Top-of-the-Line **Handheld Condenser** Microphones

ne of the great mysteries of live sound pro- look at top of the line condenser models. All models luction is that, given the importance of the listed require phantom powering. No frequency re-ead vocal, why vocalists often shy away from sponse data is given; simply stating that a mic has a investing in a high performance mic, often settling 20 Hz to 20 kHz spec is fairly meaningless and many for something that costs less than what the drummer models include LF or upper mid presence boosts to for something that costs less than what the drummer spent on a kick drum pedal. This is not to infer that there's anything wrong with a dynamic mic — in fact, on certain vocalists, that may be exactly the right models include LF or upper mid presence boosts to add character or intelligibility, so a "flat" response is rarely desirable. Weight is included, as this is often a factor, particularly when using a handheld mic over transducer to match a particular vocal style or timbre. Extended periods with certain vocalists. And MSRP However, if you're looking for extended band- list pricing is listed; microphones are sometimes (not

AKG C535



MSRP: \$429 Pattern: cardioid Max SPL: 144/130 dB (pad in/out) Sensitivity: 7 mV/Pa Self-Noise: 21 dB (A) Weight: 10.6 oz **Notes:** Switchable 14dB pad and LF roll-off

Apex Electronics 515



MSRP: \$130 Pattern: cardioid/omni/ supercardioid Max SPL: 134 dB Sensitivity: 13.8 mV/Pa

Weight: n/a **Notes:** Includes three interchangeable capsules

Self-Noise: 17 dB (A)

Audio-Technica AE5400

MSRP: \$529

Pattern: cardioid



Max SPL: 157/147 dB (pad in/out) Sensitivity: 10.0 mV/Pa Self-Noise: 14 dB (A) Weight: 11.6 oz **Notes:** Same capsule as AT4050 studio mic; 10 dB pad; LF roll-off

audio-technica.com



MSRP: \$299 Pattern: supercardioid Max SPL: 140dB (with pad) Sensitivity: 5 mV/Pa Self-Noise: 26 dB (A) Weight: 8 ounces Notes: -10 dB pad and LF roll-off switches

CAD Microphones C195



DPA d:facto

MSRP: \$799 Pattern: cardioid Max SPL: 150 dB Sensitivity: 4 mV/Pa Self-Noise: 20 dB (A) Weight: 11.6 ounces

Sensitivity: 5 mV/Pa

Self-Noise: 19 dB (A)

Weight: 8.6 ounces

Blue enCORE 300



MSRP: \$279 Pattern: cardioid Max SPL: 146 dB Sensitivity: 11 mV/Pa Self-Noise: n/a Weight: 13.4 ounces



MSRP: \$199 Pattern: cardioid Max SPL: 132 dB Sensitivity: 18 mV/Pa Self-Noise: 22 dB (A) Weight: n/a

Electro-Voice RE510



MSRP: \$1,499 Pattern: hypercardioid Max SPL: 145 dB Sensitivity: 10 mV/Pa Self-Noise: 22 dB (A) Weight: 12.8 ounces



electrovoice.com



Lewitt MTP 340 CM



MSRP: \$199 Pattern: cardioid Max SPL: 150 dB Sensitivity: 3.1 mV/Pa Self-Noise: 25 dB (A) Weight: 11.6 ounces Notes: Switched version available

lewitt-audio.com

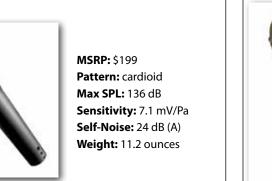
Milab LSR-3000



Peavey CM1

MSRP: \$1,231 Pattern: cardioid **Max SPL:** 150/138 dB (pad in/out) Sensitivity: 13 mV/Pa Self-Noise: 21 dB (A) Weight: 10.4 ounces Notes: 12 dB pad and 80 Hz low-cut







MSRP: \$1,980 Pattern: supercardioid Max SPL: 132 dB Sensitivity: 13 mV/Pa

Self-Noise: 24 dB Weight: 6.7 ounces Notes: Available in matte gray or nickel



M-Audio Aries

MSRP: \$199

Pattern: cardioid

Max SPL: 134 dB

Sensitivity: 13.8 mV/Pa

Notes: Class-A FET design

Self-Noise: 17 dB (A)

Weight: 9.2 ounces

m-audio.com

MSRP: \$998

Pattern: supercardioid

Sensitivity: 4.5 mV/Pa

Self-Noise: 18 dB (A)

Weight: 10.6 ounces

black or silver finishes

Notes: KMS104 is similar cardioid

version; both mics are offered in

Max SPL: 150 dB

Neumann KMS 105



MSRP: \$599 Pattern: supercardioid Max SPL: 151 dB SPI Sensitivity: 5.00mV/Pa Self-Noise: 18 dB (A) Weight: 10.9 ounces **Notes:** Available in black or nickel



MSRP: \$1,050 Pattern: cardioid/supercardioid (switchable) Max SPL: 152/142 dB (pad in/out)

Sensitivity: 7 mV/Pa Self-Noise: 21 dB (A) Weight: 13.9 ounces **Notes:** Switchable low cut filter and 10dB pad

MSRP: \$198

Pattern: cardioid

Max SPL: 136 dB

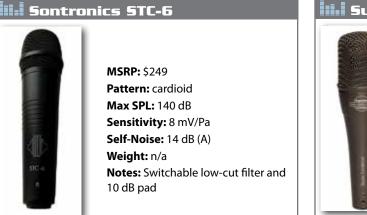
Sensitivity: 10 mV/Pa

Self-Noise: 16 dB (A)

Weight: 13.8 ounces

Notes: 100 Hz low-cut filter

Superlux PRO-238MKII



superlux.us

MSRP: \$999 Pattern: cardioid Max SPL: 142 dB Sensitivity: 18 mV/Pa Self-Noise: 19 dB (A) Weight: 10.4 ounces **Notes:** Handheld version of C5

miktekaudio.com

Pearl TLC 90



MSRP: \$561 Pattern: cardioid Max SPL: 144 dB Sensitivity: 8 mV/Pa Self-Noise: 26 dB (A) Weight: 10.2 ounces



MSRP: \$198 Pattern: cardioid Max SPL: 148 dB Sensitivity: 14.1mV/Pa Self-Noise: 19 dB (A) Weight: 8.8 ounces **Notes:** Available in black or nickel

Shure K5M9



MSRP: \$874 Pattern: cardioid/supercardioid (switchable) Max SPL: 152 dB Sensitivity: 2.81 mV/Pa Self-Noise: 22 dB (A) Weight: 10.6 ounces **Notes:** Class-A preamp circuitry; available in gray or champagne



MSRP: \$1,051 Pattern: cardioid Max SPL: 136 dB Sensitivity: 20 mV/Pa

Self-Noise: 8 dB (A) Weight: 12.3 ounces Notes: Class-A discrete

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Pattern: supercardioid

Max SPL: 157 dB



earthworksaudio.com