

## Chicago Audio Society Newsletter, May, 2005

### Meeting Notice-Sunday, May 15th, 2:00PM-5:00PM

FOR DIRECTIONS GO TO: <http://www.chicagoaudio.org/directions.htm>

Brian Bienfang and Rick Elsworth from Signature Technologies from Milwaukee will be our guests this Sunday. Please go to their website for more information:

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

Signature Technologies makes all the components for a complete system. They will be supplying the system almost entirely of their own design for the meeting. The amplifiers use an FET front end with tube outputs. The preamp and CD player are both tube designs. The top of the line speaker at the meeting, Model SRM .7 is an open baffle design that also incorporates design aspects from the Enigma subwoofer of years back. The smaller SRM 5.1 speakers which retail for \$700/pr will also be played. The system consists of the following:

- 1 - SRp-7g pre-amp
- 2 - SRa-9m 200 watt mono block amplifiers
- 1 - SRd-25 vacuum tube CD player
- 1 - EC-1 electronic crossover
- 2 - SRM-.7 loudspeakers
- 2 - SRM-5.1 loudspeakers
- 1 - BELLES 350 A reference sub-amp

Be sure to bring along your favorite music. See you all there!

### APRIL MEETING RECAP

Ralph Karsten from Atma-Sphere Music Systems ( <http://www.atma-sphere.com/>) demonstrated the following system:

Atma-Sphere modified Empire 208 turntable with TriPlanar tonearm  
G&D Transforms UTP-1 CD transport  
Entec Number Cruncher D/A converter  
Atma-Sphere MP-3 preamplifier  
Atma-Sphere MA-1 amplifiers  
ProAc Response 5 speakers  
Creative Cable Concepts and TG Audio cabling and line conditioning

He was joined by Brian Walsh as the local dealer ( <http://www.essentialaudio.com/>) who supplied all the equipment, including the Proac Response 5 speakers from Bill Sweet. Ralph spoke of the philosophy and construction of Atma-sphere products and even recruited a few brave volunteers from the audience to short outputs while playing music, not to mention removing and replacing tubes on the fly as music played! Not a glitch to be heard. Ralph also answered a wide range of questions. A number of people independently commented their opinion that this was the best sound they had heard at our present location. Thanks to Ralph for coming in from Minneapolis and putting on a great demonstration.

Dennis Anderson kept track of the music and took photos of the meeting. For the music playlist from the April meeting:

<http://www.chicagoaudio.org/pl-17apr2005.htm>

For photos from the April meeting:

[http://www.chicagoaudio.org/photos\\_17apr2005casmtg.htm](http://www.chicagoaudio.org/photos_17apr2005casmtg.htm)

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

**PLEASE NOTE!! JUNE MEETING WILL BE THE 4TH SUNDAY, JUNE 26TH TO AVOID CONFLICTS WITH FATHERS' DAY!**

June meeting to be finalized soon. Candidates include a new amplifier technology, or an innovative digital tri-amped top of the line speaker system. Details to follow.

**PLEASE NOTE!! JULY AND AUGUST MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT MEMBER'S HOMES, NOT AT OUR REGULAR LOCATION.** In September, we resume meeting monthly at the Arlington Heights Historical Society.

Exact dates and times to follow-the likely places are:

**July** - Rick Berta Orland Park, IL The Heil/Lambda system as demoed a few months back, likely a horn setup, SETS, etc.

**August** - Brian Richardson Arlington Heights, IL A multi-channel all-tube Magnepan SACD setup.