



# The Golden Ear

Newsletter of the *Chicago Audio Society*

October 2001

## Meeting Notice

*Sunday, October 21st, 2:00 pm*

### Speakers and Tube Electronics

#### Ric Berta

Ric is a local enthusiast who buys and sells tubes and sells a few other audio items on the side as well. He will demonstrate Sophia speakers by World Audio which use SEAS drivers in a D'Appolito (M-T-M) configuration, Gamut C-R2 and Emotive Audio Sira preamps, Audio Matiere Equilibre and World Audio Aerie 2A3 amps, Electrocompaniet EMC-1 CD player used as a transport, and ART D/IO D/A converter. It should be interesting...bring some CDs.

## Last Month

Sedrick Harris, with Immedia, made a third visit to our group, along with Keith Herron of Herron Audio who was visiting for a second time. Their experience paid off, setting up a pretty killer system consisting of an Oracle turntable with Triplanar arm and Lyra Helikon moving coil cartridge; Herron Audio VTPH-1 tube phono preamp with FET front end moving coil amplifier and VTSP-1A tube preamp; M150 solid state mono power amps; DiMarzio cabling; and the terrific new Audio Physic Avanti III speakers. Quintessence Audio provided some very fine equipment racks as well as other accessories, including CD playback gear I don't recall at the moment.

## Next Month

November 18 - Frank Van Alstine. He had to cancel for this month, yet he's excited about something new he has to show. Don't miss it.

## The Classical Corner

Len Cronin

Over the last month I've been listening to a lot of unfamiliar American music, thanks to the splendid American Classics series from Naxos. A good portion of the worth of this series is to introduce the listener to new works or unfamiliar composers at a budget price. The three discs in this article are by composers that were totally unknown to me, but having heard their music I can only hope that more recordings will follow.

*A Yizkor Requiem* by Thomas Beveridge, Naxos 8.559074, combines the Jewish memorial service for the dead with the Catholic Requiem. The work brings together the similarities between the liturgical music of the two faiths. The work is about one hour in length. This is music that I will return to for both its content and beauty. This is music of genuine melodic appeal that is well recorded (if somewhat dry) and a welcome addition to our musical heritage, especially after the events of September eleventh.

The music of George Frederick McKay is featured on Naxos 8.559052. Mr. McKay was called the 'Dean of Northwest Composers'. This disc features three compositions from three different periods in the composer's career.

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website: [www.chicagoaudio.org](http://www.chicagoaudio.org)

We meet on the third Sunday of each month at 2pm at The Dance Building, 1330 Webford Ave., Des Plaines IL, nonmembers are welcome (\$5 fee, may be applied to \$30 annual dues, prorata). CAS is a volunteer, nonprofit organization of audio and music enthusiasts dedicated to having fun. Our constitution and bylaws are available on our website at <http://www.chicagoaudio.org> or in printed form upon request.

The earliest piece 'Harbor Narrative' dates from 1934, and is a nine movement suite that describes life around Puget Sound. 'From a Moonlit Ceremony' (1945) is a four movement suite based on Muckle-shoot melodies.

The 'Evocation Symphony' fills out the disk. It is dedicated to the city of Seattle but is not a program work about Seattle. The recording is very good as is the music. I am constantly searching great American composers, George McKay belongs in that group.

The music of Henry Kimball Hadley is represented on Naxos 8.559064. This music that was written around the turn of the century. It is good old fashioned romantic music that that is a lot of fun to listen to. This may be the best recording of the three. All three recordings are highly recommended.

Until next month, good listening.

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## For Sale

Dynaudio Contour 1.8 speakers; California Audio Lab Delta CD transport and SIGMA II tube analog processor; Sonic Frontiers Line 1 preamp. John Del-Gaudio, [primelaw@earthlink.net](mailto:primelaw@earthlink.net)

## Change of Address?

If you're moving, please notify us. Give your updates to Reed Rehorst to ensure that you continue receiving these newsletters with notices of our meetings and other activities.