

AES 2016: We Bring You The Newest Audio Gear

RECORDING

The magazine for the recording musician®

REC's Holiday Buyer's Guide



**Great Mics Of Yesterday...
And Maybe Tomorrow?**



**First Steps:
10 Great Tricks
For Any Studio**



Hands-On Reviews of 32 New Products!

Applied Acoustics Systems • API • Apogee • Aston • Avalon Design
Eventide • Gibraltar • Grove Hill Audio • Harrison • IsoAcoustics
Madrona Labs • Modartt • Novation • Radial Engineering • RealiTone
reFuse • Roswell Pro Audio • Samson • Shure • Spitfire Audio
TASCAM • Tone2 • Ultimate Ears • Westone • Yamaha • Zoom

VOL. THIRTY
NUMBER THREE
DECEMBER 2016
USA \$5.99
CANADA \$5.99



REC's 2016 Holiday Buyer's Guide

Real reviews of useful recording products to fit any budget

Roswell Pro Audio Delphos

\$999; www.roswellproaudio.com

In May 2016, we looked at the Aurora condenser mic from Roswell Pro Audio. The Aurora was a solid all-rounder, well suited to many recording tasks, with a well-balanced neutral yet full sound reminiscent of late 1970s and 1980s solid state condenser mics. While clean and open, it offered a hint of modern vintage tone behind its grille.

Just in time for our Buyer's Guide, we are now looking at the next microphone in the Roswell line, the Delphos. In a nutshell, the Aurora has been discontinued, renamed, re-dressed, and updated as the Delphos (a town in Kansas where UFOs have been sighted, in keeping with the Roswell naming convention).

Like all Roswell mics, the Delphos is a hybrid of Asian metalwork along with a USA-designed and populated circuit board and hand-chosen parts. The mic is assembled, tuned and tweaked in California, by Matt McGlynn (guru of the fantastic recordinghacks.com and microphone-parts.com websites) and his team.

In the past few months Roswell has started to transition away from the standard black utilitarian bodies with painted-on logos, in favor of a new enamel finish with a classy new Roswell badge. The Delphos 7¹/₄" x 2" brass body is now finished in a dark sparkled midnight blue. It features a brushed silver mesh head basket that houses the 34mm center-terminated K67-style capsule. It has two switchable polar pattern choices of cardioid and omni, and a -10 dB pad.

It offers a frequency response of 20–16,000 Hz, a 45 mV/Pa sensitivity, 200Ω impedance, 86 dBA signal-to-noise ratio, and <12 dBA of equivalent noise. It has a gently boosted low end from 20 to 100 Hz, then a flat mid response to 1 kHz, where it rises to a 1–2 dB bump from 3 to 4 kHz followed by a wider, even 1 dB bump from 8 to 16 kHz and a steep rolloff.

The Delphos now comes with a high-quality suspension mount that features a semi-circular open-front design to allow for better placement options. Both come in a dense foam lined case for storage.

Like the Aurora, the Delphos is a jack-of-all-trades microphone that sounds good on pretty much any source from vocals to guitars, drums, and anywhere you may desire a clean, honest capture that is rich and full but not too colored or imposing. If you read many of my reviews, you'll know I'm very cautious about saying a microphone bests or goes toe to toe with mics twice its price, but the more I use it, the more I think Delphos is one such mic. It stands comfortably alongside many \$1500–\$1800 mics in my collection, and now it looks as classy as it sounds!

With the Delphos, the Roswell team have upped their game nicely... which is awesome when you consider their game was already quite good!—PV

