

MUNICH 2014

## Munich High End 2014: Day 1 Continued

By Art Dudley • Posted: May 17, 2014



How good does it get? I think I'm closer to having an answer to that one.

I'm a person of faith, and I do try my best to sin as little as possible. Yet within 10 seconds of entering the Silbatone Audio room—seconds occasioned by a multisensory experience as shocking as it was pleasant—the first words that escaped my lips were "Jesus tap-dancing Christ on a cracker." I was hearing Maria Callas sing an aria from an Italian opera unknown to me; I was seeing a long wall of enormous loudspeakers, the largest of which was a pair of exceedingly rare Western Electric 13A horns made for Warner Brothers in 1926, not long before Al Jolson's first talkie. I was listening to the world's first hi-fi system, and I would argue with no man who says it's the best.