



## AN EVOLUTIONARY PATH

**Florence, Italy. May 19, 2022.** Almost a decade has passed since Michelangelo Guarise, mastermind of the Florentine company, conceived the first version of Volumio. At that time, listening to music through a computer was a relatively recent phenomenon which did not offer all of today's possibilities. In his vision, Volumio should become the software that would allow audiophiles to get the best out of this new technology.

From that first release, thanks to a community of enthusiasts who immediately appreciated Volumio, the software has been continuously growing up to the present day when many prestigious brands (Pro-Ject, Musical Fidelity, Axiom Audio, Bryston, Opera just to name a few) have adopted it for their products. Until recently Volumio's only hardware was Primo, a small network-player straightforward in appearance and form, but not in substance, so much so that it won the EISA award as best Digital Source in 2020/2021, thanks to a quality/price ratio still unbeaten today.

A few months ago, after the successful debut of the latest release (Volumio 3), even more stable and provided with the new interface dubbed Manifest, it appeared to be necessary to introduce a series of new products that would have continued and evolved the initial vision of Michelangelo Guarise. In short, products that should have collected the suggestions from the community on one side and should be capable of giving even greater identity and recognition to the brand on the other. Volumio wants to be appealing both for the traditional audiophile and, perhaps above all, for the new generations in a very recognisable way, with products that are easy to use, "smart" and qualitatively up to the level of the best Hi-Fi.

Among the most important aspects there had to be a fresh approach to industrial design, one which should have been both innovative and respectful of the technical specifications at the same time. Michelangelo Guarise hired Design Narratives (recently awarded with a Red Dot Design Award), which designed an anti-magnetic aluminum cabinet so different from the usual standards to be certainly original and almost irreverent. The packaging too has been completely re-invented, by making it with 100% recyclable paper. In order to make the user experience as simple as possible, Volumio's team took particular care of the first 5 minutes of use, by simplifying the initial configuration as much as possible. This has been made possible thanks to a completely rewritten App (iOS / Android), now more fluid and stable, as well as graphically up-to-date and engaging.

In the High End Munich 2022 three products will debut all sharing the same cabinet: a pure streamer, the Rivo, an integrated amplifier, Integro, and the evolution of the firstborn Primo, now Primo V2. They aim to attract three different audiences: Rivo, for long-time enthusiasts already equipped with an audio system and a DAC; Integro, the synthesis of a high-performance Hi-Fi system, aimed at new generations for whom it can be self-sufficient once combined with a good pair of loudspeakers or headphone; finally Primo V2, for those who already have an Hi-Fi system and want to complete it with a high-level DAC-Streamer that can bring him closer to the world of streaming without any compromise.