

**MEETING NOTICE - Sunday, March 15th, 2 PM - 5 PM**

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

For directions go to:  
<http://www.chicagoaudio.org/directions.htm>

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**2009 DUES ARE DUE!!!**

Thanks to all who paid dues at the January meeting.

As we enter our 16th year (!) there has never been a dues increase and with your support we hope to keep it that way!

Great meetings, great guests, great music, your fellow audiophiles, and free refreshments for about the cost of a quarter pounder with cheese per month!

**\$40 Annual Dues-Please bring to the meeting or if you are unable to attend checks can be made out to Chicago Audio Society and mailed to:**

**Chicago Audio Society  
P.O. Box 7281  
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089**

Thank you!

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**ANNOUNCEMENT! --SILENCE IS GOLDEN--**

For the courtesy and enjoyment of all we must insist that all conversations (whispered or otherwise) during music and presentations MUST take place either through the double doors in the hallway by the washrooms or weather permitting--outside. The acoustics of the room are such that even every whisper especially from the back of the room carries clearly towards the middle and the front.

A few brief whispered words to a neighbor is one thing, but if it takes a full sentence it's a conversation, and we ask that if it has urgency that you please take the conversation to the designated areas. We are asking for the same common sense and quiet given for a typical unamplified live acoustic performance.

Thank you!

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## MARCH MEETING

Brian Walsh of Essential Audio ( <http://www.essentialaudio.com/> ) will give a presentation on analog vinyl playback and alignment. Among the tools he uses on clients' systems, Brian will show the powerful Feickert Adjust+ Pro alignment software which interfaces the analog system to a computer for analysis and optimization, with results before and after to be demonstrated. More information about the software, alignment tools, turntable, and tonearm can be seen at:

[http://www.feickert.com/engl/philosophy\\_e.html](http://www.feickert.com/engl/philosophy_e.html)

And for technical information on the software: ( <http://www.adjustplus.de/index.php?lang=english> )

Links for most of the equipment below can be accessed at: ( <http://www.essentialaudio.com/links.htm> )

The demonstration system will consist of the following:

Kuzma Stabi Reference turntable, Kuzma 4POINT tonearm, and Shelter Harmony cartridge

Atma-Sphere MP-1 preamplifier

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ProAc Response 5 loudspeakers (courtesy of Bill Sweet)

cabling by Isoclean, TG Audio, and Creative Cable Concepts

Acoustic System resonators

The new Dr. Feickert Analogue DFA-Twin turntable with optional DFA-1o5 tonearm also will be on display.

This is a unique opportunity to see and hear first-hand optimal turntable/tonearm/cartridge setup using technology and tools previously unavailable. See you all Sunday!

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## FEBRUARY MEETING RECAP

We were pleased to have Roger Sanders of Sanders Sound Systems ( <http://www.sanderssoundsystems.com/> ) present his new 10b Hybrid Electrostatic Loudspeaker with bass crossover/amplifier as well as his latest line stage and amplifiers. Roger Sanders has been designing electrostatic speakers since 1974 and in addition to numerous articles on electrostatic speakers, authored The Electrostatic Design Cookbook published by Audio Amateur in 1993.

Our thanks to our member John Burke Gallagher for arranging to have Roger Sanders and his equipment on hand. The speaker features 98 DB efficiency, bass response -2 db at 24 Hz, and an arc-proof design that can handle the output of any home amplifier. The following equipment was on hand:

### 10b Electrostatic

Speaker [http://www.sanderssoundsystems.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=43&Itemid=121](http://www.sanderssoundsystems.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=43&Itemid=121)

The 10b includes an electronic crossover & 600wpc @4ohms amplifier for the bass module

**Preamplifier** [http://www.sanderssoundsystems.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=48&Itemid=126](http://www.sanderssoundsystems.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=48&Itemid=126)

**And two ESL Monoblock Amplifiers**

[http://www.sanderssoundsystems.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=46&Itemid=124](http://www.sanderssoundsystems.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=46&Itemid=124) for the panels, >800 wpc @ 8ohms and stable into a load of less than 1 ohm.

**For the source an Ayre C-5xe universal stereo player**

[http://www.ayre.com/products\\_detail.cfm?productid=13](http://www.ayre.com/products_detail.cfm?productid=13)

Roger discussed at length his personal history with audio, overall design philosophy and preferences, and design criteria for the Sanders 10b speaker which he designs and builds himself in Colorado. His demo disk had excellent diverse material of various musical genres (many were taken with the Tommy Emmanuel jazz guitar track). With an arc-proof electrostatic design, a durable bass transmission line design, and dual 350 watt biamp capability at 8 ohms (and doubling down from there!) there were certainly no issues filling our 45' x 24' room with loud, clean, dynamic music! Due to the flat panels narrow horizontal dispersion (by design-to lessen room interaction) there were a relative few sweet spots set up in the center of the seating, but many in the back and other locations were also quite pleased with the sound. Our thanks to Rogers Sanders for all his efforts with an educational presentation, a unique, dynamic, and apparently quite durable electrostatic design ( a lifetime transferable warranty ). And thanks to our member, John Burke Gallagher for coordinating the equipment and Roger's visit.

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You know that old adage in audiophile circles that says the better a recording sounds the worse the performance will be? Well, I think that I have found a label that offers great music in terrific performances in outstanding sound. The Russian label Caro Mitis: [www.caromitis.com/eng/index.html](http://www.caromitis.com/eng/index.html) makes their recordings using EMM Labs gear with editing and mixing being performed on a Pyramix system.

This is how recorded chamber music should sound. Lots of air around the instruments, with stable imaging and beautiful tonal color. So at this point I should probably tell you that the album I'm referring to is Preludes, & Ballet Suite by Dmitry Shostakovich performed by Alexei & Mikhail Utkin and the Hermitage Chamber Orchestra ( <http://www.caromitis.com/eng/catalogue/cm0082004.html> ) The music is made up of transcription and arrangements of piano music and music from the ballets The Limpid Stream, The Bolt, and The Golden Age. The ballet music is a delight but my favorite is the Prelude and Fugue in C Minor. This arrangement for oboe, cello, and piano is a marvel and one that I will return to for its sheer musical pleasure. This is want list material for any fan of Shostakovich or of chamber music in general. This and other titles can be purchased from Arkiv Music:

<http://www.arkivmusic.com/classical/main.jsp>

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