



FYNE
VINTAGE

Vintage Fifteen
SUPERTRAX



華麗氣派 情感澎湃
以現代技藝演繹傳奇經典

Fyne Audio

Vintage Fifteen 座地揚聲器 +
SuperTrax 超高音

文 | 祖兒



In the realm of audio, "classic reissues" have always been a subject that combines nostalgia with technical challenges. Since its founding in 2017, UK-based Fyne Audio has quickly secured a place in the high-end speaker market, thanks to its core team's profound expertise in acoustic engineering. It's an open secret that their key members hail from a legendary British speaker brand with nearly a century of history. The Fyne Audio Vintage Fifteen floorstanding speaker and SuperTrax under review here are the brand's tribute to classics while showcasing innovative technology—a masterpiece spanning generations.

Recreating the Visual Charm of the Golden Era

To be precise, Fyne Audio is based in Scotland, but the manufacturer prefers not to dwell on the origin and simply labels its products as "Made in the UK." The appearance of the Fyne Vintage Fifteen is quintessentially British, instantly evoking memories of classic speakers from the 1970s. In fact, the brand shares the sentiment that the '70s were the golden age of audio, which is why it has devoted itself to creating two nostalgic series: "Vintage" and "Vintage Classic." As the names suggest, "Vintage Classic" features a 100% retro design, while "Vintage" incorporates modern details and acoustic technology into its nostalgic exterior, reimagining classics with contemporary craftsmanship.

Premium Materials, No Compromises

The Vintage series currently comprises four models, all named after their driver sizes: "Five," "Ten," "Twelve," and this issue's star—the 15-inch "Vintage Fifteen." Naturally, with the largest 15-inch driver in the series, the Vintage Fifteen's cabinet is substantial, measuring 1,152 × 683 × 691mm (H × W × D). Though modeled after traditional speaker cabinets, its design cleverly employs curved edges on the left and right profiles, with the sides tapering elegantly from front to back. This balances the heft of the retro aesthetic while optimizing the cabinet's mechanical properties and minimizing standing waves.

The Vintage Fifteen's elegant grandeur undoubtedly stems from its solid wood cabinet. The entire enclosure is handcrafted in the UK, adorned with exquisite walnut veneer and framed with thick burr walnut edging. Burr walnut, sourced from the roots and burls of walnut trees, boasts strikingly contrasting grain patterns, making it exceptionally eye-catching. Typically reserved for high-end European furniture veneers, this choice underscores the Vintage Fifteen's uncompromising material quality.



Vintage Fifteen 規格

■ Type: 2-way bass reflex ■ Recommended amplifier power (RMS): 20-400W ■ Continuous power handling (RMS): 200W ■ Sensitivity (2.83V@1m): 97dB ■ Nominal impedance: 8Ω ■ Frequency response (-6dB): 22Hz - 26kHz ■ Driver units: 380mm mid/bass driver, 75mm titanium alloy dome compression tweeter ■ Crossover point: 750Hz ■ Dimensions (H x W x D): 1152 x 683 x 691mm ■ Finish: Walnut ■ Retail price: HK\$320,000 per pair

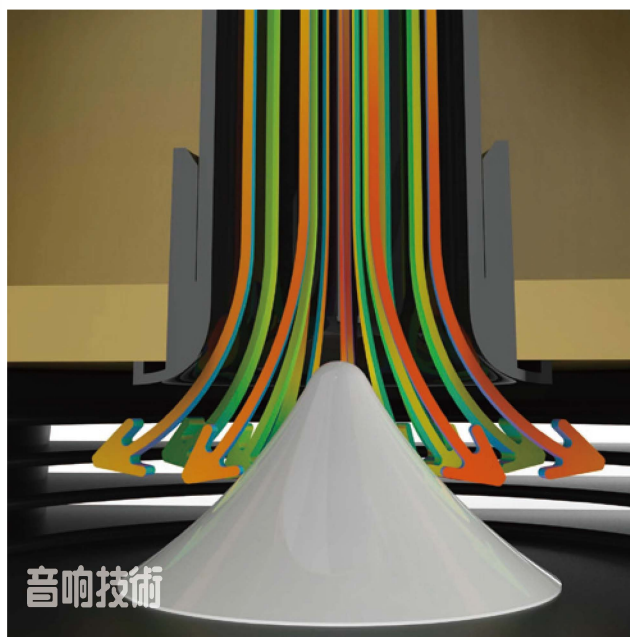
SuperTrax 規格

■ Recommended amplifier power (RMS): 400W ■ Sensitivity (2.83V@1m): 98dB ■ Nominal impedance: 8Ω ■ Frequency response (-6dB): 16kHz - 60kHz ■ Driver unit: 25mm multilayer carbon film (TPCD) tweeter, neodymium magnetic system ■ Dimensions (H x W x D): 86 x 140 x 257mm ■ Retail price: HK\$38,400 per pair (Walnut)

■ General Agent: House of Music Group - Phone: (852) 3705 5908

Beneath the Vintage Fifteen's cabinet lies a refined and noble "Presence Control" knob, framed with gold-anodized metal trim. This allows users to adjust the 2.5kHz–5.0kHz upper-midrange frequencies by $\pm 3\text{dB}$, effectively controlling vocal clarity and soundstage depth to enhance realism. Additionally, the Vintage Fifteen features an "Energy" control knob on the rear, enabling $\pm 3\text{dB}$ adjustments across its high-frequency response range (750Hz–26kHz) to fine-tune the system for different listening environments, adding flexibility in placement. Notably, the speaker employs silver-plated oxygen-free copper wiring, and the entire crossover undergoes cryogenic treatment to reduce solder joint stress and eliminate crystalline structure tension. For connectivity, it boasts a pair of large WBT terminals for bi-wiring and a dedicated grounding terminal to eliminate potential RF interference feedback to the amplifier, improving detail and resolution.

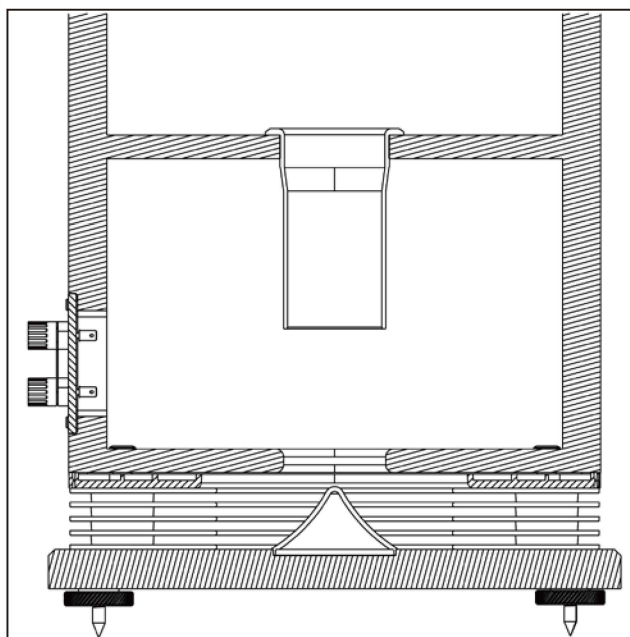
Ultimately, the BassTrax Tractrix's key advantage is greater placement flexibility, freeing users from port reflection constraints.

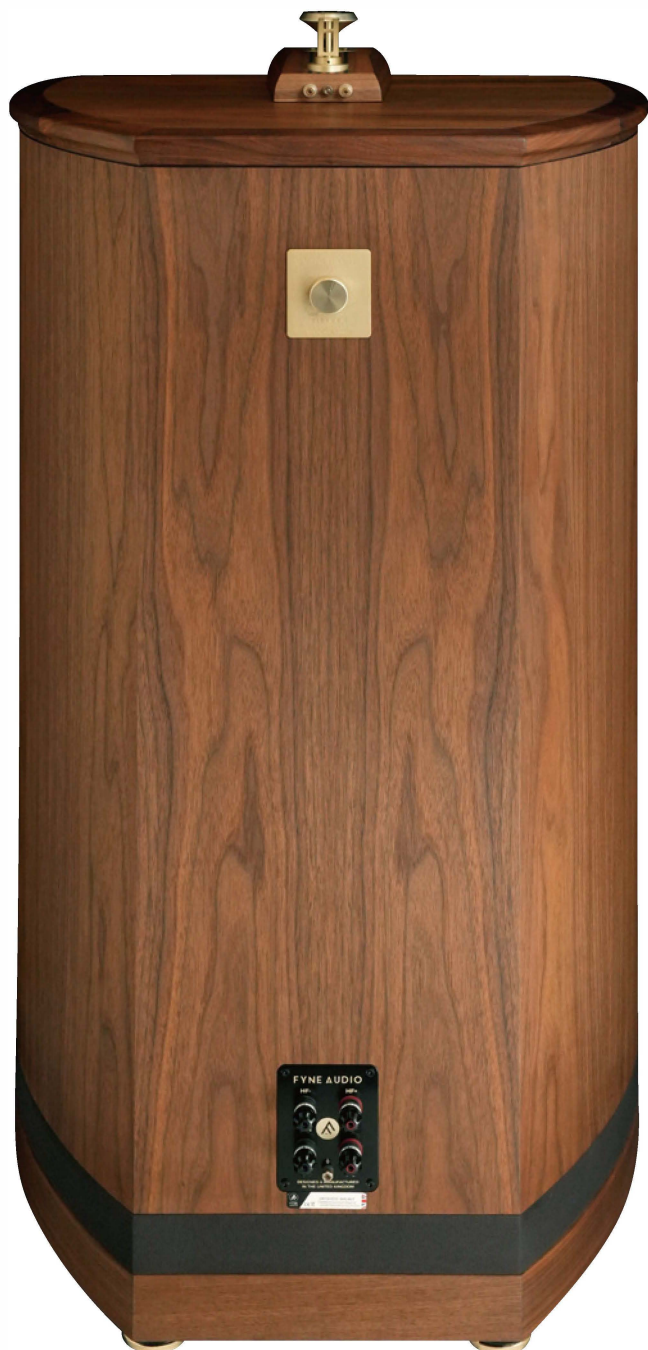


Patented BassTrax Diffuser

The reflex-designed Vintage Fifteen features its bass port at the bottom of the cabinet, mirroring the design of the flagship F1 series. The downward-firing port is paired with a conical diffuser called "BassTrax Tractrix," which disperses the vertically downward airflow in a 360° pattern, ensuring more even and smooth energy distribution. A long vent is positioned at the front bottom of the Vintage Fifteen, while vents on the left, right, and rear are covered with fabric mesh, preserving the speaker's elegant aesthetic.

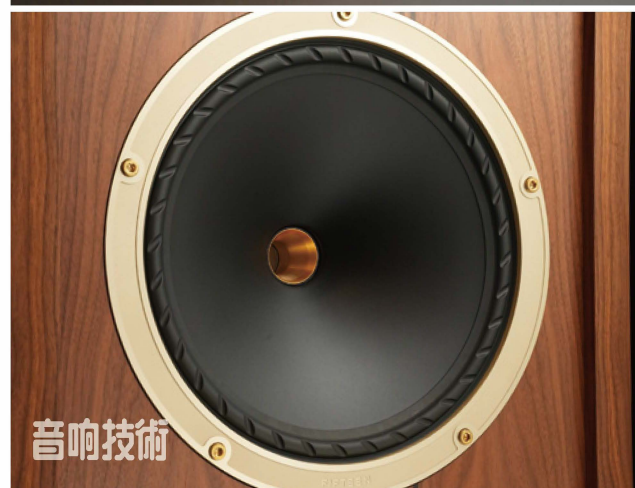
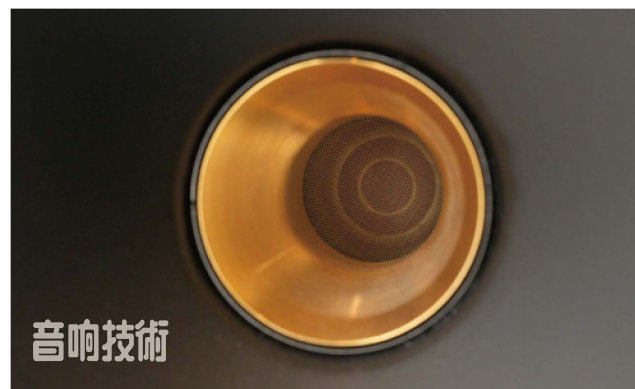
Inside, the Vintage Fifteen employs a heavily constructed dual-chamber birch plywood structure, divided into upper and lower chambers. The upper chamber houses the driver's acoustic space, while the lower chamber serves as a loading compartment for the bass port. This not only enhances internal damping but also acts as a tuner, balancing full-range energy distribution, suppressing standing waves from internal ports, and reducing driver diaphragm displacement.





The Largest IsoFlare Coaxial Driver

The highlight of the Vintage Fifteen is undoubtedly its pair of 15-inch "IsoFlare" coaxial drivers—the largest in the Vintage series to date. These feature custom high-rigidity cast aluminum frames, including a one-piece high-strength aluminum alloy chassis, coupled with the cabinet's internal bracing via patented composite materials to eliminate resonance-induced sound degradation. Another standout feature is the proprietary "FyneFlute" technology, which uses wave-like grooves to reinforce the surround's geometry and absorb residual energy from the diaphragm's edges, preventing unwanted resonances and delivering pristine midrange clarity.



The Vintage Fifteen's tweeter is Fyne Audio's top-tier 75mm titanium dome compression driver, powered by a robust neodymium magnet for smooth high-frequency extension. A gold metal diffuser cylinder connects the tweeter to the mid/bass driver, ensuring focused high-frequency energy transmission. The crossover is set at 750Hz—lower than typical two-way speakers—meaning the compression driver handles midrange duties, allowing the woofer to focus on dynamics.

The Perfect Partner: SuperTrax

Fyne Audio believes music's essence lies not just in bass depth and midrange texture but also in treble clarity. Thus, it designed the "SuperTrax" super tweeter system to extend the Vintage series' ultra-wide bandwidth performance. The SuperTrax's design echoes the Vintage series, and its 16kHz–60kHz high-frequency response seamlessly integrates with the Vintage Fifteen.

The SuperTrax's diaphragm is made of TPCD (Thin Ply Carbon Diaphragm), a multi-layer carbon film. Research shows that metal diaphragms (aluminum, titanium, magnesium) exhibit resonant frequencies between 20kHz and 32kHz—beyond human hearing but capable of causing harshness. TPCD's layered structure creates multiple break-up points, dispersing and absorbing high-frequency resonance energy for higher frequency tolerance. Its resonance energy distribution curve aligns with natural instrument decay, yielding more harmonious sound.



Pinpoint Accuracy, Rich and Solid

To fully appreciate the Fyne Vintage Fifteen's glorious sound, we paired it with an Audio Note M6 Line preamp and Jinro integrated amp (20W/channel via 211 tubes in pure Class A). With a sensitivity of 97dB (2.83V@1m), the Vintage Fifteen had no trouble delivering. The source was our reference CH Precision five-box SACD/CD system.

First, we played <Heartbreak - Romantic Encores for Violin>SACD, Track 1<Nocturne in C-Sharp Minor, Op. Posth>



The uniquely shaped SuperTrax fires upward, with an inverted triangular diffuser dubbed "SuperTrax Tractrix." This patented 360° radiation design time-aligns ultra-high frequencies, ensuring reflected ultrasonic energy matches the speaker's direct harmonic structure, enveloping listeners in a coherent spherical soundfield.

This track is packed with detail—mediocre systems render it bland, but high-resolution setups reveal its palpable realism. Initially, we played it without the SuperTrax. Robert Koenig's delicate piano and Elissa Lee Koljonen's sultry violin conveyed warmth and intimacy. The Vintage Fifteen's single-point source created pinpoint imaging, with no sluggishness despite its large drivers. Instead, it offered ample speed to capture the violin's agility and delineation, effortlessly delivering the piano's solid, full-bodied weight.



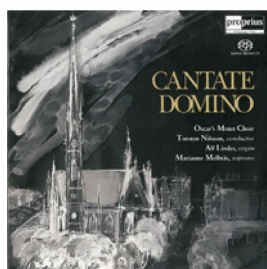
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Irresistible Sound

However, comparisons are revealing. Adding the SuperTrax transformed the soundstage dramatically, unveiling deeper layers of realism. With the SuperTrax, Elissa's Cremona violin became even more vivid—rosin scent intensified, body resonance and string overtones grew more three-dimensional, and mid-bass lines gained sharper focus. The most obvious improvements were in spatiality and air, making the room feel larger and unearthing background details. Once you hear the Vintage Fifteen with SuperTrax, there's no going back.

Grandeur and Lingering Reverberation

Next, we played <Cantate Domino> from the <Black Church> SACD Track 1. The boundless space and vast reverberation transported us into the cathedral, with the pipe organ's deep resonance rising from the



ground and surging forward—majestic and powerful. As expected, the Vintage Fifteen handled large-scale passages with effortless composure. Track 11, <Julsang>, featured ethereal, elegant female vocals, their beautiful decay lingering naturally before fading into the ether. This organic sound is beyond studio-made reverb, and the Vintage Fifteen + SuperTrax showcased the vocals' beauty and emotion. The pipe organ's powerful bass merged with the choir, creating a cascading effect, while overtones shimmered like halos. The Vintage Fifteen's boundless energy made us forget the gear and lose ourselves in the music.

Overwhelming Presence, Breaking Boundaries

Finally, we spun the classic <Hi-Fi A La Española> CD, <Brazilian Sleigh Bells>. The crisp sleigh bells opened with lively rhythm—the Vintage Fifteen rendered them with metallic bite yet fullness, maintaining clarity even in rapid shakes.



Percussion and brass joined, crafting a joyous, dynamic festive atmosphere—warm, rounded, and sunlit. Strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion interwove seamlessly yet distinctly. The bass surged in waves—elastic yet powerful—paired with lush mids and lifelike bells, creating a massive, immersive soundstage. The Vintage Fifteen + SuperTrax was in its element, the 15-inch woofer's infectious energy unforgettable.

Conclusion

The Fyne Audio Vintage Fifteen + SuperTrax delivers natural, harmonious, and emotionally rich sound. Its 15-inch bass is powerful yet never oppressive, with dynamics so seamless they're almost invisible. It blends the warmth of classic speakers with modern precision—a sound that grows more addictive with time.

While modern speakers chase new cabinet shapes and materials to combat standing waves and resonance, Fyne Audio returns to solid wood. Superficially, this pays homage to retro aesthetics, but in truth, it affirms and perpetuates traditional craftsmanship—worthy of support!



Fyne Audio Vintage Fifteen

Deep Bass Dynamics, Imposing Presence

By | Keith

The audio world has long held a saying: "He who conquers the bass conquers all." Many audiophiles have heard this, but what exactly defines "great bass"? Every enthusiast has their own interpretation. Some believe tight control and agility make it "good," others argue that powerful, fast response without sacrificing weight is key, while another camp insists that effortlessly underpinning the entire soundstage without muddiness is the true ideal. Yet, no matter which camp one belongs to,

most audiophiles dream of owning a pair of speakers with large bass drivers. This time, we're reviewing the Fyne Audio Vintage Fifteen—as the name suggests, it boasts a 15-inch coaxial driver, paired with the brand's SuperTrax and the expertise of a seasoned design team. What surprises does it have in store?

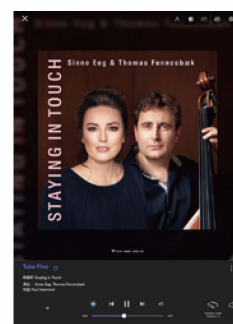
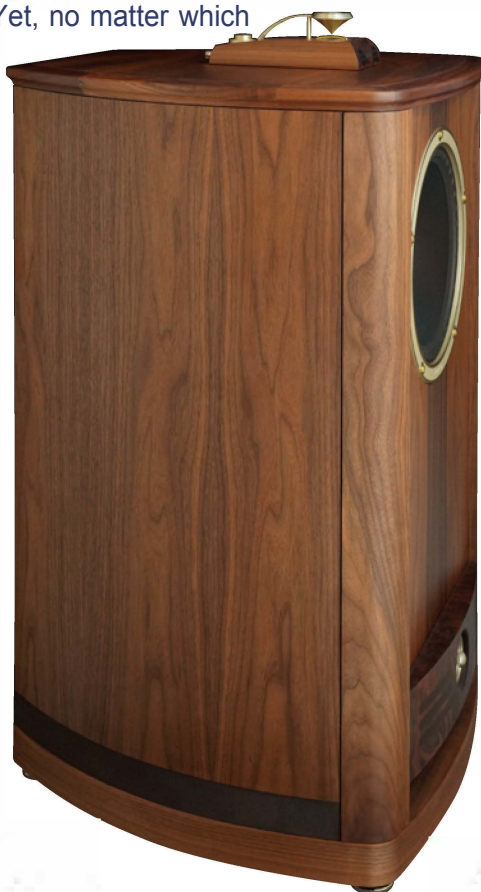
Emotionally Moving

Next, we played one of our personal favorites from Pink Floyd's <The Wall>—<Comfortably Numb>.

The track's well-defined structure and rich layering were on full display, especially in the opening strings and bass foundation, which created an expansive soundstage. Gilmour's voice brimmed with emotional tension, and the speaker's midrange resolution rendered it magnetic and gripping.

As the chorus kicked in, the background strings and electronic effects were reproduced with pinpoint accuracy, showcasing the depth and width of the soundstage. The guitar tone was rounded and nuanced, with exceptional harmonic extension, effortlessly

handling the dynamics from the gentle intro to the explosive climax—immersing us completely in this emotionally charged melody.



We then listened to the rhythmically intense and richly layered <Another Brick in the Wall, Part 2>. From the punchy bass and drums to the layered vocals and choir, the children's chorus was precisely positioned across the soundstage, creating a three-dimensional surround effect. When the guitar solo hit, the speaker's mid-to-high frequency performance was stunning—full-bodied, crisp, and rich in harmonics, with impeccable detail that was neither harsh nor overly soft.

Imposing Presence

As a self-proclaimed rock enthusiast, we couldn't resist pushing the Vintage Fifteen to its limits. We played <Enter Sandman> from Metallica's <S&M> album, recorded with the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra. With the Vintage Fifteen, the bass energy surged like a tidal wave—each kick drum hit carried a seismic impact, delivering raw power. Yet,



this wasn't just brute force; the bass had refined layering, revealing the drumhead's vibrations and lingering resonance. The sound was deep and stable, with the orchestra positioned behind Metallica, adding a majestic grandeur to the originally band-driven intensity.

James Hetfield's gritty vocals were locked dead-center, and the speaker's midrange clarity kept his voice distinct even against the symphony's vast backdrop. The strings' highs were smooth and transparent, never harsh, especially during climactic sections where guitars, drums, and strings collided—the speaker rationally separated each element, ensuring every detail was audible. The Vintage Fifteen fully unraveled the orchestra's layers, with strings, brass, and percussion spread across the soundstage, making the music feel like it was flooding the room. Thanks to the patented BassTrax Tractrix system at the cabinet's base, the bass energy was channeled through a 360° diffuser, eliminating bloat and delivering tight, detailed lows that underpinned the entire soundstage.

Quality Over Quantity

Having tested its bass weight, we turned to texture with 2Cellos' <Let There Be Cello>. The cello's tone demands both deep lows and high-frequency finesse, making it an ideal test for the Vintage Fifteen. First, we played their rendition of Queen's <The Show Must Go On>—a melody brimming with tension, elevated further by the cello's tragic



grandeur. The opening cello was deep and powerful, with every bow stroke and body resonance vividly rendered. The 15-inch coaxial driver delivered rich bass layers, balancing weight and clarity. As the track built to its climax, the rapid bowing and backing strings surged dynamically, while the three-dimensional soundstage made the performance feel grander than ever.

Next, we listened to their take on Led Zeppelin's <Whole Lotta Love>—a track bursting with rhythmic intensity and explosive dynamics. The opening cello plucks were commanding, with deep, full-bodied lows that lent weight to the Beethoven-esque intro. As the music escalated into frenzy, the speaker's dynamic prowess shone—the cello's rapid bowing mimicked a distorted electric guitar's wild energy, rough yet detailed, with palpable string vibrations. The mid-track transition from explosive strings to quiet passages was handled with finesse, the bass reverberation and spatial cues heightening the drama, as if we were at a live rock concert.

Conclusion

The Fyne Audio Vintage Fifteen, with its 15-inch coaxial driver, delivers abundant yet refined bass. Whether it's the delicate intricacies of jazz and female vocals or the explosive energy of rock and classical, it handles everything with rich layering and effortless control. The soundstage is vast, imaging precise, mids and highs crystal-clear, and dynamics impeccably managed. While large drivers are often associated with sheer bass power, the Vintage Fifteen's detail retrieval and musicality left us thoroughly impressed. Finally, while its exterior exudes classic British elegance, its performance caters perfectly to modern audiophiles seeking full-range balance and immersive musicality.

Sound, Aesthetics, and Craftsmanship in Perfect Harmony

Fyne Audio Vintage Fifteen

By Big Grass

I've been immersed in the world of audio for decades, and over the years, I've owned my fair share of equipment. However, there's one speaker that captivated me from the very beginning—one I've always longed to own. In my younger days, it was beyond my budget, and by the time I could afford it, I realized I had no space to accommodate it...

That speaker was a massive, refrigerator-sized British classic, adorned with luxurious wood veneer and equipped with a 15-inch coaxial driver. Its effortless deep bass, rich and articulate midrange, and crisp, sparkling highs left an indelible mark on me. Recently, I learned that Fyne Audio, a UK brand with deep ties to that legendary manufacturer, had launched a classic reissue series—including their flagship Vintage Fifteen with a 15-inch coaxial unit. How could I pass up the chance to audition it?

Though the Vintage Fifteen is undeniably imposing, its cleverly rounded edges and tapered rear profile prevent it from appearing bulky. Clad in exquisite walnut veneer with burl walnut accents, its timeless aesthetic is nothing short of stunning. To further elevate its performance, we paired it with Fyne Audio's SuperTrax module. Despite its size, positioning the Vintage Fifteen in our listening room proved surprisingly straightforward.

To fully unleash the potential of this 97dB-sensitive behemoth, I borrowed a matching-tier tube amplifier—the British Audio Note M6 preamp + Jinro power amp—from our resident expert, "Elephant" Yu. After spinning a few familiar records, the joyful memories of yesteryears came flooding back—but now infused with a modern, lifelike vibrancy. The sound was simply enchanting. To encapsulate my impressions of the Vintage Fifteen, I'll focus on selections from my beloved 2015 Audiophile Selection: 1. 〈How Could I Bear to Part with You〉 – The only pop track included in the compilation, this classic by the "God of Songs" features Suen Tak-Wah's masterful arrangement and guitar solo.

The Vintage Fifteen rendered every nuance—the guitarist's fingerpicking techniques, string vibrations, and the resonant body of the instrument—with breathtaking realism. Coupled with Jacky

Cheung's flawless, emotionally charged delivery, this was one of the finest renditions I've ever experienced.

2. 〈Sunrise〉 from Also Sprach Zarathustra – Wow. The 15-inch woofer unleashed the organ's subterranean lows with authority, while the New York Philharmonic's crescendo—from hushed darkness to blazing sunrise—was staggering in scale. The room swelled with energy, every corner saturated with symphonic grandeur.

3. 〈Dance of the Tumblers〉– Under Eiji Oue's baton, the Minnesota Orchestra delivered a rollicking, brilliantly orchestrated performance. Thanks to RR's legendary engineer Keith O. Johnson, the recording was a textural marvel. The Vintage Fifteen reproduced strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion with crystalline clarity and dynamic punch, never sounding bloated. The tonal balance and hall ambience were exquisitely judged, showcasing the big driver's prowess to perfection.

