

Chicago Audio Society Newsletter, September, 2005

Meeting Notice - Sunday, September 18th, 2005 2:00PM-5:00PM

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

For directions go to:

<http://www.chicagoaudio.org/directions.htm>

We will be featuring [Van L Speakerworks](#) with John Van Leishout presenting the latest revision of his Quartet speaker system. We had John and designer Chuck McShane present this speaker at our old Dance Building location several years ago. It features a unique crossfeed design that uses an additional speaker wire between the two speakers to capture ambience. The speaker has been through a number of design changes and tweaks by John over the years. The associated electronics will include a Cary tube amp, Cary upsampling CD player and a custom octal tube line stage. The circuit in the speaker has evolved from a similar MARS circuit that was used in some Fried speakers about 10 years back. This is the only production speaker at this time that I am aware of that utilizes an ambience circuit. For more information go to: <http://www.vanlspeakerworks.com/>

See you all there!

AUGUST MEETING RECAP

Brian Richardson and his wife Jeannie offered us all great hospitality and sound for the August meeting. Brian put together his own White Paper describing in detail all the steps taken in redoing his room acoustics and remodeling. All system details were included. Most questions were answered and we could all get down to business to take turns listening to multi-channel SACD through an all tube/Magnepan setup-when we weren't busy eating and talking out in the backyard on a picture-perfect day. The player was a Stan Warren modified Philips SACD-1000. In particular, on the original Mercury Living Presence SACDs that were originally recorded in 3-channel (and intended to be listened to that way) the differences in information was striking and many commented on the wealth of new information. Not bad, for recordings that have been references for many years in their 2-channel modes! Thanks again to Brian and Jeannie for a great meeting!

ROCKY MOUNTAIN AUDIO FEST

Attention all audiophiles! The 2nd Annual Rocky Mountain Audio Fest will be held in Denver, CO Friday, Saturday, and Sunday September 30th-October 2nd. All the details are available at: www.audiofest.net .

I regret that I was unable to attend the first one last year and will not miss this one. No less a veteran than Robert Harley stated that he felt he heard more good sound setups at this show than any CES/T.H.E. Show combination he had ever attended. Feedback I got from a variety of sources echoed the same sentiments. The economics of this show enable many smaller, high-end manufacturers to attend than the C.E.S. show, and the show is geared especially towards audiophiles. In addition, a great number of the large audiophile mainstream brands will be on hand, if not directly by some manufacturers, then by a number of high-end dealer setups. And the Denver Marriott seems to fare better than many venues as far as having decent sounding rooms for setup. If you've ever thought of attending an audio show, try to do

this one (but as Yoda might say, "There is no try..."). Discounted rates of \$79-\$89/night have been worked out with the Marriott. The airport shuttle is \$36RT (\$32 paid in advance)-get details from the Marriott-see the website above!

Audio Society members with ID are given a discounted 3 day admission of \$20 vs the already very reasonable \$30 for preregistering before September 25th. EMAIL pres@chicagoaudio.org ASAP and I will get your name on a list of Chicago Audio Society members attending for the discounted rate. At last check of the website, there are well over 200 exhibitors, and I understand it may spill over from the filled Marriott into the Hyatt next door! A large number of these exhibitors will not be in Las Vegas due to the economics of those shows. This is truly the pilgrimage to make for the motivated audiophile!

CHICAGO AUDIO FEST

As if the Rocky Mountain Audio Fest wasn't enough, a group of Midwest specialty speaker builders and hobbyist builders have chosen the Homewood Suites in Schaumburg to hold the first Chicago Audio Fest October 14th-16th. For full details go to:

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

If you have any interest in speakers (is that an audiophile with a pulse?) you should definitely attend. If you are a speaker builder, this is the place to be. Jim Salk, the organizer, has given us a table space in the main room to promote the Chicago Audio Society. I am looking for a few volunteers to help me out at the table for Saturday, October 16th. Please email pres@chicagoaudio.org if you are interested. We hope a number of attendees from this show may attend our October meeting which begins just as theirs is winding down.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

October 16th, 2005 - [ZU Cables](#), who are getting recognition for their speakers will be bringing all 3 of their models to the October meeting. This includes the Definition 1.5, the top of the line, which received a very favorable review in the August 2005 online edition of 6moons Audio. If you've never looked at 6moons Audio pull up a chair...