

Video Links

[Introducing Duette Series 2](#)

In 2006, Wilson Audio designed Duette to be a problem solver, a speaker that could be installed in a wide variety of difficult environments. With Duette Series 2, our design mandate was simpler: create the best compact speaker. Period. While still most at home in near-boundary installations, the Series 2 has been simplified, its essence distilled into a purer, performance-oriented form. Introducing Duette Series 2.



[Duette and Hostile Environments](#)

Duette is a unique product in the audio world: a loudspeaker engineered to provide state of the art audiophile performance in installations typically anathema to good sound, namely when the speaker must be placed near a wall, either on stands or in a bookshelf or cabinet. Now Duette Series 2 further refines and perfects that objective, with features such as a new stand with an integrated crossover, new cabinet design and bracing for better resonance control, and tweeter technology derived from Alexia. The designers and engineers responsible for Duette Series 2 illustrate these features in this in-depth video introduction.





High-performance loudspeakers don't perform very well when placed near a boundary, such as a wall or a bookshelf. The soundstage collapses, dynamics are compromised, and the linearity of the frequency response is severely disrupted.

Duette was conceived as a solution for the audiophile faced with one of these "hostile sonic environments"—where either space or aesthetics preclude the use of a free-standing, full-range loudspeaker.

Duette Series 2 — re-imagined, refined, and re-engineered to offer high-end performance in installations where that has never been possible before.

The Duette series 2 features improved time-alignment, a new tweeter, and a completely redesigned enclosure. So it not only looks more beautiful, but offers significantly greater resonance control, transient speed, and soundstage resolution.

The design objective for the Series 2 Duette wasn't merely to improve its performance as a near-boundary loudspeaker, but to offer the listener the best sonic performance of any compact loudspeaker. Period.



In its stand configuration, the Duette Series 2 mounts securely to a dedicated stand that contains the external crossover. Acoustic energy is drained from the enclosure to the floor, and the crossover is mechanically isolated from the speaker.

At home in hostile environments



Stand Mount Duette Series 2 shown in Tiffany Blue (Custom Color)

Duette Series 2 benefits from the myriad technical innovations introduced at Wilson Audio since the introduction of the original Duette over six years ago.

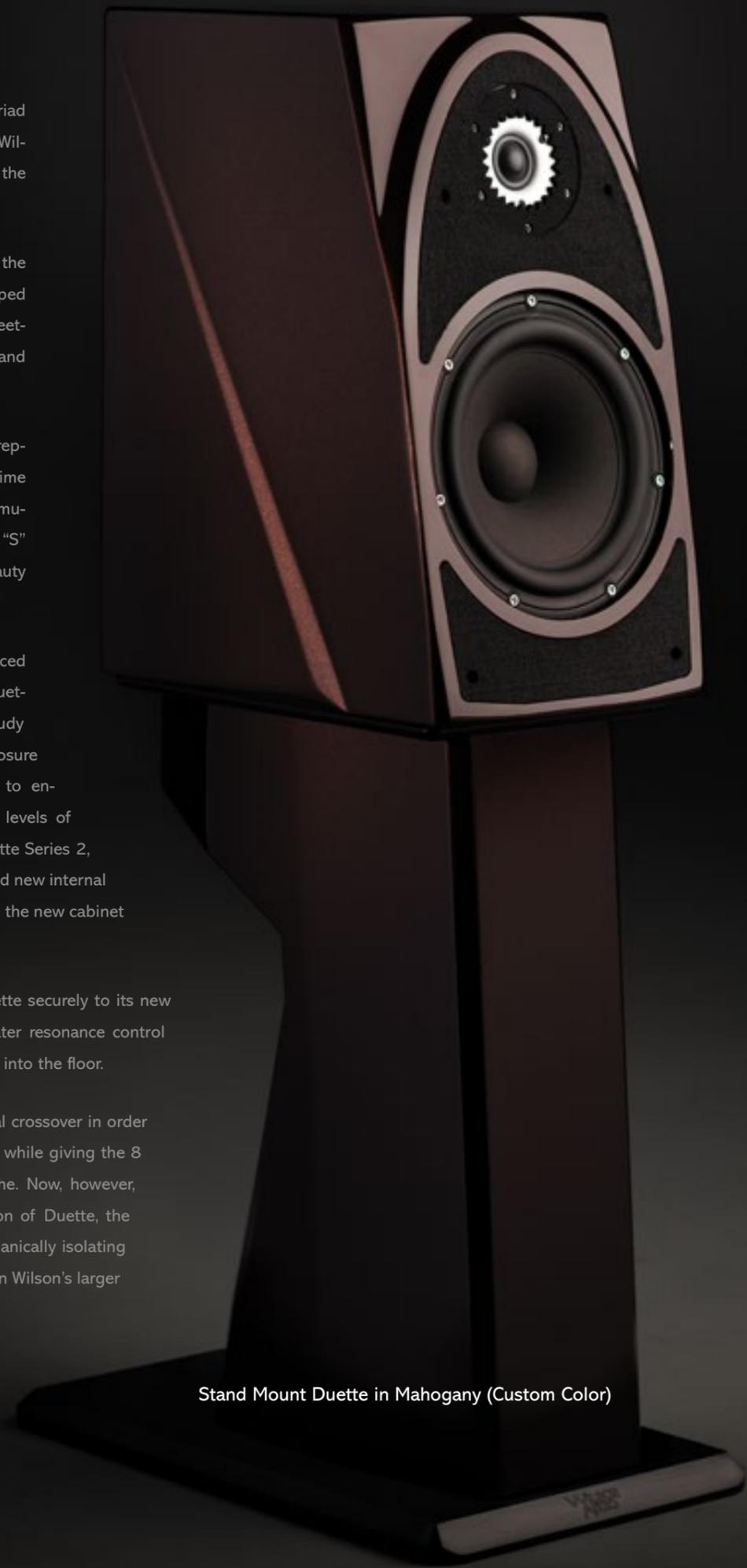
For instance, the new tweeter utilizes the rear wave damping technology developed for the Wilson Convergent Synergy tweeter first employed in Alexandria XLF and subsequently in Alexia.

The slanted baffle on the new Duette represents our commitment to precise time alignment, making Duette even more musically satisfying. The front baffle uses “S” material proven for its midrange beauty and harmonic richness.

Another technical innovation introduced at Wilson Audio after the original Duette is the use of laser vibrometry to study minute panel resonances in new enclosure designs. The resultant data has led to enclosure designs with vanishingly low levels of cabinet-induced colorations. With Duette Series 2, laser vibrometry measurements inspired new internal bracing schemes as well as the look of the new cabinet with its varied wall thickness.

It also led to the decision to bolt Duette securely to its new dedicated stand, providing even greater resonance control as excess vibrational energy is guided into the floor.

Duette has always featured an external crossover in order to minimize the size of the enclosure, while giving the 8 inch woofer plenty of room to breathe. Now, however, if you choose the stand mount version of Duette, the crossover is built into the stand, mechanically isolating it in its own compartment, just as it is in Wilson's larger floorstanding loudspeakers.



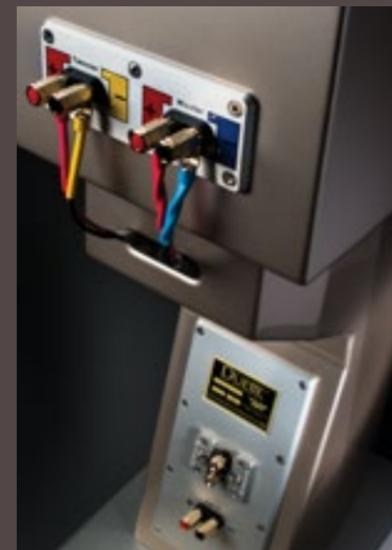
Stand Mount Duette in Mahogany (Custom Color)

Two configurations—one great standard of performance

Based on feedback from how our customers were actually using Duette, with Series 2 we decided to forgo the original's freestanding option and focus on a speaker designed solely for near-boundary installations. Conventional audiophile wisdom holds that placing a loudspeaker near wall or in a bookshelf inevitably compromises performance. Our determination, however, was to demonstrate that near-boundary placement need not engender sonic compromise. Duette Series 2 is engineered to provide similar levels of soundstage depth and detail, harmonic expression, and dynamic contrast as our floorstanding speakers. Indeed, Duette will outperform so-called “super mini monitors”—even when these speakers are advantageously placed out in the room. So if room design or size dictates near wall placement, you now have access to the musical realism that has made Wilson loudspeakers legendary.



Bookshelf Duette in Desert Silver (Standard Color)



Stand Mount Duette with integrated Crossover



Bookshelf Duette with Novel Crossover (color-coded binding posts to simplify connections)



Specifications

Measurements

Nominal Impedance: 4 ohms / minimum 4.35 ohms @160Hz
Sensitivity: 92dB @1W@1m@1k
Frequency Response: 33Hz–21kHz +/-3dB,
Room Average Response [RAR]
Minimum Amplification Power Recommended: 20 watts/channel

Drivers

Woofer: 8 inches (19.63 cm) Material: Hard Paper Pulp
Tweeter: 1 inch, Dome (2 .54 cm) Material: Doped Silk Fabric

Dimensions

Duette Enclosure

Height: 18 1/2 inches (46.99 cm) w/o spikes
Width: 10 1/2 inches (26.66 cm)
Depth: 16 1/16 inches (40.82 cm)

Novel Crossover

Height: 11 5/16 inches (28.73 cm)
Width: 4 3/4 inches (12 .07 cm)
Depth: 9 5/32 inches (23.28 cm)

Dedicated Stand with Built-in Crossover

Height: 21 7/8 inches (55.56 cm) w/o spikes
Width: 11 7/8 inches (30.16 cm)
Depth: 18 3/4 inches (47.63 cm)

Enclosure Type

Woofer (Rear Ported)/Tweeter (Sealed):
Material: X-Material with S-Material Baffle

Product Weight

Weight Per Channel Uncrated:

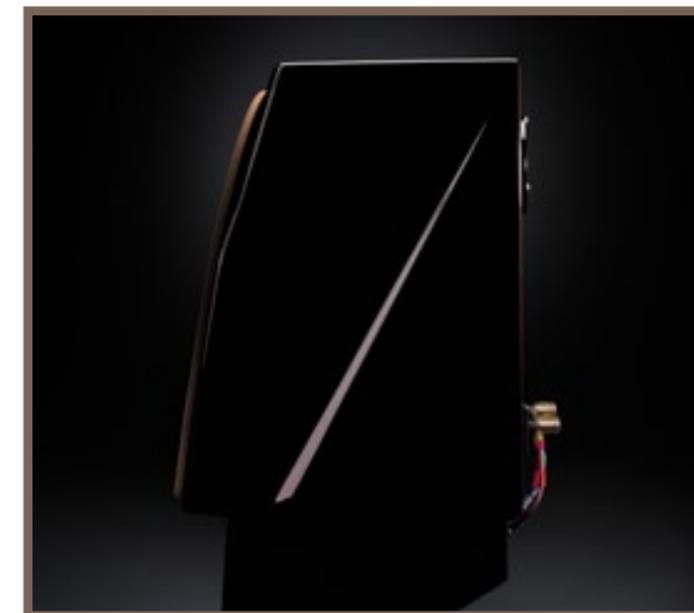
Duette: 45 lbs (20.41 kg)

Novel Crossover: 24 lbs (10.89 kg)

Stand: 65 lbs (29.48 kg)



Duette Stand Mount in Desert Silver (Standard Color)



To learn more about the design and engineering of Duette Series 2, watch the video entitled *Duette Series 2 and Hostile Environments* at www.wilsonaudio.com