

Orange is not only the Dutch national color arriving from the royal house of Orange. It is becoming a more and more hip colour for audio. After being popular in the colourful 70's hippie era, in later decades cool hifi had to be professional looking and most of all, be black. **Crystal Cable** offer orange as a standard color for their Arabesque Minissimo. That speaker is perfectly suited to its purpose but improvements are always possible. That led to the Minissimo *Diamond* model to exploit a new custom-built Seas diamond tweeter for the top end. By adding a Subissimo subwoofer, the bottom end gets enhanced as well. Of course the low-down looks retain Crystal's curvy style. When their Cube integrated amplifier drives this sub/sat combination, the user can configure the low-frequency roll-off and use a dedicated output for the sub(s). This is one of the many advantages of a one-brand setup. New were the Minissimo "hats". These are solid aluminium tops shaped to match the comma cross section of the loudspeakers, then machined with a stepped profile. With hat in place, the loudspeaker's dispersion in the vertical plane is enhanced, offering more height information for the projected image. Remember how next to orange, the second colour trend we spotted was gold? Crystal Cable followed suit with the 100wpc Cube in a gold finish. It downtrickles features from the big Siltech amplifiers like optical decoupling of the output stage. Crystal Cable and Siltech owners Gaby and Edwin Rijnveld own Devialet gear at home and enjoy their French remote. That no doubt was inspiration for their (what else) cube-shaped remote control for the Cube amplifier. [When I first saw photos of the "hats", I assumed them to include upfiring tweeters to add 360° dispersion to the upper treble. As it turns out, they do not. But wouldn't that be a good idea for the ideal super tweeter? – Ed]



