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# 2012 High End, Part II (final): AMG Viella 12, Burmester 111, Chord Electronics DSX1000, Gobel Epoque Fine, Voxativ PA-01

Jason Kennedy

## Göbel Epoque Fine

Göbel's aluminium enclosures are not merely elegant pieces of audio sculpture, they feature a distinctive take on the flat panel drive unit. They call it a bending wave transducer which in the case of the new Epoque Fine floorstander also includes an impulse compensating passive radiator, which I take to be the device on the back of the panel. This carbon fibre driver has a bandwidth of 150Hz to 30kHz and 180 degree dispersion.



What the pictures don't reveal is that it's a full dipole with not only front and rear output from the panel but three 7inch bass drivers on both sides. The Epoque Fine is a 220lb speaker but Göbel was demonstrating the Epoque Reference which has the another six driver bass section above the panel and almost doubles that weight. Yet it's a system which sounded remarkably open, natural and even dynamic with a string quartet piece.