Sonus faber is today part of brand portfolio of Fine Sounds Group, the holding company of the brands Audio Research, leader in the production and sales of audio electronic components High-Definition Vacuum-Tubes (valves) and Solid State, Wadia Digital, one of the first companies dedicated to high-performance digital audio playback, which has been at the forefront in technology for Apple iPod and iPhone docking stations, Sumiko, importer and distributor of the best audio components in North America.

Fine Sounds Group has recently purchased McIntosh Laboratory, the most important American producer of high fidelity systems, world leader in prestigious home entertainment systems and for over 60 years in highest quality audio systems.

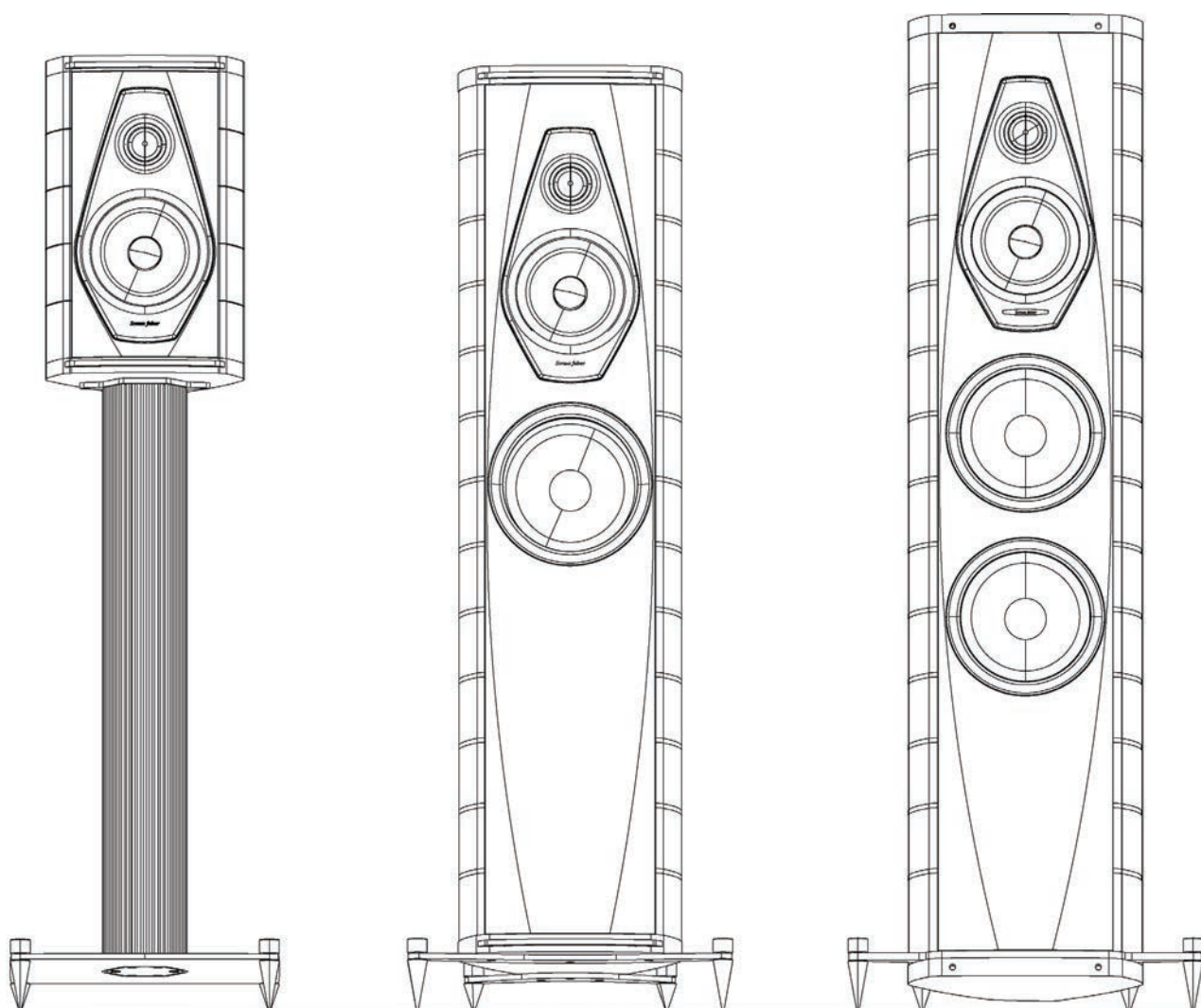
With these important acquisitions, result of the entrepreneurial project of Mauro Grange (CEO of Sonus faber and Fine Sounds Group), Sonus faber together with its American 'sisters' makes up the world's largest group in the High-End sector, that is the sophisticated and prestigious world market of acoustic speakers and audio electronics.

The recent acquisition of McIntosh, based in Binghamton - NY, is for End Sounds a "marquee investment" whose strategic objective is to offer products that are the best in the world in their category.

The consolidated turnover of Fine Sounds Group, which employs 270 staff, amounts to \$ 73 million per year.

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# OLYMPICA





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# OLYMPICA I

## DATA SHEET

### SYSTEM

2 way standmount, paralaminar stealth flow vented loudspeaker.

### CABINET

Enhanced “Lyre shape” design, progressive thickness triple curvature cabinet walls damped spread resonance spectrum system. Solid walnut vertical clamps.

### TWEETER

Sonus faber “Arrow Point” DAD (Damped Apex Dome, synthesis of the classic dome and ring transducer) 29XTR2. A Sonus faber designed 29 mm moving coil driver. The ultra dynamic linearity is given by the new Neodymium motor system.

### MID-WOOFER

Sonus faber MW15XTR. A totally Sonus faber designed 150 mm ultra dynamic linearity midwoofer. CCAW wire is used on a composite former “eddy current free” voice coil. The dynamically linear magnetic field motor incorporates triple Kellogg/Goeller rings. A special custom diaphragm is made with a real time air dried non pressed blend of traditional cellulose pulp, kapok, kenaf and other natural fibers, developed according to the most natural sound. To further inhibit any residual cone coloration we are using a transparent viscous surface damping coating.

### CROSS-OVER

Non-resonant “progressive slope” design, optimized amplitude/phase response for optimal space/time performance. “Paracross topology” on both tweeter hi-pass and midwoofer low pass, cross-over point 2.500 Hz.

### FREQUENCY RESPONSE

50 Hz – 30.000 Hz, tuning port included.

### SENSITIVITY

87 dB SPL (2.83 V/1m).

### NOMINAL IMPEDANCE

4 ohm.

### SUGGESTED AMPLIFIER POWER OUTPUT

40W – 150W, without clipping.

### LONG-TERM MAXIMUM INPUT VOLTAGE (IEC-268-5)

20V rms.

### FINISHES

Natural walnut or graphite multicoated with medium gloss ecologically sensitive lacquer.

### DIMENSIONS

354 x 222 x 368 mm (HxWxD).

### OPTIONAL DEDICATED STAND

708 x 287 x 376 mm (HxWxD).

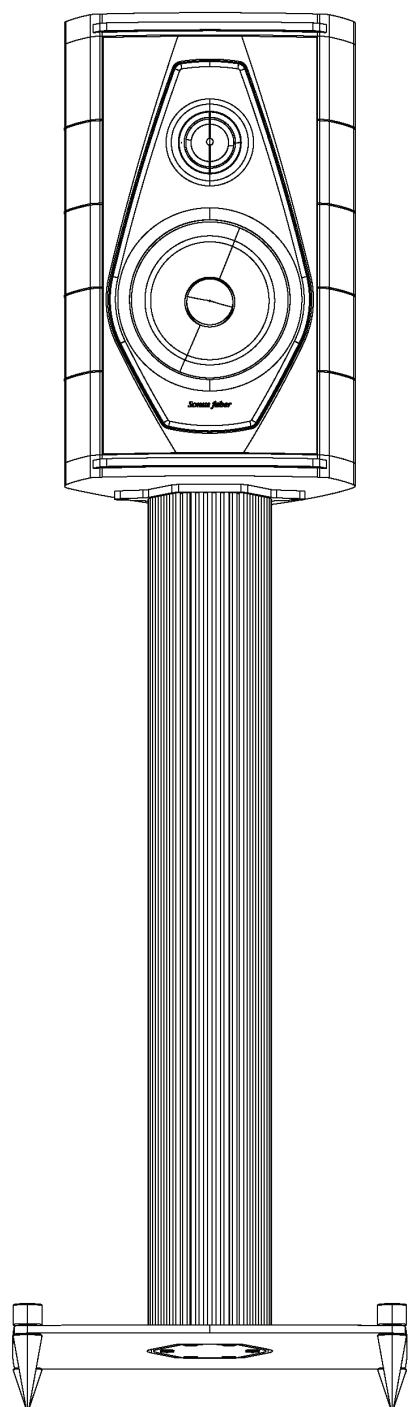
### TOTAL DIMENSIONS

1068 x 287 x 435 mm (HxWxD).



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# OLYMPICA I



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# OLYMPICA II

## DATA SHEET

### SYSTEM

3 way floorstanding, paralaminar stealth flow vented loudspeaker.

### CABINET

Enhanced “Lyre shape” design, progressive thickness triple curvature cabinet walls damped spread resonance spectrum system. Solid walnut vertical clamps.

### TWEETER

Sonus faber “Arrow Point” DAD (Damped Apex Dome, synthesis of the classic dome and ring transducer) 29XTR2. A Sonus faber designed 29 mm moving coil driver. The ultra dynamic linearity is given by the new Neodymium motor system.

### MIDRANGE

Sonus faber M15XTR. A totally Sonus faber designed 150 mm ultra dynamic linearity midwoofer. CCAW wire is used on a composite former “eddy current free” voice coil. The dynamically linear magnetic field motor incorporates triple Kellogg/Goeller rings. A special custom diaphragm is made with a real time air dried non pressed blend of traditional cellulose pulp, kapok, kenaf and other natural fibers, developed according to the most natural sound. To further inhibit any residual cone coloration we are using a transparent viscous surface damping coating. Special coaxial anti-compressors is used, designed to remove cavity resonance and distortions.

### WOOFER

Sonus faber woofer W18XTR is a direct descendant of the 9” speakers used in “Aida”. The salient aspect of the woofer, is to merge high definition, the prerogative of the ‘sandwich’ cones, and an identity

in synergy with the sound of the midrange. This goal was reached by developing a “sandwich” membrane that combines a “heart” in hi-tech rigid syntactic foam with external layers in treated cellulose pulp. The 1.5” voice coils “controlled Eddy Current”, together with the powerful long stroke magnetic motor, are guarantees for excellent performance, both from the dynamic point of view and that of linearity.

### CROSS-OVER

Non-resonant “progressive slope” design, optimized amplitude/phase response for optimal space/time performance. “Paracross topology” on both tweeter hi-pass and midrange band pass, cross-over points 250 hz - 2.500 Hz.

### FREQUENCY RESPONSE

40 Hz – 30.000 Hz, tuning port included.

### SENSITIVITY

88 dB SPL (2.83 V/1m).

### NOMINAL IMPEDANCE

4 ohm.

### SUGGESTED AMPLIFIER POWER OUTPUT

50W – 250W, without clipping.

### LONG-TERM MAXIMUM INPUT VOLTAGE

(IEC-268-5): 20V rms.

### FINISH

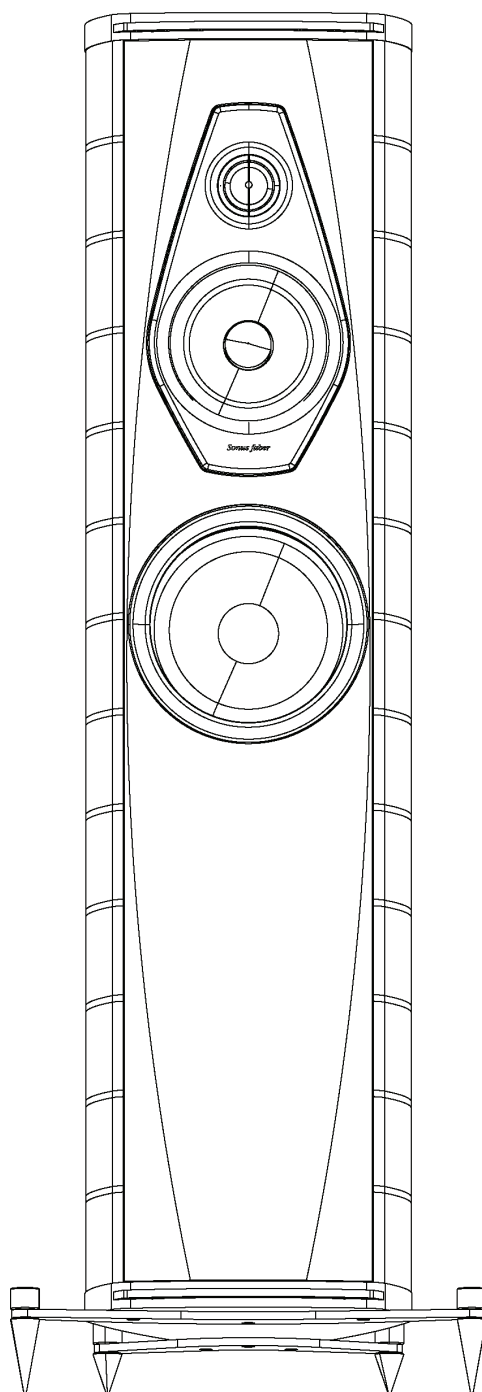
Natural walnut or graphite multicoated with medium gloss ecologically sensitive lacquer.

### DIMENSIONS

1055 x 370 x 472 mm (HxWxD).

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# OLYMPICA II



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# OLYMPICA III

## DATA SHEET

### SYSTEM

3 way floorstanding, paralaminar stealth flow vented loudspeaker.

### CABINET

Enhanced “Lyre shape” design, progressive thickness triple curvature cabinet walls damped spread resonance spectrum system. Solid walnut vertical clamps.

### TWEETER

Sonus faber “Arrow Point” DAD (Damped Apex Dome, synthesis of the classic dome and ring transducer) 29XTR2. A Sonus faber designed 29 mm moving coil driver. The ultra dynamic linearity is given by the new Neodymium motor system.

### MIDRANGE

Sonus faber M15XTR. A totally Sonus faber designed 150 mm ultra dynamic linearity midwoofer. CCAW wire is used on a composite former “eddy current free” voice coil. The dynamically linear magnetic field motor incorporates triple Kellog/Goeller rings. A special custom diaphragm is made with a real time air dried non pressed blend of traditional cellulose pulp, kapok, kenaf and other natural fibers, developed according to the most natural sound. To further inhibit any residual cone coloration we are using a transparent viscous surface damping coating. Special coaxial anti-compressors is used, designed to remove cavity resonance and distortions.

### WOOFERS

Sonus faber wooferS W18XTR are direct descendants of the 9” speakers used in “Aida”. The salient aspect of the woofers, is to merge high definition, the prerogative of the ‘sandwich’ cones, and an identity in synergy with the sound of the

midrange. This goal was reached by developing a “sandwich” membrane that combines a “heart” in hi-tech rigid syntactic foam with external layers in treated cellulose pulp. The 1.5” voice coils “controlled Eddy Current”, together with the powerful long stroke magnetic motor, are guarantees for excellent performance, both from the dynamic point of view and that of linearity.

### CROSS-OVER

Non-resonant “progressive slope” design, optimized amplitude/phase response for optimal space/time performance. “Paracross topology” on both tweeter hi-pass and midrange band pass, cross-over points 250 Hz - 2.500 Hz.

### FREQUENCY RESPONSE

35 Hz – 30.000 Hz, tuning port included.

### SENSITIVITY

90 dB SPL (2.83 V/1m).

### NOMINAL IMPEDANCE

4 ohm.

### SUGGESTED AMPLIFIER POWER OUTPUT

50W – 300W, without clipping.

### LONG-TERM MAXIMUM INPUT VOLTAGE (IEC-268-5)

22V rms.

### FINISH

Natural walnut or graphite multicoated with medium gloss ecologically sensitive lacquer.

### DIMENSIONS

1114 x 403 x 508 mm (HxWxD).

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# OLYMPICA III

