

## Chicago Audio Society Newsletter, December, 2004

### Meeting Notice-Sunday, December 12th, 2:00-5:00PM

Rick Berta, one of our members, will be demonstrating his own speaker design which he is now marketing - the World Audio Jazz Crucible. The speakers are 97db efficient and use a Lambda 15" bass driver with an ESS Heil Air Motion transducer in a series crossover in a sand-fillable cylindrical enclosure. Here is a photo of the speaker:



Rick will also be bringing a pair of custom balanced 300B amps using a differential circuit. Also, an Exemplar Audio Reference preamp and an Exemplar Audio modified Denon 3910 multi-format player will be on hand. For more information see <http://www.exemplaraudio.com>

This will be a great opportunity to hear an interesting high-efficiency speaker design with SET and custom tube electronics. Hope to see you there!

In the Holiday spirit, we will also have extra refreshments on hand, and encourage all to bring Christmas music as well as any new music you have discovered.

### NOVEMBER MEETING RECAP

Gregg Straley demonstrated Stan Warren's standing bass wave correction concept with a very inexpensive subwoofer. There was an audio tape from Stan explaining his design concepts on both the corrective subwoofer, as well as his amp and preamp designs that are due to release next year. Gregg brought his Reimer Wind River GS Loudspeakers, Stan Warren Buffered Line Stage, Stan Warren Folded-Cascode Amp, and Stan Warren modified GCD-750 CD player, as well as Gregg's own cables. Stan was unable to supply the prototype unit, but the inexpensive sub connected out-of-phase at the rear of the listening area at ear level was able to give about half the effect. Most agreed that the sub made a positive contribution to the music, adding a sense of soundstage and bass foundation, as long as one was seated roughly midway left to right, and front to back.

Thanks to Gregg for "channelling" Stan to us (those of you who heard the audio tape know what I mean!) and an enjoyable presentation.

Also, a big thank you to Joe Lavrencik who had an Open House at his home for members on Saturday, November 20th, featuring his Martin Logan reQuest speakers, with Joule Electra electronics and Great Northern Sound modified Wadia player, as well as Joe's own design-Critical Mass Systems isolation platforms.

### **CLASSICAL CORNER by Len Cronin**

The best part about compiling a Want-List is that one can select his or her personal favorites strictly based on one's musical taste.

Cedelle Records has given us a collection of the orchestral music of Robert Kurka. Best known for his opera *The Good Soldier Schweik* this recording of his Second Symphony and other shorter works can only make you wonder what might have been, if he had lived past his thirty-fifth birthday.

Jenifer Higdon is one of the up and coming composers of her generation. She has been described as a modern American populist but don't expect Copland. Rather her music is more in tune with that of Michael Torke but on a larger scale both emotionally and musically.

If you do not own any of the music of David Diamond then this is the place to start. Naxos has reissued Second and Fourth Symphonies from the old Delos series from the early nineties. The Second Symphony is one of my favorite symphonies and deserves to be more well known than it is.

The last two selections are also on Naxos and feature the music of Dmitry Shostakovich.

This is the first complete recording of the 1964 film score of *Hamlet*. This is the way music for the movies should sound like. The other cd is that of the Seventh Symphony, *The Leningrad*. This is a direct and forceful rendition of the symphony that makes a nice tonic to the slower approach favored by many conductors.

Kurka: Symphony No. 2 Serenade. Music for Orchestra. Julius Caesar "Symphonic Epilogue"  
Kalmar/Grank Park Orchestra Cedille CDR-90000 077

Higdon: Concerto for Orchestra. City Scape Spano/Atlants SO Telarc SACD 80620

Diamond: Symphonies No.2 & No. 4. Schwarz/Seattle SO Naxos 8.559154

Shostakovich: *Hamlet*. Yablonsky/Russian P.O. Naxos (SACD) 6.110062

Shostakovich: Symphony No. 7. Yablonsky/Russian P.O. Naxos (SACD) 6.110062

## OCTOBER MEETING PLAYLIST

Thanks to Dennis Anderson, who has been keeping track of all this...

CAS Meeting 10/17/04 Playlist:

### CDs

1) Gladiator soundtrack CD: Hans Zimmer: Track 3, "Battle" Lyndhurst Orchestra/Gavin Greenaway

Decca 289 467 094-2

2) Nielsen: Symphony #5, Op. 50, 1st Movement, Part 2: "Allegro non troppo", Track 16, Cincinatti Symphony/Paavo Järvi

Telarc SACD-60615

3) Gabriel Fauré: Pavane, Op. 50 BBC Philharmonic/City of Birmingham Symphony Chorus/Simon Halsey

Chandos CHAN 5019 (SACD)

4) L.A. 4: Montage CD: Track 1, "Madame Butterfly"

Concord Jazz CCD-4156 (CD)

5) The Grainger Edition, Vol. 5 CD: Track 11, "Scotch Strathspey And Reel", City of London Sinfonia/ Richard Hickox

Chandos CHAN 9554

6) Jane Monheit: Taking A Chance CD: Track 9, "Love Me Or Leave Me"

Sony Classical SK 72495

7) George Winston: Linus & Lucy The Music Of Vince Guaraldi CD, Track 2, "Charlie Brown And His All-Stars"

Windham Hill 01934-11184-2

### LPs

8) Walton: Facade Ballet, Side 1, Track 1, "Scottish Rhapsody", Chicago Pro Musica (45 RPM LP) Reference Recordings RR16

9) Wagner: Die Walküre: "Ride Of The Valkyries", Side 1, Track 1,

L.A. Philharmonic/ Eric Leinsdorf, Sheffield LAB 7(LP)

10) Wolfgang Bernreuther/Golly/Rudi Bayer: I Wonder Why LP, Side 1, Track 1, "Love Me Now"

Hifine LC 05940 (Clear Audio LP)

11) Koto New Ensemble: Koto Vivaldi: "The Four Seasons",

EMI Records, Studio2Stereo TWOX 1062(LP)

12) Bizet: "Carmen Overture", Metropolitan Opera Orchestra/ Leonard Bernsein

DG 2709043(LP)

### **CDs**

13) Maynard Ferguson: The Best Of: Track 5, "Give It One"

Columbia CK 36361

14) Fairfield Four: Standing In the Safety Zone CD, Tracks 6 & 7, "Roll Jordan Roll" & "Standing In the Safety Zone"

Warner Brothers 9 26945-2