

The Golden Ear

Newsletter of the
Chicago Audio Society
September 2003

Meeting Notice

Sunday, September 14th – 2:00pm to 5:00pm

Chris Own – Ack! Industries

Chris makes the dAck! battery powered digital to analog converter (\$395) and will demonstrate it in a system familiar to members. The dAck! is filterless, and he will explain why. More information may be found on his website, <http://ack.dhs.org>



Last month

Paul Lacey of Audio Services Corp. demonstrated the following equipment: Opera Audio Consonance SACD 1.0 player, Sophia Electric EL34 integrated amplifier and Baby Amplifier, Von Schweikert Audio VR-2 Reference Towers, Audience cabling, Stillpoints and ERS for tweaking.

Next month:

To be announced.

The Classical Corner

Len Cronin

Ned Rorem has sometimes been referred to as the American Schubert because of the quality and quantity of his vocal music. It is easy to forget that he was prolific composer of chamber, orchestral, and choral music. This newest release in Naxos' American Classics series features the three numbered

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www.chicagoaudio.org

We meet on the third Sunday of each month at 2pm at the Arlington Heights Historical Society, 110 W. Fremont St., Arlington Heights IL. Nonmembers are welcome (\$5 fee per meeting, or join - \$40 annual dues). CAS is a volunteer organization of audio and music enthusiasts dedicated to having fun. Our constitution and bylaws are available on our website or in printed form upon request.

symphonies in performances by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, Jose Serebrier conducting. This is a first rate release that features my favorite genre of music, American Symphonic music from around the middle of the twentieth century. Actually these symphonies date from the fifties and come at the the end of the golden age of American symphonies. When you listen you will probably detect the French influence on his music, he studied in France between 1949 to 1958. Yet, this music that could only have been written by a Yank. The performances are very good and the sound is first rate. This will be on my 'best of' list for 2003.

Nonesuch is releasing a series of recordings by the Kronos Quartet. What makes these releases unusual is that each disc contains only about thirty minutes of music. Tower is currently selling them for \$9.99 each, not a real bargain. However, what caught my eye was that Nonesuch 79695-2 features the Fourth String Quartet of Peteris Vasks. This man is one of the

best living composers and you owe it to yourself to discover this music. If you like Shostakovich, then it's a pretty safe bet that you will like this quartet. Despite the rather short playing time of this disc, I still must recommend this music. I am really impressed by this composer.

Announcements

Dealers sponsoring manufacturer seminars may send us announcements to include in our newsletters. E-mail only to bpwalsh@speakeasy.net

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