

TECH

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Designated Driver

MAKING A STATEMENT

ON JUNE 19, 1930, a United States Patent and Trademark Office drawing was filed by engineer Emil Podszus of Berlin, Germany, for a “Sound Reproducing Apparatus.” Podszus’s early sound system was the beginning of the company known as Zellaton (zellaton.de) and the foundation of its current innovative line. Each Zellaton Statement loudspeaker, for example, uses five cone drivers—components that change electric signals to sound waves. Each one of these is designed to reproduce a specific range of low, mid, or high frequencies, measured in hertz (Hz).

The company’s proprietary midrange driver delivers near full-range response from 100 Hz to 8 kHz. Such unfettered bandwidth is a remarkable achievement for a single driver, allowing it to reproduce instruments and voices with a natural ease and complete freedom from artificiality.

The drivers in all of Zellaton’s speakers are handmade in Munich by Manuel Podszus (the grandson of the founder), require up to six weeks to manufacture, and have a build quality on par with a military specification product. It’s no wonder that the Statement’s utterly convincing sound pinpoints instruments and voices with uncanny realism.

Each of the Zellaton Statement’s 771-pound enclosures is nearly six feet in height. At its size and price—\$200,000 per speaker—the Statement is an impressive cornerstone for the finest two-channel audio system. **Robert Ross**

