

**AREA DVD**

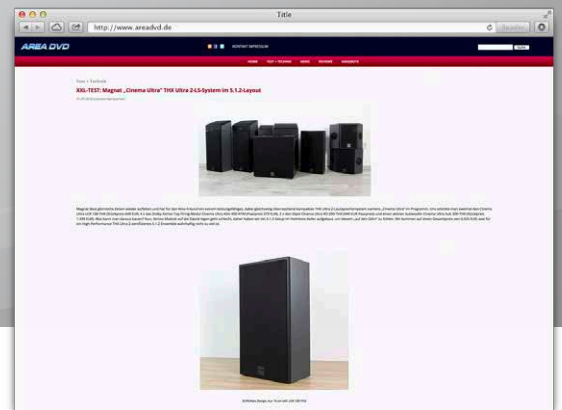


**AREA DVD**  
Priceclass reference

# Magnat

## CINEMA ULTRA 5.1.2

"The Cinema Ultra 5.1.2 set from Magnat performs superbly well in the Champions League of speakers – all at a refreshingly reasonable price"



# Magnat

Lise-Meitner-Str. 9 · 50259 Pulheim · Germany · [www.cinema-ultra.magnat.de](http://www.cinema-ultra.magnat.de)

area dvd  
07-2016

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## XXL TEST: Magnat's "Cinema Ultra" THX Ultra 2 speaker system in a 5.1.2 configuration

Magnat revives glorious times and has introduced an extremely powerful, but at the same time surprisingly compact, THX Ultra 2 speaker system called the "Cinema Ultra", which is aimed at cinema enthusiasts. We were provided with three Cinema Ultra LCR 100 THX speakers (€649 each), 4 x Cinema Ultra AEH 400 ATM Dolby Atmos top-firing modules (€579/pair), 2 x Cinema Ultra RD 200 THX dipole speakers (€949/pair) and a Cinema Ultra Sub 300 THX active subwoofer (€1,499 each). What can be built with all of this? Well, placing Atmos modules on the dipole speakers isn't the best, so we constructed a 5.1.2 setup in our home cinema basement to "suss things out". Our setup comes to a total price of €4,325, which, for a high-performance THX Ultra 2-certified 5.1.2 ensemble, really isn't that expensive.

Magnat's Cinema Ultra system offers premium, sophisticated and highly reliable technology at a fair price; at least in theory. The visual appearance is based on professional systems; the brushed finish and silk matt lacquered baffle, however, mean that the Cinema Ultra can be easily accommodated in a living room environment. As the dimensions of the components are rather reasonable, they will even gain approval from your other half.

### Sound

We naturally opted to use components of a corresponding high quality to generate the sound. The Yamaha duo, consisting of the CX-A5100 and MX-A5000, were sure to coax the very best from the Cinema Ultra system during our series of tests.

### "Mission Impossible - Rogue Nation" on Blu-ray

We are talking about a 5.1.2 speaker ensemble for significantly less than €5,000 - we had to clarify this first of all, because, when we heard the opening sequence, including the Airbus A-400M military plane taking off and the legendary "Turandot" sequence from Mission Impossible 4 "Rogue Nation" (BD) (English Dolby Atmos format), we were left speechless. The Cinema Ultra ensemble generates a performance that is exemplary for this price range. The aircraft taking off is reproduced with an extraordinary emphasis.

The active subwoofer demonstrates its skills impressively here - the engine noises are reproduced with a room-filling, powerful sound and the plane thunders extremely accurately through our listening room. The Cinema Ultra system also incorporates minor effects just as well and this is exemplified in the scene where Benjamin Dunn is fiddling with his tablet to open the correct door of the aircraft. Ethan Hunt, meanwhile, is hanging from the outside of the Airbus. (...)

### "Metallica - Through The Never 3D" on Blu-ray

Metallica's concert film "Through The Never 3D" is natively recorded in Dolby Atmos format. The extremely dynamic, sometimes shrill sounds in the treble range cause major problems for many speaker systems. We listen to the driving track "Ecstasy Of Gold" and the calm metal ballad "Nothing Else Matters", which, according to the author of this piece, is one of the most beautiful songs written by the heavy metal combo. During "Ecstasy Of Gold", the Cinema Ultra speaker set delivers one of the best renditions of the song I have ever heard. We crank the Yamaha combo to 85% of its maximum power and the resilient, extremely dynamic Magnat components respond exquisitely. The active subwoofer provides a room-filling, yet solid and precise bass range - this active bass speaker really is top class. The hard electric guitar riffs and the lively drums are accentuated exceptionally well.

Magnat's system always makes it clear that it's a Dolby Atmos soundtrack: All audio dimensions are represented and the listener has the impression of the sound being conveyed throughout the room and that there's an emphatic effect-laden storm going on in front of, beside, behind and above him/her. During "Nothing Else Matters" the amount of detail and clarity of the vocal elements suffers slightly at high levels (from approx. 75 - 80 percent of the maximum volume generated by the Yamaha combo), however, it is perfectly in order for the price range in which the Cinema Ultra set has been positioned. An excellent combination of a live atmosphere (through pressure and volume) and precision (through fine dynamics and subtle spatial reproduction) is generated at a level of approx. 70%. (...)

### Conclusion

Magnat shows how it's done: An extremely resilient, hugely dynamic, yet diverse, richly faceted state of the art speaker system that is available for significantly less than the magical €5,000 threshold that seems to apply for many users and potential buyers. Simply exemplary - Dolby Atmos and DTS:X soundtracks can be reproduced exquisitely thanks to the top-firing modules. If you are so inclined, you can also use the LCR 100 THX as well as Atmos modules for the rear channel instead of the dipole speakers. In our opinion, however, the two elaborately designed dipole speakers are exceptionally appealing thanks to the tight surround panorama they generate and fit perfectly into the ensemble. You will only ever need more than one of the powerful Cinema Ultra active subwoofers if you have a room that exceeds 30 square meters and you are constantly using the system at very high levels. Otherwise, the stable subwoofer is so good that one is usually more than enough. Another pleasing aspect is that the Cinema Ultra system is not only ideally suited for movie soundtracks, but for multi-channel music as well. The solid and robust components do not shy away from classical music either; on the contrary: Magnat's speakers reproduce the respective content in a multi-layered and clear manner. Furthermore, the quality generated in stereo mode is also good.

