

Chicago Audio Society Newsletter, January, 2007

Meeting Notice-Sunday, January 28th, 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>

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS-ANNUAL \$40 DUES ARE DUE!!
PLEASE REMEMBER AND SEE REED REHORST WITH YOUR DUES!!
THANKS!!

JANUARY MEETING-MARTIN LOGAN with David Penrod/THETA DIGITAL with Don Youngstrom

We kick off 2007 (during the Bears bye week) with Martin Logan (www.martinlogan.com) and Theta Digital (www.thetadigital.com). David Penrod, General Sales Manager of Martin Logan will be presenting their new top of the line Summit electrostat loudspeaker. He will be assisted by Dennis Chern from Martin Logan. Don Youngstrom from Theta Digital will be on hand to present their products. There is a Powerpoint presentation planned. The system will consist of the following:

Martin Logan Summit ESL Loudspeakers

Theta Generation VIII Preamp/DAC

Theta Compli Universal Disk Player

Theta Dreadnaught II Amplifier

MIT cables

The Summit is Martin Logan's top of the line loudspeaker, consisting of a curved electrostatic panel and an integral powered woofer/subwoofer in each five foot speaker. The bass consists of 2-10" drivers and a 250 watt x 2 bass amplifier built into each speaker.

- The Generation VIII is a fully balanced differential DAC/Preamp that has evolved since the DS/Pre in 1986.
- The Compli is a universal disk player handling all current formats including CD, SACD, DVD, and DVD-Audio.
- The Dreadnaught II amplifier is a zero-feedback, fully balanced differential amplifier that can be configured from 2 to 10 channels.

Be sure to bring along your favorite music on disk whether it is CD, SACD, or DVD-audio.

Many of you have asked for Martin Logan and Theta and they are here! It's the Bears Bye Week, so no excuses - **SEE YOU SUNDAY!**

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DECEMBER MEETING RECAP-CLASSIC RECORDS/MICHAEL HOBSON & SCOT MARKWELL

It was great to have Classic Records (www.classicrecords.com) back again. Michael Hobson and Scot Markwell gave us a detailed presentation showing off the nuances of great recordings as well as differences in mastering, vinyl, as well as recording and production techniques. The Quiex SV-P 200g vinyl lps were featured, as well as 24/96 DADs, 24/192 HDADs, and the regular CD.

It was amazing how much better their Balalaika Favorites LP sounded vs. the expensive original copy due to proper mastering and pressing of the recording. Everest recordings have also been brought to new heights (pun intended!) with Classic Records great attention to the historical details of the recording and overcoming limitations of the past, while retaining the excellence in the recording. Both vinyl and digital were featured. They demonstrated 24/96 DADs, 24/192 HDAD DVDs, and regular CDs for the latest generation of DVD players, and the format differences were apparent. The addition (or deletion) of the center channel was very interesting between the different digital formats, offering fine sound both ways, but with more emphasis on either depth or width depending on the format. Brian Walsh of Essential Audio (www.essentialaudio.com) provided the Kuzma turntable and tonearm. The following system was used:

- Muse Polyhymnia multi-format player
- Sunfire processor
- Kuzma Stabi turntable
- Kuzma Stogi tonearm
- Plinius Koru phono preamp
- 2 Plinius P8 amplifiers
- Nola Viper Reference loudspeakers
- Nola LCR Reference loudspeakers

The system, with Michael and Scot's careful setup, allowed us to readily hear the differences inherent in the different pressings, recordings, and recording formats. Our thanks to both of them for another great meeting!

FUTURE MEETINGS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18th - Paul Hilgeman from Nomad Audio, a new Chicago area company (www.nomad-audio.com) will demonstrate both the active and passive versions of his new loudspeaker (made with bamboo) as well as their new Class D amplifiers.