

'A new speaker range: a new drive-unit material. Focal's Aria range is making its debut and judging from the 926 floorstanders I have been using for the past couple of weeks, the French speaker company could be on to something rather special.'

'The 926s here were the smaller of two floorstanders we were played in the Focal listening room ... these are some of the most direct and communicative speakers I have encountered for a very long time, and above all they're huge fun to listen to... the larger 948s with two 20 cm (8 inch) bass units were an absolute riot.'

' You just put some music on, and you think – Yes, that's how it should be. So you turn it up a bit louder than you might have done before, and it's even more captivating. . . '



' There's punchy, 'gets you where it matters' bass on offer here, both fast and wellextended; a seamless transition into the midband with no suggestion of drive units passing the baton between them, and a treble that's both sweetly controlled and capable of beautifully clean imaging and ambiance.'

'... I can't remember when I listened to so much music and so many podcasts and plays and everything; I feel I may have tak-

en roots in this sofa, and have to keep on dragging myself off to do trivial things like make a drink or sleep.'

' These are gloriously enjoyable speakers, and if the rest of the flax-toting Aria 900 range is up to this standard, Focal could well have a serious sales success on its hands.'

Words and Music – Andreweverard.com