

## **Chicago Audio Society Newsletter, May, 2008**

### **Meeting Notice-Sunday, May 20th, 2:00PM-5:00PM**

Arlington Heights Historical Society  
110 W. Fremont, Arlington Room  
Arlington Heights, IL

For directions go to:

<http://www.chicagoaudio.org/directions.htm>

#### **MAY MEETING-Robert Grost from Cerious Technologies**

We are happy to have Robert Grost from Cerious Technologies (<http://www.cerious technologies.com>) this month. Robert Grost formerly founded the well-regarded Unity Audio, and has now applied his extensive background in ceramics technology to Cerious Technologies. The company's loudspeaker cabinets, modified cone materials, interconnect conductor material, and speaker cable conductor material are entirely made of ceramics of their design. Ceramics are also used in the jacket materials for interconnects, speaker cables, and power cables.

We will have on hand the company's flagship Ceramic Reference System, a four piece dynamic driver system consisting of two way satellites and two self-powered subwoofers. The satellites employ a custom Scan Speak ring tweeter and an 18 cm custom midrange with a proprietary ceramic composite cone. Each subwoofer utilizes two 25 cm, cast basket woofers with composite aluminum/ceramic cones with integral 300 watt amplification with variable crossover allowing flexibility of room integration.

The system will also consist of:

Primare Audio 928 Preamp  
Primare Audio NRG Amplifier  
Bow Technologies ZZ-8 CD Player  
Cerious Audio Technologies Interconnects, Speaker Wire, and Power Cords

As they say on their website-yes, this is rocket science! And a reference system setup with unique technology. We look forward to seeing you all this Sunday! Be there!

## APRIL MEETING RECAP

Harry Paller, mechanical / electrical engineer and avid audiophile, was our guest speaker (<http://www.pallerspecialtyaudio@ameritech.net>).

First, Harry gave presentations on curve tracing ("Curve Tracing - An Item for First Graders or for Serious High-End Audio" ? ) and also on noise analysis. We learned large numbers of transistors have to be measured to find ones that match in critical measurements. To get more consistency Harry explained he even made arrangements to receive transistors all made from the same silicon wafer quadrant! Harry had his curve tracer on hand and answered many questions.

He then introduced his newest creation, the Paller Design / Technik Avant Garde Model Two preamplifier, priced at \$ 2,895. Harry's first preamp was reviewed and well-regarded by audio reviewers such as The Absolute Sound.

Assisting Harry with the demonstration was Mick Survance from Quintessence Audio. Quintessence provided the following setup for our listening pleasure:

Sonus Faber Amati Homage speakers  
Mark Levinson 432 amplifier  
Esoteric DV60 Multi-disc player  
Kubala-Sosna cables

Quintessence Audio  
5701 W. Dempster  
Morton Grove, IL 60053  
Website: <http://www.quintessenceaudio.com/>  
Email: [info@quintessenceaudio.com](mailto:info@quintessenceaudio.com)

With Harry's preamp and the system provided we had an excellent listening experience. Our thanks to Harry for debuting the Technik Avant Garde Model Two, educating us on some of the details of solid-state design, and answering many questions. And thanks to Mick from Quintessence Audio for providing the system to showcase the preamp.