

## Chicago Audio Society Newsletter, April, 2006

### Meeting Notice-Sunday, April 30th, 2:00PM-5:00PM

**SPECIAL OFFSITE LOCATION:** Hilton Garden Inn O'Hare, 2930 South River Road,  
Des Plaines, Illinois 60018, phone 847-296-8900

For directions go to: <http://www.hiltongardeninnohare.com/location.php>

The meeting will be in the Lindbergh Room - when you enter the hotel turn left and go to the end of the hall.

Roger West of Sound Labs ( <http://www.soundlab-speakers.com/> ) and Richard Schram of Parasound ( <http://www.parasound.com/> ) will give presentations, and Peder Beckman, representing Kuzma, also will be present. Roger West will talk about the new PX (Professional Extension) technology including the M-1PX. The meeting will be hosted by Brian Walsh of Essential Audio.

The 8'-8" tall Sound Lab Majestic full range electrostatic speakers and the new Parasound Halo electronics including the JC-2 preamplifier and D-3 universal disc player will be demonstrated. A complete list of the system to be demonstrated can be found here:

[http://www.essentialaudio.com/Demo\\_System\\_.pdf](http://www.essentialaudio.com/Demo_System_.pdf)

This is a unique opportunity to experience this large-scale audiophile system in a space to do it justice. Roger West has been developing electrostatic speakers since 1978 and we are privileged to have him back again three year later. Richard Schram heads up Parasound which features the designs of John Curl. **DO PLAN** to attend this Sunday! All are welcome to attend. A \$5 fee is charged for non-members of the Chicago Audio Society, and it is easy to join.

### OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY APRIL 29TH

Roger West of Sound Lab and Richard Schram of Parasound will be present as their products are demonstrated during an open house at Essential Audio in Barrington on Saturday, April 29th. [www.essentialaudio.com](http://www.essentialaudio.com) or (847) 382-8433 for information.

### MARCH MEETING RECAP

Our March meeting was truly a group effort featuring YOUR favorite music (that you might take to a desert island) and a member supplied system of some of the latest interesting products.

The system consisted of the following:

Sonic Euphoria PLC preamp (Jared Johnson) <http://www.soniceuphoria.com/>

Wright Audio Tube Line Stage (Len Cronin) <http://www.wrightaudio.us/>

Stan Warren Custom Chip Amp (Larry Musial)

Ohm Sound Cylinder Loudspeakers (Dennis Anderson) <http://www.ohmacoustics.com/>

Madisound MD-04 Coaxial Seas Loudspeakers (Larry Musial) <http://www.madisound.com>

Reference Audio Mods Highly Modified Samsung HD-950 Universal Player (Brian

Richardson) <http://www.referenceaudiomods.com/>

Reality Cables speaker wire and interconnect (Gregg Straley) <http://www.realitycables.com/>

Velodyne Subwoofer (Brian Richardson) <http://www.velodyne.com>

We had a last-minute compatibility glitch between the Sonic Euphoria preamp and the Stan Warren Chip Amp (distortion and an apparent overheating condition that was caught just in time). Much thanks to Len Cronin who zipped home and supplied us with the Wright Labs unit, which worked fine for the meeting. The Sonic Euphoria later tested ok, but just didn't match with the amp used. We also had to clear the computer memory of the Samsung by removing the line cord and then all was well! There was much favorable comment on the Madisound speakers which sell for about \$500/pr in kit form-truly an affordable audiophile speaker. Many thought the subwoofer was turned on, until we replayed a bass-heavy track and then turned it on to good effect. All this from a 12 liter cabinet in a 1000 square foot room!

Now on to the music. We had a great diversity of material and thanks to Dennis Anderson for keeping track as follows:

### **CAS Member's Desert Island CDs**

Zack Stander:

1. Ben Webster - See You At the Fair, Track 3: "Over the Rainbow" GRP/Impulse GRD-121

Brian Walsh:

2. Judy and the Jazzmakers - Keepin' Out Of Mischief, Track 1, "I Can't Give You Anything But Love" Coherent Recordings CD 501

Frank Putnam:

3. The Irish Tenors - Track 8, "Will Ye Go, Lassie Go?" Faust Entertainment Corp. MDT8552

Martin King:

4. Robert Palmer - Addictions, Volume 1, Track 3: "Addicted To Love" Island Records A2 91318

Bill O'Connell:

5. Blue Radio - Five Days In July, Track 8, "Head Over Heels" Discovery Records 77013

Bill Wobbekind:

6. Sigiswald Kuijken, Violin - J.S. Bach: Sonatas & Partitas, Track 11, "Partita 1 in B Minor, BWV 1002 German Harmonia Mundi 77043-2-RG

Bill Sweet:

7. Robert Baglione, guitar - Mechanics 'N Music, Track 1, "Island Park"

<http://www.robertbaglione.com/>

Len Cronin:

8. Seattle Symphony/Gerard Schwartz - David Diamond: Symphony #4, Track 5, "Allegretto" Naxos 8.559154

Joe ?:

9. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden Chorus & Orchestra/Owen Brannigan Benjamin Britten: Peter Grimes Opera, CD 3, Track 11, Act 3 Decca 414577-2

Greg Toutges:

10. Jimmy Buffet - Far Side Of the World, Track 8, "Altered Boy" Mailboat Records MBD 2005

Dennis Gulino:

11. James Asher - Shaman Drums, Track 4, "Standing Ngoma" Sammasati SM7003-2

Jared Johnson:

12. Weiner Philharmonic/Carlos Kleiber - Beethoven:Symphony #5 in C minor, Op. 67, Track 3, "Allegro" DG 447 400-2

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13. J.J. Johnson - The Brass Orchestra, Track 7, "If I Hit the Lottery" Verve 314 537 321-2

Brian Walsh:

14. Evgeny Kissin, piano - Glinka:"The Lark" CD, Track 4, Mussorgsky:Pictures At An Exhibition (arr. by Balakirev) RCA 09026-63884-2

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15. Judy Henske - High Flying Bird, Track 3, "'Till The Real Thing Comes Along" Collector's Choice Music CCM-2269-2

Larry Musial:

16. Pink Floyd - Dark Side Of the Moon, Track 4, "Money" Capitol CAP 0777 7 46001.25

Brian Richardson:

17. San Francisco Symphony orchestra/Michael Tillson Thomas - Gustav Mahler: Symphony #2 in C minor, Track 1, "Allegro Maestoso" SFS 821936-0006-2 (SACD)

Dennis Anderson:

18. Lars Erstrand - A selection from Testrecords 1, 2 & 3, Track 12, "Four Brothers" Opus 3 CD 19500

Len Cronin:

19. London Philharmonic Orchestra/Bernard Haitink - Ralph Vaughan Williams: Symphony #5, Track 3, "Romanzo (Lento)" EMI Classics D 111735

### **FUTURE MEETINGS**

**May** - Sunday, 5/21/06 Keith Herron of Herron Audio ( <http://www.herronaudio.com/>) will be bringing the same system that impressed many at the Rocky Mountain Audio Fest. Every meeting we've had with Herron over the years has been great-be there!

**June** - Sunday, 6/25/06 Electronics from Dodd Audio ( <http://www.doddaudio.com/>) and possibly more to come...