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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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From the time he started building loudspeakers in his garage, Dave Wilson had one motivating passion: to make loudspeakers that sound as much like the real thing as possible. Although he is acutely aware of the limitations imposed on his dream by available driver technology, cabinet materials, and the laws of physics, the goal remains the same. Dave has spent the better part of three decades searching for unique solutions to these challenges. Dave is an idealist, but he is also a disciplined empiricist. Dave the idealist insists that no detail is too small to be scrutinized. Dave the empiricist knows that it's all too easy to be seduced by the technological promise of a given part. The veracity of any technology or methodology is therefore verified through rigorous experimentation and objective listening. Only those technologies that contribute to a more realistic musical experience are considered for use in a Wilson product.

### Introducing Alexandria XLF

Alexandria XLF joins the Alexandria family, not as a replacement for the Series 2, but as its even more ambitious sibling. The new XLF clearly resembles the original Alexandria's form factor, but its architecture has evolved to support new technology. It is physically larger, with 14% greater bass volume. The bass enclosure's cabinet walls are thicker for even greater resonance control. XLF refers to the new Alexandria's Cross Load Firing port, a unique passive bass management system. Wilson developed a new tweeter for the XLF. The midrange baffle is constructed from Wilson's proprietary S-material. A new crossover and a host of parts—each included as a result of exhaustive experimentation and punctilious listening trials. The Alexandria XLF starts from the lofty foundation of musicality and resolution established by the Alexandria Series 2, and improves upon its



predecessor's performance in every musical parameter: greater dynamic contrast, better harmonic expression, improved and more consistently implementable bass performance, and increased linearity.

### Cross Load Firing port system (XLF)

The Alexandria XLF features Dave Wilson's latest loudspeaker invention: the Cross Load Firing port (XLF) system. Dave recognizes that his speakers are often installed in less-than-perfect environments. But as an idealist, he is concerned about how his loudspeakers perform in the real world. His idealism in this area has been the moti-





vating force behind many of his inventions, such as adjustable propagation delay, the primary purpose of which is to optimize, via precise, prescribed adjustment, the performance of his loudspeakers in actual residential environments.

Perhaps the characteristic that most obviously changes from room to room is bass performance. Certain listening rooms, such as those with a large number of windows, are sometimes overly lean in the bass. Others don't have enough structural ventilation in the bass, resulting in a tonal balance that is bass-heavy. The negative sonic impact of these less-than-ideal rooms is often exacerbated by the audiophile

propensity to place listening chairs at or near the center of the room.

The Alexandria has always been a loudspeaker with extended and linear bass performance. But now in the XLF version, the location of the port can be optimized for the room. Wilson's Cross Load Firing port is a simple system that allows the Alexandria XLF to be more consistently optimized in the area of bass performance and extension by matching the port location to the characteristics of the sound room. Since the system is completely passive, it avoids the sonic pitfalls symptomatic to all active bass management systems.

The Cross Load Firing port System on the Alexandria allows the installer to choose either a front-firing or rear-firing bass port configuration. The choice depends on room characteristics, with lean rooms favoring the rear port, and heavy rooms the front port. The default configuration of the Alexandria XLF is with the bass port installed in the rear. In rooms where a front-firing port is preferable, it is a simple matter of removing the brushed aluminum cover plate and port plug from the front, reinstalling these elements in the rear port, and in turn installing the low-turbulence port hardware on the front of the bass cabinet.

## New Architecture

Dave Wilson is the inventor of several once-patented technologies, including adjustable

propagation delay and modular construction. In his earliest designs, Dave pioneered the use of proprietary composite materials in his quest to reduce enclosure resonances. The combination of all these technological factors has always dictated how Wilson loudspeakers look. The convergence of authentic technology and aesthetic ideals has produced Wilson Audio's most iconic shapes. The idealism of Dave's approach defines Wilson's design culture. The new architecture of Alexandria XLF is but the latest iteration of that philosophy.

The Cross Load Firing port system (XLF) dictated a larger bass enclosure. It is 14% larger than the Series 2. This enabled the engineers to carefully shape the XLF's bass response for an even more linear and room-friendly response. Using the latest analysis technology, Wilson's mechanical engineers reworked the woofer cabinet, thickening the enclosure walls and redesigning the internal bracing geometry. Cabinet contribution in the bass region was extremely low in the Series 2 Alexandria. The Alexandria XLF is even more inert.

Alexandria's "wing" structure, which supports the midrange and tweeter modules in the upper array, is critical to the design for several reasons: It provides the infrastructure that facilitates the precise aspherical alignment of the upper modules; and it provides a low-resonance and extremely rigid platform from which the upper modules launch the midrange and high-frequency waveforms. In the Alexandria XLF, the wing is thicker and more substantial than the Series 2's. It is built entirely of cross-braced X-material, Wilson's extremely rigid and well-damped composite.



The new wing provides an extremely inert platform for the upper three modules.

Finally, the signature Alexandria curves, a metaphor for time-aligned wavelength progression, have been enhanced to greater effect. Alexandria's visual presence is at once more substantial and organic.

### S-Material Midrange Baffle

First introduced in Wilson's venerable WATT/Puppy replacement, the Sasha W/P, S-material is a wonder of midrange beauty and low-resonance. In combination with X-material, S-material reduces measurable and audible noise and coloration in the midrange. This achievement is all the more remarkable given that Wilson's proprietary M4 material, first used in the Series 2 Alexandria, established the previous benchmark for midrange performance.



### Convergent Synergy™ Tweeter

The magic of Wilson's midrange driver is in no small part due to its ability to cover almost the entire mid-band without interruption of the crossover, including in the male vocal region. This always meant that the driver would be large, and therefore limited in its upper frequency range. Wilson's existing inverted titanium dome tweeter has long proved a successful and coherent match to Wilson's remarkable midrange driver. During its decade-long development, the current Wilson tweeter has evolved such that it uniquely excels in the areas of low distortion, resolution of micro and macro dynamics, and harmonic expression. Wilson's current tweeter was developed to play down to the one kilohertz region with low distortion and high power handling ability. Dave has been willing to trade ultra-wide bandwidth for these more musically important characteristics.

Dave and the engineers have tested a very wide spectrum of tweeters utilizing domes made from diamond, beryllium, and ceramic. Many of these exhibit flat frequency response, and are extended into the octaves above the audible bandwidth. But none matched the dynamic contrast and harmonic expression of Wilson's current titanium design. And all have been unable to perform adequately with our midrange driver given its unique demands.



Three years ago, Dave began a renewed quest for an improved tweeter that culminated in a proprietary Wilson design for the Alexandria. The result is the Wilson Convergent Synergy Tweeter. The new Wilson tweeter rejects exotic materials in favor of a new silk dome design that better meets all of Dave's musical design goals.

The Convergent Synergy tweeter is a proprietary, Wilson-designed driver. With the Convergent Synergy driver, Dave's design requirement of ultra of low distortion and very robust power handling down in the lower part of its range are beautifully met. These qualities converge with

a much a higher resonant frequency and flatter frequency response. The new tweeter is extremely linear. It crosses over synergistically to Wilson's midrange driver. It has exemplary off-axis dispersion characteristics in both the frequency and time domains. The noise floor is lower. Because it has somewhat lower moving mass, its response extends to beyond 37 kHz.

But most importantly, it is musically compelling. This is especially evident in its ability to resolve low level resolution and harmonic textures effortlessly, with no audible ringing or other distracting colorations. It is the Alexandria XLF midrange's perfect companion.

### Price:

U.S. Retail—\$195,000

### Availability

First shipments for existing orders are scheduled for mid-January of 2012. Please place

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orders for demo and sell-through needs as soon as possible to reserve your shipment position. The orders will be filled and shipped on a first-come, first-served basis. Demo orders will be the first priority so all of Wilson's dealers and distributors can begin showing the Alexandria XLF. Customer sell-through orders will be scheduled after demo orders have been filled. Check with Jerron Marchant for specific ship dates for your order.

### High-Resolution Images

Print-ready and web-appropriate high-resolution images are available [here](#) in the folder named "Alexandria XLF Pictures."

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Alexandria®  
Series-2 X-2

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